

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 26–156

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

14 July 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 30 June 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

This is a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding the local rollout and implementation of the Federated Data Platform (FDP). Please could you provide full answers to the following two questions and supply copies of the documents requested where appropriate.

In the below questions the term live, in relation to the FDP, refers to the ICB having the platform available for use, known as a local instance. If the ICB has a live local instance, but has not adopted or trialled any FDP apps, dashboards or evaluation tools, please only answer question 4.

1. If the FDP is currently live at your ICB, please can you describe the process/ methodology by which the trust has internally monitored the roll out of each individual app, dashboard and evaluation tool in terms of effectiveness, potential risks, patient impact/engagement, appropriate data management and cost effectiveness.
2. Please could you specify the types of assessment tools used, and provide copies of them including, but not limited to copies of the following documents:
 - Data protection impact assessments.
 - Equality impact assessments.
 - Information governance committee assessments/reports.

- Risk assessments.
 - Business case.
 - Board minutes discussing the Federated Data Platform.
 - Implementation plan.
 - Academic research or evaluations
3. Please could you also list any working groups or committees which had oversight of, or responsibility for, the roll out and evaluation of FDP apps, dashboards and evaluation tools and what their remits were.
 4. If your ICB is live (has an active local instance of the FDP), but has not deployed any apps, dashboards or evaluation tools please can you:
 - a. Explain why no apps, dashboards or evaluation tools have been deployed.
 - b. Are you currently looking at trialling or adopting any FDP apps, dashboards or evaluation tools.
 - c. If yes to the above, please name each app, dashboard or evaluation tool you are considering and when you are looking at adopting them.

Please can you supply all information in PDF format.

Our Response

We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB does hold the information requested.

1. Given the early stage of deployment and the current position of a single live application (Strategic Commissioning Tool), the ICB has adopted a proportionate and iterative approach to monitoring implementation and effectiveness. Monitoring is undertaken through:
 - Programme and governance oversight, including review of delivery progress, risks and dependencies through established programme structures.
 - Information governance processes, ensuring compliance with national FDP frameworks and local ICB governance requirements.
 - Technical and data assurance, including validation of data ingestion pipelines, data quality checks, and alignment with source system controls.
 - Iterative evaluation and user engagement, including participation in development sessions and structured deep-dive workshops with NHS England and product teams to assess functionality and suitability. Given the limited number of deployed applications, a formal, standardised benefits realisation framework across multiple tools has not been established, but evaluation is being incorporated into ongoing product development and adoption activity.
2. The ICB holds a range of documentation relating to FDP implementation and the Strategic Commissioning Tool. These include:
 - Data Protection Impact Assessments (DPIAs)
 - Information governance assessments aligned to the FDP framework
 - Risk assessments (including those incorporated within DPIAs)

A copy of the Annex to the Data Processing Agreement, dated 25 October 2024 is attached.

The full DPIA is held by NHS England. 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 contact for NHS England: england.contactus@nhs.net. Please write

“Freedom of Information” in the subject line. In addition, the link to the Overarching data protection impact assessment (DPIA) for the Federated Data Platform (FDP) is here: [NHS England » Overarching DPIA for the FDP](#).

3. Oversight of FDP implementation and the SCT has been provided through a range of programme and governance structures rather than a single dedicated FDP committee. These include:
 - Programme and technical working groups supporting the FDP pathfinder, covering data, governance and analytical workstreams.
 - Regular technical and coordination meetings supporting data ingestion, architecture development and implementation progress.
 - Engagement with NHS England FDP product teams (including structured deep-dive sessions) to review product functionality, governance considerations and implementation approach.

These groups collectively oversee:

- Data architecture and ingestion
- Information governance compliance
- Product development, deployment and evaluation
- Alignment with national FDP programme requirements

4. The ICB is live and has deployed an FDP application (Strategic Commissioning Tool).

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**