

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 25-240

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

7 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 20 September 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

This FOI request follows on from FOI ICB 25-170. You mentioned that you have regular meetings regarding the contracts you have with the NHS trusts and their subcontracts. Can I please be provided with the contract (NEAS) and the subcontract (GNAAS)?

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.

NENC ICB does not hold a copy of the GNAAS contract. The ICB receive assurance through their contract meetings with NEAS on the effectiveness of subcontracts that are in place. If you require any further information regarding these services, please contact North East Ambulance Services Foundation Trust directly.

In accordance with our duty under s.16 of the FOIA to provide reasonable advice and assistance to an individual requesting information, the NEAS freedom of information email address is freedom.of.information.requests@neas.nhs.uk

We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000, the ICB does hold the full NEAS contract. This is attached.

However, we have exempted some staff contact details from disclosure under s.40(2) of the FOIA2000 as it would constitute personal data as defined by Article 4(1) of the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR).

Section 40(8) of FOIA confirms that for the purposes of considering disclosure, a public authority may consider the legitimate interest's lawful basis for processing. In considering the balance between identified legitimate interests and the rights and interests of the individuals concerned, we must consider if the proposed disclosure would be within the reasonable expectations of the individual when the data was collected.

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 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**