

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 26–222

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

1 September 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 4 August 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 ask that you now please treat my request for documentation and communications held by the ICB pertaining to the merger between the Gosforth Memorial Medical Practice and the Jesmond Health Partnership (that took place in 2024) as a request under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

If any information is withheld, please identify each exemption relied upon and explain why it applies. If only parts of the documents are exempt, please disclose the remainder with appropriate redactions.

Clarification

The request is for documentation and communications held by the ICB pertaining to the merger between the Gosforth Memorial Medical Practice and the Jesmond Health Partnership. In other words, I require all documentation and communications held by the ICB pertaining to the merger, rather than requesting only specific documentation/communication. I think this should be clear and not subject to different interpretations.

Our Response

We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB does hold the information requested and the requested documents are attached and also listed below. Following being drafted the final paper went direct from the local team to their decision-making group.

1. Contract Variation Control Sheet PMS Agreement contract termination notice
2. Application to merge practices – Jesmond Health Partnership and Gosforth Memorial Medical Centre – LMC
3. Application to merge request for comments – Local practices
4. Application to merge practices – Jesmond Health Partnership and Gosforth Memorial Medical Centre – Jane C
5. JHP GMMC Merger Application – engagement report
6. Informal confirmation of agreed merger between GMMC and JHP
7. Premises costs – JHP and GMMC
8. JHP GMMC Merger Application
9. A86020-A86036 Practice Merger - PCSE emails
10. GMS Contract - Merger CV
11. RE: NEW Practice merger A86036 into A86020 October 2024 Payments QHM - PCSE finance email
12. A86020-A86036 Practice Merger - PCSE confirmation
13. Re: Jesmond A86020 - Gosforth A86036 Practice Merger - NECS/PCSE merge confirmation
14. PCN Amendment
15. RE: Practice merger - Jesmond HP a86020 and Gosforth MMC a860366 - PCSE merger form
16. RE: GP Practice Merger Form - BSA
17. RE: Informal Confirmation of agreed Merger between GMMC and JHP
18. Comms emails

Please note that some personal data has been exempt from release under s.40. Where information has been removed from the accompanying file, we have replaced the text with a black rectangle.

The data subjects would not have had a reasonable expectation that this information would be made public, either now or at the time the information was created. Additionally, we have not identified a lawful basis that would allow or require us to disclose this information.

We believe that disclosure of the personal information relating to these individuals would be contrary to the requirements of Article 5(1)(a) of the GDPR; namely that information must be processed lawfully, fairly and in a transparent manner. These individuals would have no expectation that this information would be made publicly available, and we have not identified a lawful basis that would allow or require us to disclose this information.

In considering a disclosure under FOIA, we must consider that any information released under the Act will be placed in the public domain, through our own disclosure log or by other means.

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 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**