

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\  
FOI ICB 25–493

North East and North Cumbria ICB  
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By Email

11 March 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 26 February 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**

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am requesting the following information relating to NHS dental commissioning administered by your ICB.

1. Dental Underspend and Clawback

For each financial year 2022/23, 2023/24, and 2024/25, please provide:

- a. The total value of NHS dental contract underspend (UDA clawback) reclaimed by the ICB.
- b. A high-level breakdown of how this reclaimed funding was allocated or spent, under the following headings:
  - Emergency dental provision
  - Contract uplifts or variations
  - Workforce incentives (including “golden handshakes”)
  - Data, analytics, or consultancy services (including IQVIA)
  - Any other uses (please specify)

If any reclaimed funds were returned to NHS England (or successor bodies), please state the amount and date.

## 2. Government-Funded Emergency Dental Appointments

For the government-funded emergency dental appointments allocated to the ICB, please provide:

- a. The total number of emergency dental appointments commissioned.
- b. The total number delivered.
- c. The number of dental practices that delivered any of this emergency activity.

## 3. Mobile Dental Provision

Please provide:

- a. The total funding allocated to the ICB for mobile dental provision (by financial year).
- b. Whether any mobile dental services were commissioned or delivered using this funding.
- c. If no mobile dental services were delivered, please confirm this.

## 4. Dental Contract Management

For the financial years 2022/23, 2023/24, and 2024/25, please provide:

- a. The number of NHS dental contracts that were resized, varied, or reduced due to under-delivery.
- b. The total number of UDAs removed or reallocated as a result of contract variation.

If any part of this request is considered exempt, please provide the statutory exemption relied upon and release the remainder of the information.

## 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.

We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB on this occasion is not able to provide the requested information for financial year 2023/24. 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. However, we have determined that the information 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](mailto:england.contactus@nhs.net). Please write "Freedom of Information" in the subject line.

The response provided below includes information from 2024/25, when NENC ICB took over the delegated responsibility for commissioning NHS dental services.

### 1. Dental underspend and clawback:

Question	Detail	2023/24 (£000's)	2024/25 (£000's)
1a	UDA Clawback	33,589	26,455
1b	Emergency Dental provisions		1,475
	Contract uplifts and variations	10,661	10,515
	Workforce incentives	-	2,464
	Other Underspend	22,928	-
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		-	12,000

Reclaimed by NHS England

-

12,000

2. The ICB did not receive any additional funding above its ring-fenced budget to commission additional emergency dental appointments.
3. No mobile dental services have been commissioned by the North East and North Cumbria ICB.
4. With respect to dental contract management:
  - a. One contract was resized, varied, or reduced due to the under-delivery in 2023/24. Zero contracts were resized, varied or reduced due to under delivery in 2024/25.
  - b. 4,500 UDAs were removed and re-allocated.

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](http://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](http://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**