

20/08/2025

NN-ICB/25-1264

Dear Requestor

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information, received on 28 July 2025, regarding ECG and Holter monitoring services. We have processed your request in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Under the FOIA, public authorities like ours are required to respond to requests for information within 20 working days. In response to your request, I can confirm that we partially hold the information requested. However, please note that some / all of the information you requested has been withheld. Under the FOIA, certain exemptions may apply to protect sensitive information.

Please find below our response to your request:

I am writing to request the following information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 regarding the provision and commissioning of 12-lead ECG and long-term (Holter) monitoring services within your Integrated Care Board area:

1. Primary Care ECG Provision

- a) Does the ICB reimburse Primary Care Networks (PCNs) or GP Federations for conducting 12-lead ECGs in primary care?

The ICB does not reimburse PCNs for conducting ECGs in primary care.

An Enhanced Primary Care Services contract which is provided by a GP Federation, includes ECG provision.

- b) If yes, what is the reimbursement rate or tariff paid to PCNs or federations?

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB does not hold this information, the service forms part of a block contract.

- c) Which ECG device suppliers or service providers are currently commissioned or recommended for use in primary care?

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB does not hold this information.

- d) If applicable, what is the cost per device or service charged by these suppliers to the ICB?

Not applicable.

2. Holter Monitoring Provision (24hr–14 day ambulatory ECG)

- a) Are PCNs or federations reimbursed for delivering Holter monitoring in primary care?

No.

- b) What reimbursement rate or tariff applies?

Not applicable.

- c) Who are the current suppliers or outsourced providers used for Holter monitoring services?

- Broomwell supply the Holters

Providers:

- Abbey Medical Group
- Acorn Medical practice
- Family Medical Centre
- PICS

- d) What is the unit cost or service fee paid to these providers?

The ICB is unable to share this information as it is deemed commercially sensitive under Section 43 (2) of the Act. Section 43 of the Act states that:

(1) Information is exempt information if it constitutes a trade secret.

(2) Information is exempt information if its disclosure under this Act would, or would be likely to, prejudice the commercial interests of any person (including the public authority holding it).

(3) The duty to confirm or deny does not arise if, or to the extent that, compliance with section 1(1)(a) would, or would be likely to, prejudice the interests mentioned in subsection (2).

A **public interest test** has been undertaken in response to your request made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

The Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) sets out public interest factors in favour of and against disclosure. Some of the factors in favour were as follows:

- Ensuring that the public authority can be held accountable for its decisions, particularly as to how it spends public money.
- Ensuring that a tender process is open and transparent.
- Providing insight into the nature of a procurement process and winning bids, so that other companies are encouraged to take part in the process and improve future bids.

Public interest factors against disclosure (and in favour of the maintenance of an exemption) included:

- There is an inherent public interest in the maintenance of the exemption, and of upholding private companies' expectations that commercially confidential information will be protected from disclosure when they engage in public authority tenders.
- Avoiding the discouragement of prospective tenderers from tendering for public sector contracts, for fear of disclosure of their commercially sensitive information to competitors, and that this may adversely affect both the quality of tenders for public sector contracts, and public authorities' ability to negotiate them effectively.

- Maintaining a competitive market and driving competition as this benefits public authorities and consumers, and which could be threatened by disclosure of companies' commercial information.

On balance of the factors considered above, along with relevant case law, we considered that the ICB would be entitled to withhold the unit cost or service fee paid to these providers and that this would not be superseded by public interest considerations.

If you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) has an internal review procedure through which you can raise any concerns you might have. Further details of this procedure can be obtained by contacting Lucy Branson, Director of Corporate Affairs via lucy.branson@nhs.net or by writing to FOI Team at NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB, Sir John Robinson House, Sir John Robinson Way, Arnold, Daybrook, Nottingham NG5 6DA.

If you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), who will consider whether the organisation has complied with its obligations under the Act and can require the organisation to remedy any problems. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/>.

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to:

FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 123 1113 or report a concern via <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information (FOI) Officer on behalf of NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board

nnicb-nn.foi@nhs.net

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the [Open Government Licence](#) (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the license conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent of NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing (email will suffice) to the FOI Lead via nnicb-nn.foi@nhs.net. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.