

Our Reference      North East and North Cumbria ICB\  
FOI ICB 25–483

North East and North Cumbria ICB  
Pemberton House  
Colima Avenue  
Sunderland Enterprise Park  
Sunderland  
SR5 3XB

Tel: 0191 512 8484  
E-mail: [nencicb.foi@nhs.net](mailto:nencicb.foi@nhs.net)

By Email

11 March 2026

Dear Applicant

**Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information – NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB)**

Thank you for your request received on 23 February 2026 for information held by NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (the ICB) under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The ICB covers the areas of County Durham, Newcastle Gateshead, North Cumbria, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, Sunderland, and Tees Valley.

Please find the information you requested on behalf of the ICB as follows.

**Your Request**

I am requesting the following for the 24-month period to the most recent month for which you hold validated data:

1. The total number of Supported Living packages commissioned by your organisation for adults (18+) during the period.
  - a. If held, please split by primary need: Learning Disabilities; Autism; Mental Health; Combined/Other.
  - b. If held, please split by commissioning route: Framework/DPS vs Spot purchase.
  - c. If held, please split by new packages vs continuing packages.
2. The annual gross spend on Supported Living packages for adults (18+) in the same period.
  - a. If held, please split by primary need (as above).
  - b. If held, please split by Framework/DPS vs Spot.
3. Supported Living packages commissioned for Care Leavers and young people transitioning from Children's to Adult services. Please provide the following for the same 24-month period to the most recent month for which validated data is held:
  - a. The total number of Supported Living packages commissioned for:

- Care Leavers (including those aged 16–17 where these packages fall under adult commissioning), and
  - Young people transitioning from Children’s to Adult services (typically ages 16–25).
- b. If held, please split these packages by primary need: Learning Disabilities; Autism; Mental Health; Combined/Other.
  - c. If held, please split by commissioning route: Framework/DPS vs Spot purchase.
  - d. If held, please confirm the age range you apply when defining “Care Leavers” and “Transition to Adulthood” for commissioning purposes.
4. If you do not commission Supported Living under an explicit framework/DPS, please confirm that spot purchase (or equivalent one-off contract) is used for Supported Living and from what date.
  5. Your definition of “Supported Living” for the purposes of returns/ finance/ commissioning (a link to a published definition is acceptable).

Please provide the data in CSV or XLSX. If any element exceeds the appropriate cost/time limit, please provide the remainder and advise how I can refine the request. If any information is exempt or not held, please state which sections apply and why.

## **Our Response**

We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB holds some of the information you have requested.

1. NENC ICB commissioned 875 supported living packages in financial year 2024/25 and 891 packages in 2025/26 (to date)
  - a. On this occasion it is not possible to provide the requested information. In line with your rights under section 1(1)(a) of the Act to be informed whether information is held, we confirm the ICB does not hold the split of this information.
  - b. The commissioning route is spot purchase.
  - c. NENC ICB is unable to identify the packages as these change regularly, e.g. for annual inflation rates and providers.
2. The annual gross spend on supported living packages was £59,325,049 in 2024/25 and £62,450,264 in 2025/26 to date.
  - a. On this occasion it is not possible to provide the requested information. In line with your rights under section 1(1)(a) of the Act to be informed whether information is held, we confirm the ICB does not hold the split of this information.
  - b. All supported living packages are spot purchased.
3. Supported Living packages:
  - a. On this occasion it is not possible to provide the requested information. In line with your rights under section 1(1)(a) of the Act to be informed whether information is held, we confirm the ICB does not hold any of the information requested. Care Leavers are not identified on the CHC database.
  - b. Please refer to the response to question 3a.
  - c. All supported living packages are spot purchased.
  - d. Please refer to the response to question 3a.
4. Spot purchase has been used for supported living since the ICB's inception on 1 July 2022.

5. We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB on this occasion is not able to provide the requested information. In line with your rights under section 1(1)(a) of the Act to be informed whether information is held, we confirm the ICB does not hold any of the information requested. Each individual local authority within the NENC ICB region defines those properties for use as supported living. The ICB uses the Local Authority defined supported living properties list.

In accordance with our duty under s.16 of the FOIA to provide reasonable advice and assistance to an individual requesting information, we have provided the FOI contacts for those local authorities to make your request.

<b>NENC Local Authorities</b>	<b>Email/Online portal</b>
Cumbria County Council	<a href="mailto:information.governance@cumbria.gov.uk">information.governance@cumbria.gov.uk</a>
Darlington Borough Council	<a href="mailto:freedomofinformation@darlington.gov.uk">freedomofinformation@darlington.gov.uk</a>
Durham County Council	<a href="#">Freedom of Information - Durham CC</a>
Gateshead Council	<a href="#">Freedom of Information request - Gateshead Council</a>
Hartlepool Borough Council	<a href="mailto:freedomofinformation@hartlepool.gov.uk">freedomofinformation@hartlepool.gov.uk</a>
Middlesbrough Borough Council	<a href="#">Freedom of Information Request - Middlesbrough BC</a>
Newcastle City Council	<a href="mailto:freedomofinformation@newcastle.gov.uk">freedomofinformation@newcastle.gov.uk</a>
North Tyneside Council	<a href="mailto:foiofficer@northtyneside.gov.uk">foiofficer@northtyneside.gov.uk</a>
Northumberland County Council	<a href="#">Information Governance - Northumberland CC</a>
Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council	<a href="mailto:informationgovernance@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk">informationgovernance@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk</a>
South Tyneside Council	<a href="mailto:foi@southtyneside.gov.uk">foi@southtyneside.gov.uk</a>
Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	<a href="mailto:foiandcomplaints@stockton.gov.uk">foiandcomplaints@stockton.gov.uk</a>
Sunderland City Council	<a href="mailto:freedom.information@sunderland.gov.uk">freedom.information@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

In addition, links to national definitions are:

*Supported Housing National Statement.*

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/supported-housing-national-statement-of-expectations/supported-housing-national-statement-of-expectations>

*CQC information on Supported living:* <https://www.cqc.org.uk/guidance-regulation/providers/assessment/care-homes-and-supported-living-services-evidence-categories>

In accordance with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log. Therefore, a version of our response which will protect your anonymity will be posted on the NHS ICB website <https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/>.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above telephone number or at the above address.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to request a review of our decision, you should write to the Information Governance Manager using the contact details at the top of this letter quoting the appropriate reference number.

If you are not content with the outcome your review, you do have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the ICB's complaints procedure.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk).

Any information we provide following your request under the Freedom of Information Act will not confer an automatic right for you to re-use that information, for example to publish it. If you wish to re-use the information that we provide and you do not specify this in your initial application for information then you must make a further request for its re-use as per the Re-Use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015 [www.legislation.gov.uk](http://www.legislation.gov.uk). This will not affect your initial information request.

Yours faithfully

*Information Governance Support Officer*

**Information Governance Support Officer  
North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board**