

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 25–456

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

27 February 2026

Dear Applicant

Freedom of Information Act 2000 – Request for Information – NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (NENC ICB)

Thank you for your request received on 6 February 2026 for information held by NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board (the ICB) under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The ICB covers the areas of County Durham, Newcastle Gateshead, North Cumbria, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside, Sunderland, and Tees Valley.

Please find the information you requested on behalf of the ICB as follows.

Your Request

I'd be grateful if you could provide me with the following information relating to advanced practitioners. Advanced practitioners refers to any clinician with 'advanced' in their title, including but not exclusive to:

- Advanced clinical practitioner
- Advanced nursing practitioner

1. Advanced practitioners employed

- a. Please provide the total number of advanced practitioners employed in primary care within the ICB for each of the years 2021 to 2025.
- b. If possible, please specify whether employment was through Primary Care Networks (PCNs), Federations, or individual practices.
- c. Please could you specify whether the role was funded by the ARRS scheme.

2. Sessions undertaken

- a. Please provide the total number of sessions undertaken by advanced practitioners employed in Primary Care within the ICB for each of the years 2021 to 2025.

- b. If possible, please could you specify whether the session was funded by the ARRS scheme, and provide break down to identify advance practitioners working in:
 - i. Registered GP practice in core hours.
 - ii. Out-of-hours service outside of core hours.
 - iii. Walk-in centre.
3. Salary range
 - a) Please could you provide the salary range for advanced practitioners employed in Primary Care within the ICB for each of the years 2021 to 2025.
 - b) If possible, please could you specify salary range for:
 - i. ARRS-funded Advanced Practitioners.
 - ii. Advanced Practitioners not funded through ARRS scheme.
4. Salary expenditure
 - a. Please could you provide the total salary expenditure for advanced practitioners employed in Primary Care within the ICB for each of the years 2021 to 2025.
 - b. If possible, please could you specify total salary expenditure for:
 - i. ARRS-funded Advanced Practitioners.
 - ii. Advanced Practitioners not funded through ARRS scheme.
5. Hours worked
 - a. Please could you provide the total number of hours worked by advanced practitioners employed in Primary Care within the ICB for each of the years 2021 to 2025.
 - b. If possible, please could you specify total number of hours worked for:
 - i. ARRS-funded Advanced Practitioners
 - ii. Advanced Practitioners not funded through ARRS scheme.
6. Duties and responsibilities
 - a. Please could you provide us with any existing documentation which describes the job duties and responsibilities of advanced practitioners employed in Primary Care within the ICB. If possible, please could you specify if there are any differences in duties and responsibilities between ARRS-funded and non ARRS-funded roles.
 - b. If not covered in existing documentation, please confirm whether advanced practitioners employed in Primary Care within the ICB;
 - i. Make referrals to other specialties.
 - ii. Cover 'on call' duties.
 - iii. Work without immediate access to onsite clinical cover from a post-CCT General Practitioner.
 - iv. Supervise GP trainees and/or medical students.
 - v. Provide teaching to GP trainees and/or medical students.
7. General Practitioners

Within your ICB, please could you tell us:

 - a. if advanced practitioners employed in Primary Care are ever deployed on medical rotas or cover work typically carried out by General Practitioners.
 - b. if advanced practitioners are permitted to cover General Practitioner rota gaps.
8. Bank shifts
 - a. Please provide us with a copy of bank shift rotas currently used for all medical and non-medical roles.

- b. Please provide us with the current hourly rate-range paid to advanced practitioners working bank shifts at your ICB, broken down by years of service if applicable, for each of the years 2021 to 2025.

Our Response

1. Advanced practitioners employed

- a. We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB holds some of the information you have requested. However, this is publicly available as NHS England workforce statistics:

[Primary Care Network Workforce – NHS England Digital](#)
[General Practice Workforce – NHS England Digital](#)
[Primary Care Workforce Quarterly Update – NHS England Digital](#)

In accordance with s.21 of the FOIA, we are not required to provide information in response to a request if it is reasonably accessible to you by other means.

- b. Please refer to the response to question 1a.
- c. The PCN workforce data does not specify whether a role is ARRS funded or not, although an assumption could be made that most of these roles may be ARRS funded. NENC ICB does not hold data sufficient to accurately state how many ARRS roles there are from the data for the period i.e. numerous claims in a month or delays in PCNs claiming.

