

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 26–131

North East and North Cumbria ICB
Pemberton House
Colima Avenue
Sunderland Enterprise Park
Sunderland
SR5 3XB

Tel: 0191 512 8484
E-mail: nencicb.foi@nhs.net

By Email

17 June 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 15 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

Right to Choose – assessing contracts for ADHD and Autism

I wish to make an FOI request, as set out under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

I am well aware from other FOI requests across the country, that if you are registered with a GP surgery in England and you are referred by a GP to a consultant or specialist in mental health, you have the legal right to choose the organisation (qualified provider) to whom you are referred, as long as that organisation is providing that service in another part of England. To enable patients to ask for a referral to be made to one of these organisations, they need to know what organisations have been awarded contracts.

My request is therefore to know what contracts have been awarded by your ICB for:

1. ADHD assessments
2. ADHD treatment
3. ADOS assessments

As I am aware some external organisations diagnose but do not treat ADHD and so it is important to differentiate between providers.

I would like these organisations to be separated into those that provide services for (1) children and (2) adults.

This request is not seeking any patient numbers referred to the service, nor is it looking for contract values, merely the names the organisation have active ADHD contracts and the therefore the start and projected end date of these contracts.

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. The 7 providers listed below were awarded ADHD assessments contract:
 - Neurospectrum (the only provider that is live – the other 6 are currently mobilising)
 - Psychiatry UK
 - Shropshire ADHD – The ADHD service – The autism service
 - Teledoctor t/a ProblemShared
 - The OWL Centre
 - The Centre for ADHD Research and Excellence (t/a Care ADHD)
 - The Validium Group Limited t/a HealthHero Solutions
2. NENC ICB's commissioning policy directs that any provider we contract with to offer ADHD assessment must also offer treatment. Our local specification describes a pathway that is from diagnosis to treatment and prescribing in perpetuity where no shared care is available. The seven providers listed in the response to question 1, ALL provide ADHD prescribing and monitoring.
3. ADOS assessments – Autism diagnostic assessments – providers that have been awarded contracts are:
 - Neurospectrum (the only provider operational – the others are mobilising)
 - Psychiatry UK
 - Shropshire ADHD – The ADHD service – The autism service
 - The Centre for ADHD Research and Excellence (t/a Care ADHD)
 - The OWL centre

The table below separates the pathways (adults and children) for each provider NENC ICB have awarded a contract to. 'Lot' means pathway i.e Autism or ADHD and Children or Adults.

Provider	Lot	Lot (pathway) details
Neurospectrum	Lot 7 (all)	• Lot 1 – ASD Assessment CYP age 6-17 • Lot 2 – ASD Assessment Adult age 18+ • Lot 3 – ADHD Assessment & Treatment CYP age 6-17 & ADHD Assessment & Treatment Adult age 18+ • Lot 4 – ADHD Assessment & Treatment Adult only age 18+ • Lot 5 – ASD/ADHD Assessment Combined and ADHD Treatment CYP age 6-17 & ASD/ADHD Assessment Combined and ADHD Treatment Adult age 18+

		• Lot 6 – ASD/ADHD Assessment Combined and ADHD Treatment Adult age 18+ • Lot 7 – All of lots 1-6 inclusive
Shropshire ADHD – The ADHD service – The autism service	Lot 7 (all)	• Lot 1 – ASD Assessment CYP age 6-17 • Lot 2 – ASD Assessment Adult age 18+ • Lot 3 – ADHD Assessment & Treatment CYP age 6-17 & ADHD Assessment & Treatment Adult age 18+ • Lot 4 – ADHD Assessment & Treatment Adult only age 18+ • Lot 5 – ASD/ADHD Assessment Combined and ADHD Treatment CYP age 6-17 & ASD/ADHD Assessment Combined and ADHD Treatment Adult age 18+ • Lot 6 – ASD/ADHD Assessment Combined and ADHD Treatment Adult age 18+ • Lot 7 – All of lots 1-6 inclusive
The Validium Group Limited t/a HealthHero Solutions	Lot 4	• Lot 4 – ADHD Assessment & Treatment Adult only age 18+
Teledoctor t/a ProblemShared	Lot 4	• Lot 4 – ADHD Assessment & Treatment Adult only age 18+
Psychiatry UK	Lots 2 and 4	• Lot 2 – ASD Assessment Adult age 18+ • Lot 4 – ADHD Assessment & Treatment Adult only age 18+
The Centre for ADHD Research and Excellence (t/a Care ADHD)	Lot 7 (all)	• Lot 1 – ASD Assessment CYP age 6-17 • Lot 2 – ASD Assessment Adult age 18+ • Lot 3 – ADHD Assessment & Treatment CYP age 6-17 & ADHD Assessment & Treatment Adult age 18+ • Lot 4 – ADHD Assessment & Treatment Adult only age 18+ • Lot 5 – ASD/ADHD Assessment Combined and ADHD Treatment CYP age 6-17 & ASD/ADHD Assessment Combined and ADHD Treatment Adult age 18+ • Lot 6 – ASD/ADHD Assessment Combined and ADHD Treatment Adult age 18+ • Lot 7 – All of lots 1-6 inclusive
The Owl Centre	Lot's 1, 2, 3 and 4	• Lot 1 – ASD Assessment CYP age 6-17 • Lot 2 – ASD Assessment Adult age 18+ • Lot 3 – ADHD Assessment & Treatment CYP age 6-17 & ADHD Assessment & Treatment Adult age 18+ • Lot 4 – ADHD Assessment & Treatment Adult only age 18+

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**