

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 26–203

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

7 August 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 July 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 writing to make a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Please treat each numbered question as a discrete request, capable of being answered individually where appropriate. For the avoidance of doubt, the three financial years referred to throughout are:

- i. 2023/24
- ii. 2024/25
- iii. 2026/27

Section A – Commissioning status and spend

1. Does your ICB currently commission Tier 3 weight management services? Please confirm separately for each of the three financial years identified above.
2. For each year in which Tier 3 weight management services were commissioned, please state the level of spend (including planned spend for 2026/27).
3. Does your ICB commission any weight management services through the Right to Choose (RtC) pathway? If yes, please provide the name of the provider(s).

Section B – Providers

4. Please list all providers from whom your ICB currently commissions Tier 3 weight management services.

5. For each provider listed in response to question 4, please confirm (a) whether they offer digital weight management services; and (b) whether they offer a digital prescribing pathway.

Section C – Patient activity and referrals

6. For (a) the last full financial year and (b) the most recent six-month period for which data are available, please state:
- the total number of patients referred to a Tier 3 weight management service;
 - of these, the number referred via the Right to Choose pathway; and
 - the total spend attributable to patients referred via the Right to Choose pathway.
7. For the same periods as question 6, please state:
- the number of patients enrolled in a Tier 3 weight management service who were prescribed a GLP-1 receptor agonist as part of their treatment; and
 - of these, how many GLP-1 receptor agonist prescriptions were issued by Right to Choose providers.

Section D – Waiting times

8. As at the date of this request (or the most recent date for which figures are available), please state (a) the number of patients on a waiting list for Tier 3 weight management services; (b) the average waiting time; and (c) the longest current waiting time.

Section E – Policy documentation

9. Please supply a copy of any current policy, criteria, or clinical guidelines governing patient access to Tier 3 weight management services in your ICB area. If no standalone policy exists, please provide any relevant extract from a broader commissioning policy or clinical pathway document.

I would prefer to receive all information in electronic format.

If you consider that any part of this request is likely to exceed the appropriate cost limit under section 12 of the Act, I would be grateful if you would contact me promptly in accordance with your duty to advise and assist under section 16, so that I may refine or prioritise the request accordingly.

Our Response

- Yes, NENC ICB commissions Tier 3 weight management services through several acute contracts. These services were commissioned in 2024/25 and would continue into 2025/26 and 2026/27.
- The detail of spend is reported in the attached spreadsheet.
- NENC ICB commissions weight management services through the Right to Choose pathway and identifies the following providers:
 - Oviva Ltd (available from August 2024)
 - Second Nature (noted as becoming available in July 2026)
- Tier 3 providers are:
 - County Durham & Darlington NHS Foundation Trust
 - The Newcastle Upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
 - North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS Foundation Trust
 - Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
 - South Tees Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust

These services are commissioned through contracts with the acute hospital foundation trusts.

5. All acute trust providers offer digital weight management services.
6. Information from the Community Services Data Set (CDSC), which includes Adult and Children's Weight Management Services, is published here: [Referrals – NHS England Digital](#). Therefore, the ICB considers this element of your request exempt from disclosure by way of s.21 as the information is readily accessible by other means.

CSDS patient data held locally shows 1311 referrals to Weight Management Services for 2025/26. However, the ICB are not responsible for the quality of this data and cannot be certain that this number represents full ICB coverage.

7. Please refer to the response to question 6.
8. 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. However, we have determined that the information is held by the acute hospital NHS foundation trusts (FTs) within the North East and North Cumbria region.

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 foundation trusts.

NENC Acute Hospital FTs	Email/Online portal
County Durham and Darlington NHS FT	cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net
Gateshead Health NHS FT	ghnt.foi.enquiries@nhs.net
North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS FT	foirequest@cumbria.nhs.uk
North Tees and Hartlepool NHS FT	nth-tr.foi@nhs.net
Northumbria Healthcare NHS FT	foi@northumbria.nhs.uk
South Tees Hospitals NHS FT	stees.foi.admin@nhs.net
South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS FT	stsft@infreemation.co.uk
The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT	https://www.newcastle-hospitals.nhs.uk/help/foi/

9. NENC ICB's current commissioning statement for the Tier 3 weight management service is attached to this response.

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.

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. 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**