

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 25–245

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

29 September 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 23 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

Under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I would like to request the following information relating to the provision of neurodiversity assessment services commissioned by NHS England or local Integrated Care Boards (ICBs), specifically for:

- Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) assessments
- Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) assessments
- ADHD medication services
- For both children and adults

Please provide:

1. A list of all current providers contracted to deliver these services in England.
2. For each provider:
 - a. Name of the provider organisation
 - b. Type of service provided (e.g. ADHD, ASD, or both; for children, adults, or both)
 - c. Geographic area covered
 - d. Commissioning body (NHS England or ICB name)

- e. Contract duration and end date
- f. Date of contract award
- g. Procurement route used (e.g. open tender, direct award, framework call-off)
- h. Contract value (total value and/or annual value, where available)
- i. Applicable pricing model, including:
 - o Unit cost per assessment (if available)
 - o Unit cost per medication offer i.e. titration/annual reviews
 - o Payment structure (e.g. per-assessment, block contract, cost and volume)

If some of the information requested is exempt under Section 43 (commercial interests) or otherwise, please release all non-exempt information and clearly indicate which exemptions have been applied

If this request is too wide or exceeds the appropriate cost/time limits, I would be happy to refine the scope – for example, by focusing on specific ICB regions or date ranges.

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. 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 any of the information requested. However, we have determined that the information is held by NHS England.

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 address for NHS England: england.contactus@nhs.net. Please write "Freedom of Information" in the subject line.

2. In the North East and North Cumbria region:
 - a. NENC ICB commissions Tees, Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV) and Cumbria, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust (CNTW) to deliver ADHD and Autism services across adults and children. An urgent award is in place with The Owl Centre as a waiting list initiative to both Trusts for children waiting over three years for ADHD and/or autism assessments, which will end in March 2026.
 - b. Please refer to the response to question 2a.
 - c. TEWV covers Durham and Tees Valley areas. CNTW covers all other areas in NENC ICB except for Adult ADHD for North Cumbria. There is currently no contracted provider in North Cumbria for Adult ADHD.
 - d. The commissioning body is North East and North Cumbria (NENC) ICB.
 - e. CNTW and TEWV contracts commenced on 1st April 2024 for 3 years, with the option to extend a further two years.
 - f. Both CNTW and TEWV contracts commenced on 1st April 2024, however had both been providing this service for a long time prior (not all historic information is held by the ICB, which only came into being from July 2022, replacing previous Clinical Commissioning Groups).
 - g. The procurement route used was Direct Award A for both trust contracts. The Owl Centre was procured under an urgent award only for this year as a waiting list initiative, rather than a commissioned service.

- h. The contract value is part of block contracts with CNTW and TEWV, and the figures cannot be broken down.
- i. NHS Foundation trusts, CNTW and TEWV both operate under block contracts. The Owl Centre is based on capped activity.

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**