

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\  
FOI ICB 25–424

North East and North Cumbria ICB  
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By Email

21 January 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 19 January 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 am interested in a response to the following request under FOI. I very much look forward to your response.

1. Please confirm whether the ICB is currently:
  - Participating in a WorkWell pilot and details of such
  - Planning to participate in a future WorkWell rollout and when
  - Not currently participating in WorkWell
2. For the current and previous financial year, please provide:
  - The total value of WorkWell funding received by the ICB
  - Whether this funding is ringfenced or discretionary
  - Where held, please provide a high-level breakdown of WorkWell expenditure, for example:
    - Digital tools or platforms
    - Coaching or delivery partners
    - Programme management
    - Evaluation or insight activities

3. Please confirm which organisation(s) hold commissioning authority for WorkWell-related services:
  - Integrated Care Board
  - Local Authority
  - VCSE organisation and who that is
  - Prime contractor
  - Combination of the above
4. Please confirm the commissioning routes used or expected to be used for WorkWell services:
  - Contract variation or extension
  - Framework call-off
  - Competitive procurement
  - Grant funding
5. Please confirm whether digital tools are currently used or planned to be used in WorkWell delivery for any of the following and who the vendor is together with contract dates and values.
  - Self-referral
  - Case-finding
  - Eligibility assessment or triage
  - Signposting or referral management
  - Reporting, dashboards, or insight
6. Please confirm whether WorkWell is expected to:
  - Remain a time-limited pilot
  - Be extended locally. Please provide details.
  - Be scaled across multiple places or PCNs. Please provide details.
  - Be aligned with neighbouring ICBs. Please provide details.
7. Please provide any indicative timelines (where held) for:
  - Decisions on extension or scale
  - Budget setting for future financial years
  - Procurement or commissioning activity
8. Please confirm whether PCNs or GP practices are involved in WorkWell delivery through:
  - Referrals or case-finding
  - Hosting coaches
  - Fit Note-related activity

## **Our Response**

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.

1. NENC ICB is not currently participating in WorkWell nor a WorkWell pilot. We will be, alongside all ICBs, be rolling out WorkWell from 2026/27.
2. NENC ICB has received no WorkWell funding received in the current or previous financial year.
3. Please refer to the response to question 1.
4. Please refer to the response to question 1.
5. Please refer to the response to question 1.

6. In line with the WorkWell national prospectus we will be developing a WorkWell service for 2026/27. This will build upon Pillar One of the ICB Health and Growth Accelerator model that is currently being mobilised across all Local Authority places in the North East and North Cumbria. Due to the size and scale of the ICB in the North East and North Cumbria we will not be aligning with neighbouring ICBs.
7. A WorkWell delivery plan is to be submitted to the national team in March 2026. This will include decisions on extension or scale, budget setting for future financial years and procurement and commissioning activity.
8. Please refer to the response to question 1.

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](http://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](http://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**