2. Sessions undertaken

- a. NENC ICB does not hold the information you have requested. FTE data may be sourced through the links provided in response to question 1a.
- b. Please refer to the response to question 2a.

3. Salary range

- a. On this occasion it is not possible to provide the requested information. In line with your rights under section 1(1)(a) of the Act to be informed whether information is held, we confirm the ICB does not hold any of the information requested.
- b. Please refer to the response to question 3a. For your reference, the salary amounts recommended can be found within the DES specifications. The 2025/26 DES is available on the NHS website: [NHS England » Network Contract DES: Contract specification 2025/26 – PCN requirements and entitlements](#). NENC ICB does not hold data on roles that are not ARSS funded.

4. Salary expenditure

- a. On this occasion it is not possible to provide the requested information. In line with your rights under section 1(1)(a) of the Act to be informed whether information is held, we confirm the ICB does not hold any of the information requested.
- b. Please refer to the responses to questions 4a and 3b.

5. Hours worked

- a. On this occasion it is not possible to provide the requested information. In line with your rights under section 1(1)(a) of the Act to be informed whether information is held, we confirm the ICB does not hold any of the information requested. NENC ICB does not hold details of the hours worked by advanced practitioners employed in Primary Care within the ICB for each of the years 2021 to 2025.
- b. Please refer to the response to question 1a.

6. Duties and responsibilities

- a. On this occasion it is not possible to provide the requested information. In line with your rights under section 1(1)(a) of the Act to be informed whether information is held, we confirm the ICB does not hold any of the information requested. PCNs or GP practices may require varying job duties, descriptions, and responsibilities for these roles due to the existing skill mix within the organisation or local needs.

General roles/responsibilities covered by role description can be found in the Network Contract DES for ARRS roles - [Network Contract DES – Contract specification 2025/26 – PCN requirements](#) and to claim ARRS funding the role would have to fulfil these criteria. Please refer to the response to question 5a.

7. General Practitioners

Within your ICB, please could you tell us:

- a. On this occasion it is not possible to provide the requested information. In line with your rights under section 1(1)(a) of the Act to be informed whether information is held, we confirm the ICB does not hold any of the information requested.
- b. Please refer to the response to question 6a.

8. Bank shifts

- a. In line with your rights under section 1(1)(a) of the Act to be informed whether information is held, we confirm the ICB does not hold any of the information requested. The ICB is not an employer organisation for GP practice, PCN or GP Federation roles.

However, we have determined that the information is held by the practices and PCNs within the North East and North Cumbria region.

In accordance with our duty under s.16 of the FOIA to provide reasonable advice and assistance to an individual requesting information, a list of all practices is available on the NHS Digital website: [GP and GP practice related data – NHS England Digital](#) The GP Practices full file name is **epraccur** and for your reference, NENC ICB's Organisation Data Service (ODS) code is **QMH**.

A list of all Primary Care Networks is available on the NHS Digital website: [GP and GP practice related data – NHS England Digital](#) The PCN full file name is **epcn** and for your reference, NENC ICB's Organisation Data Service (ODS) code is **QMH**.

- b. Please refer to the response to question 7a.

In accordance with the Information Commissioner's directive on the disclosure of information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000 your request will form part of our disclosure log. Therefore, a version of our response which will protect your anonymity will be posted on the NHS ICB website <https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/>.

If you have any queries or wish to discuss the information supplied, please do not hesitate to contact me on the above telephone number or at the above address.

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to request a review of our decision, you should write to the Information Governance Manager using the contact details at the top of this letter quoting the appropriate reference number.

If you are not content with the outcome your review, you do have the right of complaint to the Information Commissioner as established by section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act 2000. Generally, the Information Commissioner cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the ICB's complaints procedure.

The Information Commissioner can be contacted at Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF or www.ico.org.uk.

Any information we provide following your request under the Freedom of Information Act will not confer an automatic right for you to re-use that information, for example to publish it. If you wish to re-use the information that we provide and you do not specify this in your initial application for information then you must make a further request for its re-use as per the Re-Use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015 www.legislation.gov.uk. This will not affect your initial information request.

Yours faithfully

Information Governance Support Officer

**Information Governance Support Officer
North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board**