

01/07/2026

NN-ICB/26-1642

Dear Requestor

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information, received on 4 June 2026, regarding fertility treatment commissioning. 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:

Please provide the following information relating to fertility services commissioned by your ICB during the time periods: 2023/24, 2024/25, and 2025/26 (if available).

1. Has the ICB undertaken an Equality Impact Assessment relating to its fertility policy?

Equality Impact Assessments (EIA) are routinely published directly within the policy document on the ICB's website.

However, please note that a new Equality Impact Assessments (EIA) has not been carried out for the new East Midlands-wide fertility policy as this has not been agreed or implemented.

2. Please provide a copy of the ICB's current fertility policy.

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB's policies are publicly available via our website and can be found in the Commissioning Policies section - [Our Policies and Procedures - NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB](#).

Fertility policies in the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire region currently vary, depending on where you live, so ICBs in the East Midlands are working together to create a single, consistent fertility policy for everyone in our region. Work on developing the new policy is ongoing and the new East Midlands-wide fertility policy has not been agreed or implemented to date.

3. What was the average waiting time:

- a) from GP referral to first fertility appointment?
- b) from fertility clinic assessment to commencement of IVF/ICSI/IUI treatment?

The ICB does not hold this information. You may wish to contact Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust and how to submit a Freedom of Information request to them can be found on their website, see link - <https://www.nuh.nhs.uk/freedom-of-information>.

4. What was the total spend on fertility services for those periods?

The ICB does not hold this information.

5. Please provide:

- a) the number of Individual Funding Requests (IFRs) relating to fertility treatment received for those periods;

Seven IFR applications were received over the time period 2023/24, 2024/25, and 2025/26.

- b) the number approved,

One IFR application was approved.

- c) the number declined,

Six IFR applications were declined.

- d) and, where recorded, the primary reasons for declined requests.

The primary reason for the declined requests is recorded as 'not clinically exceptional'.

6. Please list any specific services relating to male infertility that the ICB has commissioned, including diagnostic testing or sperm retrieval procedures.

Gamete Storage for gender and oncology patients.

7. How many declined fertility-treatment IFRs were subsequently reconsidered, appealed, or overturned, and what were the principal reasons for the original decision being changed?

Zero.

8. For fertility-related IFRs please provide anonymised aggregate data showing approvals and declines by age, sex, ethnicity, disability status, sexual orientation, relationship status, and family type (e.g. opposite-sex couple, same-sex couple, single person), where recorded.

The ICB does hold this information however as the numbers for each year are 5 or less, this information is exempt from disclosure under Section 40(2) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 on the grounds that it is personal information.

Even though the ICB 'does not record' ethnicity, disability, and orientation fields, releasing the combination of age, year, relationship/family type, and highly specific medical interventions (like ICSI or "2nd cycle IVF") creates a significant risk that the individuals could be identifiable by someone who knows them.

9. Please provide the number of staff hours or costs associated with administering fertility IFRs.

The ICB does not hold information on the number of staff hours or specific costs attributable solely to the administration of fertility Individual Funding Requests (IFRs).

Work associated with fertility IFRs is undertaken as part of broader IFR and commissioning support functions by staff within substantive roles. Staff time is not routinely recorded or costed at the level of individual treatment areas, and there is no dedicated budget, cost centre, or staffing allocation specifically for fertility IFR administration.

10. Please share evidence/reporting of where/how you've modelled the impact of implementing the latest national fertility recommendations.

The ICB does not hold this information as work on developing the new policy is ongoing and the new East Midlands-wide fertility policy has not been agreed or implemented to date.

11. Please provide copies of any Board papers discussing fertility service provision, affordability, or service restrictions.

Please refer to the Strategic Planning and Integration Committee 'Committee Highlight Reports' contained within the links below, which were presented to the following Board Meetings:

- 14 September 2023 - [ICB-Board-open-session-14.09.23.pdf](#)
- 11 January 2024 - [Board-11.01.24.pdf](#)
- 12 September 2024 - [ICB-Board-12.09.24.pdf](#)
- 9 July 2025 - [NNICB-Board-open-session-09.07.25.pdf](#).

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.