

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 25–370

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

16 December 2025

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 9 December 2025 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

Under the FOIA, please could you provide the following information.

Please provide in full any analysis carried out, in 2024-25 and 2025-26, by your respective ICBs on block contracts for non-elective care, which compare the 'fixed elements' payments to what they would have been on a price x activity basis.

The information I'm looking for includes but is not limited to the ICB's responses to requests from NHS England for all commissioners to review current block contracts on an Activity X Price (PbR) basis.

Please provide data on what the 'fixed element' payments were in 2024-25 and 2025-26, and what they would have been on a price per activity basis, according to the analysis. Break this information down by specialty if this information is available.

Our Response

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.

In line with the request from NHSE the ICB carried out an analysis of the total amount paid on block contracts to the amount that would have been paid on a price per activity basis. The block element of the analysis did not differentiate between point of delivery and so we are not able to provide the difference between the block element of non-elective care compared to what it would have been on price per activity.

We would also point out that this was an initial analysis, and a not insignificant amount of further refinement will be required to, for example, standardise local tariffs between providers.

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**