

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 25–134

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

18 July 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 5 July 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

I request the following information from the ICB:

1. Does the ICB (likely via the LMNS) monitor any of the following metrics at a regional level (i.e.- for all Trusts with maternity services in the ICB):
 - a. Stillbirth numbers and rates – broken down into term and preterm.
 - b. Neonatal deaths – numbers and rates.
 - c. Newborns with a birthweight under 10th/3rd centile - numbers and as a percentage of total births.
 - d. Antenatal SGA detection rate (<10th centile) – numbers and as a percentage of all pregnancies, per Saving Babies Lives methodology.
 - e. Number of PMRT cases with undetected FGR, per Saving Babies Lives methodology.
2. For any of the above metrics the ICB does monitor, please share this data for the period Jan 2023 – June 2025, or for as long as the ICB has this data after Jan 2023, broken into quarters.
3. For any of the above data that the ICB does monitor:
 - a. How does the ICB analyse this data?
 - b. How does the Trust take action if there are any changes in this data?
 - c. Has the Trust taken any action due to changes in this data in the last two years?

Our Response

www.northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk 

NorthEastandNorthCumbriaNHS 

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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. In response to monitoring metrics:

- a. The overall stillbirth and neonatal death numbers are monitored via the MBRRACE annual reports. The link to these reports is [Reports | MBRRACE-UK | NPEU](#). The LMNS utilises a quarterly dashboard using MSDS and Neonatal Badgernet data which is developed by the NHS England Analytics team to also monitor these metrics.

In accordance with our duty under s.16 of the FOIA to provide reasonable advice and assistance to an individual requesting information, the NHS England FOI email address is england.contactus@nhs.net Please write "Freedom of Information" in the subject line.

- b. Please refer to the response to question 1a.
 - c. This information is reviewed as part of individual trusts Saving Babies Lives evidence submission which forms part of the Maternity Incentive Scheme safety action 6 LMNS/ICB validation.
 - d. Please refer to the response to question 1c.
 - e. Please refer to the response to question 1c.
2. The MBRRACE Perinatal report for 2023 was analysed by the North East Quality Observatory Service and was received in January 2025. This is available on the MBRRACE website as noted in the response to question 1a.

The quarterly dashboards provided by NHS England provide information for North East and Yorkshire and unfortunately, we are unable to split this down specifically to the stillbirth and neonatal deaths metrics in order to provide the information requested. You may wish to redirect this specific part of your request to NHS England using the contact details provided in the response to question 1a.

3. Annual MBRRACE data is routinely reviewed as part of the quality and safety programme.

The LMNS reviews the data via their Quality and Safety programme. For stillbirth and neonatal deaths, we utilise the local NENC NHS England perinatal dashboard. Individual trusts quarterly data is presented is plotted as funnel charts or via the Wilson method. Both these methods identify 95 and 98% confidence limits.

- If data falls above 95th Confidence Limit, this triggers an alert. Two consecutive alerts trigger an alarm.
- If data falls above 98th confidence limit, this triggers an alarm.
- Following an 'alarm', the analytics team undertake a data completeness review and depending on the outcome of this data review, a clinically led MDT review of all cases occurring within the quarters where an alert or alarm were identified would be undertaken. Terms of reference for the review would be agreed with the LMNS/ICB.
- The review findings are presented at the LMNS Quality and Safety meeting and summarised in Quality and Safety reports which are shared at LMNS Board and ICB Quality and Safety meeting.

Please note within the timeframes requested, one trust had a stillbirth alarm but when data completeness check was completed, this highlighted issues with data and when this was corrected, the Trust was within 95% confidence limits.

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 Senior 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**