



**North East and
North Cumbria**

North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board

GOVERNANCE HANDBOOK

Issue 9-0
Approved – 28 January 2025

**Better health
and wellbeing for all...**



Introduction

Who are we?

The North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NE & NC ICB) is a statutory health body established to arrange for the provision of health services within the North East and North Cumbria.

What is the Governance Handbook?

The North East and North Cumbria ICB must publish its constitution. The constitution sets out the duties of the ICB, the makeup of its board and the overarching rules by which it operates. The constitution is available here

<https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/about-us/corporate-information/governance/>

The governance handbook is supplementary to the constitution and sets out how the ICB makes its decisions. This is captured in several documents which make up this handbook.

Scheme of Reservation & Delegation

This document sets out those decisions reserved to the ICB board and those decisions which are delegated to others. Delegations may be made to individuals, committees, or other organisations.

Functions & Decisions Map

This map sets out those functions and decisions taken by the ICB centrally or by the ICB at place. There are 14 places in the North East and North Cumbria ICB, and these are listed in the ICB constitution, available here

<https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/about-us/corporate-information/governance/>

Committee Terms of Reference

The ICB has established five committees of the board. Each of these has a term of reference which sets out their remit and the decisions that each committee may make.

Financial Documents

The ICB has three key financial documents which set out the rules for making decisions, who decisions are delegated to, and the financial limits applicable to ICB staff.

Standards of Business Conduct Policy/Conflicts of interest policy and procedures

The ICB must maintain registers of the interests of members of the ICB Board, members of its committees or sub-committees, and its employees. These registers are included in this governance handbook.

Members of the board, committees, sub committees, and all staff must comply with the ICB's Standards of Business Conduct Policy/Conflicts of interest policy. This is also included in this governance handbook.

How you can inform decision making

Communities and People Involvement and Engagement Strategy for the North East and North Cumbria

No decision will be made about **substantial** changes to health and care services that people receive without talking and listening to people receiving those services or who may do in the future, about it first. It is important that people have their say to shape and improve local services.

The ICB's Communities and People Involvement and Engagement Strategy sets out how the ICB will engage and involve people and is available here

<https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/get-involved/>

Healthwatch

There is a local Healthwatch in every area of England which acts as the independent champion for people who use health and care services. Healthwatch find out what people like about services, and what could be improved, and share these views with those with the authority to make change happen.

Healthwatch also help people find the information they need about services in their area, and we help make sure their views shape the support they need. Healthwatch will be an important critical friend to the ICB.

ICB Board Meetings

ICB board meetings are held in public. The ICB will hold its board meetings throughout the North East & North Cumbria and all members of the public are welcome to attend. The dates of the board meetings, agendas and papers are posted on the ICB's website here [Meetings and agendas | North East and North Cumbria \(northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk\)](https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/Meetings-and-agendas-North-East-and-North-Cumbria)

Version Control (see appendix 2 for version control history)

Issue 9	As for issue 8 with the following changes:	TBC
	<p><u>Minor Changes – To Note (Non-Approval)</u></p> <p><u>ICB Standing Financial Instructions</u> (Revised version 3-0) <u>Changes to:</u> Reflect the Executive Director of Finance title to: Chief Finance Officer</p> <p><u>ICB Committee Structure</u> (Revised version 6-0) <u>Changes to:</u> Reflect additional subcommittees and subgroups agreed at Executive Committee:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long Term Conditions Subgroup • Performance Oversight Group • Contracting Subcommittee • Clinical Effectiveness and Governance Subcommittee <p><u>Pharmaceutical Services Regulatory Subcommittee</u> (Revised version 2-0) <u>Changes to:</u> Template – now using version 3 of Terms of Reference template Composition and Quoracy - Changes to the reduction of membership, clarification of voting and not voting members, quoracy. Procedures – Changes to decision making to align with the NHS (Pharmaceutical and Local Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2013, Clause 52.</p> <p><u>People and OD Subcommittee Terms of Reference</u> (Revised version 2-0) <u>Changes to:</u> Reflect requirements within 5.1 Composition and Quoracy. Changes to the reduction of membership the request of the Executive Committee.</p> <p><u>Clinical Effectiveness and Governance Subcommittee Terms of Reference</u> (Revised version 2-0) <u>Changes to:</u> The terms of reference for Clinical Effectiveness Subcommittee are updated to reflect formatting and material changes to be consistent with the 5 ICB Committees. Title/Establishment/Purpose/Responsibilities/Authority/Accountability/Membership.</p> <p><u>Contracting Subcommittee Terms of Reference</u> (version 1-0) A new addition of the terms of reference for Contracting Subcommittee are included in the Governance Handbook issue 9.</p> <p>Appendix 1 – <u>(New Addition)</u> Definition of Board Specialist Lead Roles has been included as an appendix within the governance handbook.</p>	
	<p><u>Material Changes – Board Approval</u></p> <p><u>ICB Financial Delegation</u> (Revised version 3-0) <u>Changes to:</u> Reflect the Executive Director of Finance title to: Chief Finance Officer and Contracts/Tenders amendments to include Provider Selection Regime (PSR) on pages 3: (2.1) & page 4: – (2.4).</p>	

