

03/07/2026

NN-ICB/26-1654

Dear Requestor

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information, received on 11 June 2026, regarding oversight of elective recovery governance, theatre asset misallocation, and outpatient urology pathways. 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:

Governance on In-Theatre Local Anaesthetic Waste:

1. What steps or commissioning frameworks has the ICB established to address inefficiencies where providers utilize Local Anaesthetic but fail to realize the capacity benefits by continuing to book main theatre suites instead of utilizing minor procedure rooms?

The ICB does not hold this information. The matters described in this question relate to operational and clinical decision-making within provider organisations, including the management of theatre capacity and utilisation.

As a commissioner of health services, the ICB does not directly manage or oversee the day-to-day operational use of theatres within provider settings and therefore does not hold recorded information of the type requested.

Regional Adoption of Automated Surgical Innovations:

2. Has the ICB formally reviewed, evaluated, or provided targeted procurement guidance for automated stapler-assisted surgical devices (e.g., ZSR/CircCurer) as a mechanism to entirely bypass the main theatre block and optimize day-case throughput?

The ICB does not hold this information. The procurement, evaluation, and adoption of specific surgical devices are functions carried out by provider organisations as part of their clinical and operational responsibilities. The ICB does not routinely hold records relating to the selection or use of specific surgical technologies.

In line with our duty to advise and assist under section 16 of the FOIA, you may wish to contact Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust (NUH), which provides acute hospital services and is, therefore, more likely to hold information relevant to questions 1 and 2. Details of how to submit a Freedom of Information request can be found on their website- <https://www.nuh.nhs.uk/freedom-of-information>.

Community and Primary Care Workforce Strategy:

3. Has the ICB evaluated, piloted, or commissioned pathways to entirely move routine adult circumcisions out of secondary care acute trusts and into community surgical hubs, utilizing specialized GPs or doctors supported by Advanced Nurse Practitioners (ANPs)?

The ICB holds limited information in relation to this question. The ICB has not undertaken a formal review, pilot, or commissioning exercise specifically relating to the pathway described. However, the consideration of minor surgical procedures, including routine adult circumcision, forms part of future planned care transformation work. This area has been identified for potential review within the 2027/28 planning cycle, alongside other procedures such as hernia pathways.

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.