

30/07/2026

NN-ICB/26-1632

Dear Requestor

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information, received on 27 May 2026 and for your clarification received on 18 June 2026, regarding ophthalmology referrals for all IS/Community providers. 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.

Please find below our response to your request:

1. Total ophthalmology referrals by month from January 2025 to the most current month for which data is available, broken down by receiving provider, for all independent sector/community providers.

Independent Sector/ Community Provider	Referrals from January 2025 to May/June 2026
HealthHarmonie	20,682
EMMS	7,494
Primary Eye Care Services (PECS)	Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB does not hold this information
CHEC	3,751
ACES	351
Newmedica	5,651
Spamedica	1,842 (1 January 2025 - 31 March 2026)
Optegra	713 (1 January 2025 - 31 March 2026)

2. If known or readily available, please could you provide data on how many of these referrals related to cataracts?

The ICB does not hold this level of detail.

3. If known or readily available, please could you provide data on the number of referrals rejected and/or returned to the referring organisation?

The ICB does not hold this level of detail.

4. Is a Single Point of Access (SPOA) in place for ophthalmology within your ICB area? If so, please confirm the organisation(s) who operates it?

RSS - Nottingham City locality

HealthHarmonie - Mid Notts & South Notts localities

Primary Eye Care Services - Bassetlaw locality

5. In the last six months, has your ICB issued any guidance to the ophthalmology SPOA regarding the triage of referrals or the allocation of referrals to specific providers?

In the last six months, the ICB has issued no such guidance. All referrals are handled through the SPOA to ensure patients are empowered to choose their own treatment provider in line with Patient Choice guidelines.

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.