	<p>Changes to the "Grants" page 12 of 15 (ref 15) responsibility and delegation arrangements.</p> <p><u>ICB Financial Limits</u> (Revised version 4-0) <u>Changes to:</u> Page 3 All-Age Continuing Care (AACC) packages to the delegated limits and authoriser. Amendment to narrative on page 4 to the limits and relevant staff approving the specific packages of care.</p>	
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2	Functions and Decision Map	V2-0
3	Financial Delegations	V3-0
4	Financial Limits	V4-0
5	Standing Financial Instructions (SFIs)	V3-0
6	Quality and Safety Committee Terms of Reference	V4-0
7	Remuneration Committee Terms of Reference	V3-0
8	Finance, Performance, and Investment Committee Terms of Reference	V4-0
9	Executive Committee Terms of Reference	V5-0
10	Audit Committee Terms of Reference	V3-0
11	Standards of Business Conduct Policy/Conflicts of interest policy and procedures [linked from Policies web page to Governance Handbook web page]	V2-0
12	Communities and People Involvement and Engagement Strategy for the North East and North Cumbria	V1-0
13	Registers of Interests [latest version shown on the web page]	N/A
14	North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Partnership (ICP) Strategic Terms of Reference	V1-0
15	NENC ICB Committee Structure	V6-0
	NENC ICB Place Subcommittee Terms of Reference:	
16.1	County Durham Place Subcommittee	V3-0
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16.4	Hartlepool Place Subcommittee	V3-0
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16.12	North Cumbria Place Subcommittee	V3-0

Document Number	Title	Version
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18	NENC Healthier and Fairer Advisory Group (Subcommittee) Terms of Reference	V2-0
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19.1	North Cumbria Area Quality and Safety Subcommittee	V3-0
19.2	North Area Quality and Safety Subcommittee	V2-0
19.3	Central Area Quality and Safety Subcommittee	V2-0
19.4	Tees Valley Area Quality and Safety Subcommittee	V3-0
20	Safeguarding Sub-committee Terms of Reference	V2-0
21	NENC Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) and Healthcare Associated Infection (HCAI) Subcommittee Terms of Reference	V2-0
22	Primary Care Strategy and Delivery Subcommittee Terms of Reference	V2-0
23	Pharmaceutical Services Regulatory Subcommittee Terms of Reference	V1-0
24	Individual Funding Requests (IFR) Panel Terms of Reference	V2-0
25	NENC ICB Remuneration Guidance	V1-0
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27	Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) Assurance Subcommittee Terms of Reference	V2-0
28	People & Organisational Development Subcommittee Terms of Reference	V2-0
29	Clinical Effectiveness and Governance Subcommittee Terms of Reference	V2-0
30	Investment Oversight and Vacancy Control Panel terms of Reference	V2.0
31	Contracting Subcommittee Terms of Reference	V1.0

Appendix 1	Governance Handbook - Definitions of Board Specialist Lead Roles
Appendix 2	Governance Handbook - version control history