

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 25–129

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

17 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 3 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

1. Please provide the number of patients referred in your ICB/ICS area for whom wound care was the primary condition, in the financial years: i) 2021-22, ii) 2022-23, iii) 2023-24, iv) 2024-25.
2. Please provide the average length of treatment for wound care (primary condition) patients settings in the above financial years. If available, please provide a breakdown between in inpatient and community settings.
3. For above financial years, please provide the number of wound care (primary condition) patients referred or admitted to:
 - a. Elective services (e.g. plastic surgery, dermatology)
 - b. Emergency care due to wound-related complications.
4. Please provide the total spend in your ICB/ICS area on wound care services, in the financial years i) 2021-22, ii) 2022-23, iii) 2023-24, iv) 2024-25. (i.e. please include any available spending information on treatments, products, staffing etc.)
5. Please provide total product spend on wound management dressings via Part IXA of the drug tariff (see link below), in the financial years i) 2021-22, ii) 2022-23, iii) 2023-24, iv) 2024-25.
<https://www.drugtariff.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/#/00726198-DD/DD00726112/Part%20IXA-%20Wound%20Management%20Dressings>
6. Does your organisation have any policies or guidelines on wound care? If so, please could you provide (e.g. any locally agreed wound care formularies or preferred product lists).

7. Does your organisation have a wound care strategy, service specification or improvement plan? If so, please provide a copy.
8. Are there any audit or quality improvement initiatives in place related to wound care? Has your organisation recently reviewed its wound care pathways?

If it is not possible to provide the information requested due to the information exceeding the cost of compliance limits identified in Section 12, please provide advice and assistance, under the Section 16 obligations of the Act, as to how I can refine my request.

If you have any queries please don't hesitate to contact me via email or phone and I will be very happy to clarify what I am asking for and discuss the request, my details are outlined below.

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. 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. 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 the information requested. However, we have determined that the information is held by the acute hospital NHS foundation trusts (FTs) within the North East and North Cumbria 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 foundation trusts to make your request.

NENC Acute Hospital FTs	Email
County Durham and Darlington NHS FT	cdda-tr.cddftfoi@nhs.net
Gateshead Health NHS FT	ghnt.foi.enquiries@nhs.net
North Cumbria Integrated Care NHS FT	foirequest@cumbria.nhs.uk
North Tees and Hartlepool NHS FT	foi@nth.nhs.uk
Northumbria Healthcare NHS FT	foi@northumbria.nhs.uk
South Tees Hospitals NHS FT	foi@stees.nhs.uk
South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS FT	stsft.freedomofinformation@nhs.net
The Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS FT	nuth.freedom.information@nhs.net

2. Please refer to the response to question 1.
3. Please refer to the response to question 1
4. Please refer to the response to question 1
5. The costs listed below are for products supplied via a direct supply / order system such as ONPOS. Additional costs are incurred by ICB via FP10. This data is publicly available at <https://www.nhsbsa.nhs.uk/prescription-data>

2021/22 Not available
 2022/23 £3,660,838
 2023/24 £6,462,090
 2024/25 £6,547,394

6. Guidelines are in place in localities and are managed by local Tissue Viability Nurse (TVN) teams within local Foundation Trusts. In accordance with our duty under s.16 of the FOIA to provide reasonable advice and assistance to an individual requesting information, we provided the FOI email addresses for those foundation trusts in the response to question 1.
7. NENC ICB does not have a wound care strategy, service specification or improvement plan.
8. Audit or quality improvement initiatives are carried out locally and managed by TVN teams. The ICB has not reviewed its wound care pathways recently.

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**