

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\  
FOI ICB 24-027

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By Email

16 April 2024

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 by North of England Commissioning Support (NECS) on 11 April 2024 for information held by NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB) under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

NENC ICB covers the areas of County Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle, North Cumbria, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, Sunderland, and Tees Valley (which covers the 5 councils that make it up – Darlington, Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees).

Please find the information you requested on behalf of the ICB as follows.

**Your Request**

I am writing to request the following information under the terms of the Freedom of Information Act (2000). For the twelve months from January 2023 to January 2024, please provide a breakdown of the following:

1. The number of pharmacies which permanently closed in your Integrated Care System.
2. The number of temporary pharmacy closure days recorded in this period, per pharmacy.
3. The duration of closures on each day, per pharmacy.
4. Reasons provided for closures at each pharmacy.

I would like you to provide this information via email. Please do not hesitate to contact me should any aspect of my request require clarification.

**Our Response**

We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB does the information requested.

There have been 25 pharmacy closures across NENC ICB in the twelve months between 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023. There have been 1438 temporary closures notifications submitted by 167 pharmacies, in the twelve months between 1 January 2023 and 31 December 2023.

The attached file details the duration and rationale for these closures.

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 complaints procedure provided by the North of England Commissioning Support Unit.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF

[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 sincerely

*S Davies*

**S Davies**  
**Information Governance Officer**