

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 25–443

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 28 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

Please can you provide the information below under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

If exact data are not held, please provide the nearest available figures or best available estimates and specify whether they are estimates. Where figures are not held in the requested format, please provide them in the closest format available.

Definitions (to support consistent reporting):

“Adult” means patients aged 18 years or over.

“Right to Choose (RTC)” refers to NHS patient choice arrangements under the NHS Constitution where an eligible patient is referred for an NHS-funded assessment with an alternative provider.

“ADHD diagnostic assessments via RTC” refers to NHS-funded ADHD diagnostic assessments commissioned by your ICB and delivered by external providers under RTC arrangements.

1. Commissioned activity volumes

For adults requiring an ADHD diagnostic assessment, how many assessments are currently commissioned by your ICB to be delivered via Right to Choose:

- a. On an ongoing basis (e.g. a contracted number per month and/or per financial year)?

b. As part of any time-limited plan (e.g. an agreed number to be completed by a specified date)?

2. Actual activity delivered

How many adult ADHD diagnostic assessments via RTC were actually completed for your ICB population in:

- a. Financial year 2024/25 (or the most recent completed financial year available)
- b. Calendar year 2025 (if held)

3. Annual spend

What was the total spend by your ICB on adult ADHD diagnostic assessments delivered via RTC in financial year 2024/25 (or the most recent completed financial year available)

Please state whether this includes assessment-only, follow-up appointments, and/or any additional costs (e.g. admin fees).

4. RTC provider landscape

How many external providers (organisations/companies) delivered NHS-funded adult ADHD diagnostic assessments via RTC for your ICB in the most recent completed financial year?

Please provide the name of each provider (if held).

5. Regulation / CQC registration

For each provider delivering adult ADHD diagnostic assessments via RTC, please confirm whether they are CQC registered for the regulated activity(ies) relevant to the service they deliver (or confirm how many are CQC registered if provider-level details cannot be disclosed).

6. Assessor competence / quality assurance information requested by the ICB

What information does your ICB require or receive from RTC providers regarding assessor competence, including (where available):

- a. Professional qualifications / registration status of assessors
- b. ADHD-specific diagnostic training (e.g. UKAAN or equivalent)
- c. Relevant experience in ADHD diagnostic assessments (e.g. years or volume of assessments)
- d. Clinical supervision arrangements
- e. Governance / quality assurance processes (e.g. audit, clinical oversight, peer review)

A brief description of what is required/received is sufficient.

7. Outcome and reporting expectations (if held)

Do RTC providers report any of the following to your ICB? If yes, please state which metrics are collected:

- a. Diagnostic outcome rates (ADHD diagnosed vs not diagnosed)
- b. Waiting times (referral to assessment, assessment to outcome)
- c. DNA/cancellation rates
- d. Patient experience measures

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. Commissioned activity volumes

For adults requiring an ADHD diagnostic assessment delivered via Right to Choose:

- a. There are no assessments commissioned on an ongoing basis
- b. There are no assessments commissioned as part of any time-limited plan

2. Actual activity delivered

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.

3. Annual spend

In the 2024/25 financial year NENC ICB spent £12.669m on neurodivergent assessments (ADHD and Autism) via Right to Choose (RTC) with independent sector providers. NENC ICB does not receive a breakdown as to whether this is for adult or children and also the type of assessment (initial, follow-up etc.)

4. RTC provider landscape

External providers delivering NHS-funded adult ADHD diagnostic assessments via RTC for your ICB in the most recent completed financial year are listed below.

ADHD 360
Care ADHD
Clinical Partners
Dr J and Colleagues
Harrow Health
Health Harmonie Minds
Oakdale Centre
Owl Centre
Problem Shared
Psicon
Psychiatry-UK
RTN Mental Health Solutions
Skylight

5. Regulation / CQC registration

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.

NENC ICB does not hold a contract with these providers. It is the responsibility of the host commissioner to check CQC registration.

6. Assessor competence / quality assurance information requested by the ICB

Please refer to the response to question 5.

7. Outcome and reporting expectations (if held)

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.

Each provider has different reporting requirements depending on what the host commissioner has requested. The host commissioner would need to provide details.

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**