

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\  
FOI ICB 25–480

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](mailto:nencicb.foi@nhs.net)

By Email

10 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 20 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**

I am conducting research on the national rollout of Tirzepatide for weight management, and variation in implementation across Integrated Care Boards.

For the purposes of this request, I would be grateful if you could provide information as it applied to your ICB as structured in early 2025 (NHS North East and North Cumbria ICB). I am aware that some ICBs have since merged or reorganised. I would be grateful if you could answer the following questions:

1. Is Tirzepatide available in primary care for weight management according to your ICB's formal position?
2. If yes, please provide the month/year for each of the following, where applicable:
  - Local pathway or ICB decision publication
  - Formal notification to primary care of rollout (e.g., via bulletin/ guidance/ communication)
  - Formulary inclusion/update to recommend primary care use
  - Local Enhanced Service (LES) or Local Commissioned Service (LCS) to support primary care prescribing
3. Is Tirzepatide subject to an ICB-led prior approval process? If yes, please specify:

- a. which clinicians or professionals are authorised to submit prior approval requests (e.g., GPs, specialists, pharmacists), and
  - b. the month and year the process was introduced.
4. Is Tirzepatide available for prescribing through specialist weight management services (e.g., Tier 3 or 4)? If yes, please provide the start date (month/year).
  5. Has the ICB provided any additional funding to specialist services to support the prescribing of Tirzepatide for weight management? If yes, please provide the start date (month/year).

If available, please supply supporting documents such as:

- your local primary care and/or secondary care weight management pathway,
- any LCS/service specifications,
- any communications, formulary updates or guidance issued to practices or specialist services about Tirzepatide prescribing.

## **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. Yes, Tirzepatide available in primary care via a Local Enhanced Service Specification.
2. Prescribing pathway details are:
  - The pathway went live on 2 July 2025.
  - On 10 April 2025 there was a webinar with primary care detailing the proposed pathways.
  - The formulary inclusion/update was in May 2025.
  - Tirzepatide is available in primary care via a Local Enhanced Service Specification. The pathway went live on 2 July 2025.
3. Yes, Tirzepatide subject to an ICB-led prior approval process with approvals authorised by GP's or Primary Care Pharmacists. The pathway went live on 2 July 2025.
4. Tirzepatide is available for prescribing through Tier 3 specialist weight management services and started in July 2025.
5. NENC ICB provided funding to utilise non-medical prescribers in Tier 3 specialist weight management services and this started in July 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](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**