

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 26–213

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

Tel: 0191 535 4288
E-mail: nencicb.foi@nhs.net

By Email

3 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

Please provide the following data regarding the purchase of clinical diagnostic consumables used internally on-site by General Practices within your ICB's footprint. This request explicitly excludes community patient prescriptions (e.g., FP10 forms dispensed at community pharmacies) and focuses strictly on stock ordered by or reimbursed for practices for their own point-of-care clinical use.

For each of the last three complete financial years (2023/24, 2024/25, and 2025/26), please provide:

1. *Patient Population*: The total registered patient population served across all GP practices within your ICB footprint at the end of each financial year.
2. *Diagnostic Purchases (Internal Stock)*: The total expenditure and total volume (number of packs/strips/units) purchased or reimbursed for use inside GP practices for:
 - a. Blood glucose testing strips/point-of-care blood glucose testing kits.
 - b. Urine glucose testing strips.
 - c. Lancets.

If this data is not held centrally because practices purchase consumables independently via the NHS Supply Chain, private wholesalers, or reimbursement through the practice global sum, please state this clearly rather than treating the request as refused.

If this request requires refinement or exceeds the statutory cost limit, please prioritise the financial data for blood glucose testing strips (Item 2a) and provide advice on how I can narrow the scope.

I look forward to hearing from you within the statutory 20 working days.

Our Response

1. 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. However, this is publicly available as NHS Digital, provides monthly reports on registered patients: [Patients Registered at a GP Practice – 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.
2. 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 GP practices within the North East and North Cumbria region.

For your reference, a list of practices is available on the NHS Digital website: [GP and GP practice related data – NHS England Digital](#) The GP Practices full file name is **eppracur** and for your reference, NENC ICB's Organisation Data Service (ODS) code is **QMH**.

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**