

08/06/2026

NN-ICB/26-1628

Dear Requestor

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information, received on 26 May 2026, regarding liothyronine audits (follow-up to FOI 26-1548). We have processed your request in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Under the FOIA, public authorities are required to respond to requests for information within 20 working days. In response to your request, I can confirm that we do hold some of the information requested. However, please note that some of the information has not been disclosed in its original format, as doing so would present a risk of identification due to the small numbers and contextual detail involved.

Details of your request:

Further to your internal review response NN-ICB/26-1548 of 21 May 2026, you state that the ICB “does hold anonymised or aggregated returns submitted by GP practices” using the ‘NHSE_liothyronine_audit_Dec18 V2.xlsx’ template.

Under section 1(1)(b) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, please now provide copies of the anonymised or aggregated Liothyronine audit returns held by the ICB, together with any accompanying data dictionaries or explanatory notes needed to interpret the fields.

Our response to your request:

As set out in our internal review response NN-ICB/26-1548 of 21 May 2026, the ICB holds anonymised or aggregated returns submitted by GP practices as part of the Liothyronine audit process. These returns were provided in a summarised format and do not constitute identifiable patient records.

We have considered your request for copies of these returns and any supporting documentation. Due to the very small patient numbers involved and the level of contextual detail contained within the returns, disclosure of the information in its original format would carry a risk of identifying individuals when combined with other information that may be available.

This information is exempt from disclosure under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, as disclosure would be likely to lead to the identification of individuals and would therefore constitute a breach of the data protection principles.

The information is, therefore, not held in a format that can be disclosed at that level of detail without risk of identification.

In line with our obligations under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, we have instead provided the information in a further aggregated format, which represents the level at which it can be safely disclosed:

- The former NHS Nottingham City CCG received information from 10 practices, five of which advised they had ceased prescribing. A total of five records were identified through the audit.
- The former NHS Nottingham North and East CCG received information from five practices, two of which advised they had ceased prescribing. A total of four records were identified through the audit.
- The former NHS Nottingham West CCG received information from four practices. A total of four records were identified through the audit.
- The former NHS Rushcliffe CCG received information from five practices, one of which advised they had ceased prescribing. A total of five records were identified through the audit.

No further breakdown is provided, as more detailed information would increase the risk of identifying individuals due to the small cohort sizes involved.

The ICB does not hold a separate data dictionary or additional explanatory documentation in relation to these returns beyond the audit template referenced in our previous response.

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 Governance and Assurance 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.