

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 25–417

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

5 February 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 15 January 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 request information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to NHS-commissioned vasectomy services within NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB).

For the period 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 (or the most recent complete 12-month period for which data are available), please provide the following information. For the avoidance of doubt, where specific procedural coding is inconsistent, I would be grateful if this request could be interpreted to include any NHS-commissioned vasectomy procedure performed under local anaesthetic, whether described as minimally invasive, non-scalpel, or otherwise.

1. The total number of NHS-commissioned vasectomy procedures performed as day-case activity, broken down by locality within the NENC ICB footprint (for example: County Durham, Gateshead, Sunderland, Newcastle, North Tyneside, South Tyneside, North Cumbria).
2. Of the procedures identified in question 1, the number delivered outside of secondary care, for example in community, primary care, or other non-hospital settings.
3. This request is for aggregated pricing information only and does not seek provider-specific prices or identification of individual providers. For vasectomy procedures delivered outside of secondary care, the:
 - Median (average) price or tariff paid per procedure

- Minimum price paid per procedure
 - Maximum price paid per procedure
4. This information is requested in aggregate form only and does not seek disclosure of provider identities or commercially sensitive contractual terms. For the same period, please provide:
- the total number of distinct providers commissioned by NENC ICB to deliver NHS-funded vasectomy services, and
 - a breakdown of those providers by contract type, for example:
 - activity-based tariff contracts
 - block contracts
 - Any Qualified Provider (AQP) arrangements
 - any other contract model used (please specify, if applicable).

I have framed this request to avoid disclosure of commercially sensitive information and to remain within the FOI cost and time limits. If you believe that any element of the request would exceed the appropriate limit, I would be grateful if you could advise me, as I would be happy to refine or narrow the request.

Context and public interest:

This information is requested to support service planning and evaluation of community-based NHS vasectomy provision across the region. Understanding activity levels, care settings, commissioning models, and indicative pricing supports transparency and informed consideration of how such services are structured and accessed locally.

Thank you for your assistance. I look forward to your response within the statutory timeframe of 20 working days. Please do not hesitate to contact me if any clarification would be helpful.

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. The table below shows the number of vasectomy procedures performed as day case activity broken down by locality for the NENC ICB's footprint. They are carried out within a secondary care setting.

ICB locality	Number of day case procedures
County Durham	69
Newcastle Gateshead	141
North Cumbria	9
North Tyneside	28
Northumberland	100
Sunderland and South Tyneside	174
Tees Valley	12
Total	533

2. 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.

While there may be vasectomies delivered outside of secondary care, for example in Primary Care settings, NENC ICB does not hold a breakdown by setting to be able to answer this question.

3. Please refer to the response to question 2.
4. Eighteen providers are commissioned by NENC ICB to deliver NHS-funded vasectomy services. The list below shows how these providers are paid:

Provider	Service Name	Finance Profile
1	Non-Scalpel Vasectomy Service	Cost per case, Cost per unit
2	Non-Scalpel Vasectomy Service	Cost per case, Cost per unit
3	Non-Scalpel Vasectomy Service	Cost per case, Cost per unit
4	Non-Scalpel Vasectomy Service	Cost per case, Cost per unit
5	Non-Scalpel Vasectomy Service	Cost per case, Cost per unit
6	Non-Scalpel Vasectomy Service	Cost per case, Cost per unit
7	Non-Scalpel Vasectomy Service	Cost per case, Cost per unit
8	Vasectomy	Cost per case, Cost per unit
9	Minor Surgery	Cost per case, Cost per unit
10	GPwSI Vasectomy	Cost per case, Cost per unit
11	GPwSI Vasectomy	Block
12	Vasectomy	Block
13	Vasectomy	Block
14	Vasectomy	Block
15	Vasectomy	Block
16	Vasectomy	Block
17	Vasectomy	Block
18	Vasectomy	Block

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, Wycliff 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**