

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 25–265

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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Sunderland
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By Email

28 October 2025

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 7 October 2025 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 accept this data request under the Freedom of Information Act as a Freedom of Information request.

If the requested data in the timeframe stated is not available, please use the last day of the most recent month for when data is available and provide the date used in the response.

1. Please confirm if your ICB operates on a CHC framework with a single rate and confirm the rate and any criteria relevant to this rate, and confirm the uplift applied to this framework rate for the period 2025/26.

Note: If your ICB offered a range of rates, please outline the MEAN / MEDIAN / LOWEST / HIGHEST uplifts offered to Registered Older Persons Nursing Homes (If this rate differs by place, please add additional rows to reflect each place):

	Mean	Median	Lowest	Highest
CHC Rate				
CHC Uplift				

2. If your ICB places CHC residents outside of a CHC framework with a single rate, please confirm the rates and any criteria relevant to this rate, and confirm the uplift applied to this rate for the period 2025/26.

Note: If your ICB offered a range of rates, please outline the MEAN / MEDIAN / LOWEST / HIGHEST uplifts offered to Registered Older Persons Nursing Homes (If this rate differs by place, please add additional rows to reflect each place):

	Mean	Median	Lowest	Highest
CHC Rate				
CHC Uplift				

3. Please provide a copy of any letter template sent to care providers communicating CHC uplifts made by your ICB (please attach as a separate document).
4. As of 31 March 2025, how many individuals were your ICB funding for CHC in Registered Older Persons Nursing Homes?
5. Regarding the NHSE Payment Scheme Principle that the ICB's approach must '*promote transparency and good data quality to improve accountability and encourage the sharing of best practice*'. Please share the calculations, or methodology used by the ICB to outline how this principle is being met.
6. Regarding the NHSE Payment Scheme Principle that the ICB's approach must '*engage constructively with each other when trying to agree payment approaches*.' Please outline how providers were engaged in the decision that resulted in an annual review or uplift.
7. Please provide a copy of your 2025 to 2026 fee uplift letter that was sent to care providers.
8. Please confirm the date when the ICB agreed or made the decision to proceed with the fee uplift for care providers for the 2025/26 financial year.

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. NENC ICB in the North East does not operate on a CHC framework with a single rate. The rates are shown below.

	Mean	Median	Lowest	Highest
CHC Rate	987.49	911.01	773.00	1332.76
CHC Uplift	5.98%	6.21%	4.20%	7.70%

2. NENC ICB in the North East does not place CHC residents outside of a CHC framework with a single rate. The rates are shown in the table below.

	Mean	Median	Lowest	Highest
CHC Rate	987.49	911.01	773.00	1332.76
CHC Uplift	5.98%	6.21%	4.20%	7.70%

3. The uplift letter for North Cumbria ICB place is attached.

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 the ICB places in the North East of the region. 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 the local authorities within the North East region.

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 email addresses for those local authorities to make your request.

NENC Local Authorities	Email
Darlington Borough Council	freedomofinformation@darlington.gov.uk
Durham County Council	foi@durham.gov.uk
Gateshead Council	informationrights@gateshead.gov.uk
Hartlepool Borough Council	freedomofinformation@hartlepool.gov.uk
Middlesbrough Borough Council	foi@middlesbrough.gov.uk
Newcastle City Council	freedomofinformation@newcastle.gov.uk
North Tyneside Council	foiofficer@northtyneside.gov.uk
Northumberland County Council	foi@northumberland.gov.uk
Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council	informationgovernance@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk
South Tyneside Council	foi@southtyneside.gov.uk
Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	foiandcomplaints@stockton.gov.uk
Sunderland City Council	freedom.information@sunderland.gov.uk

4. As of 31 March 2025, there were 2480 individuals over 65 years old in a nursing bed fully funded.
5. For areas where the ICB does not contract through the local authority, the ICB matches the percentage uplift applied by the relevant local authority.
6. Please refer to the response to question 5.
7. Please refer to the response to question 3.
8. Please refer to the response to question 3 for the North East. North Cumbria agreed the uplift on 13 June 2025.

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**