

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 25-073

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

16 June 2025

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 2 June 2025 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 writing to you under the Freedom of Information Act to request the following information:

1. Does the ICB have a contract currently with Ardens for Primary Care.
 - a. The date the contract started
 - b. The date the contract ends
2. The name and contact detail of the person responsible for quality improvement within the Primary Care Networks in your ICB region.
3. The name and contact email of the person responsible for Digital Transformation within the Primary Care Networks in your ICB region.

Our Response

We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB does not hold the information you have requested.

1. No, NENC ICB does not have a contract currently with Ardens for Primary Care. As such, there is no information on contract start and end dates.

2. There is no single person responsible for quality improvement within the Primary Care Networks in the NENC region. The ICB Local Delivery Teams working closely with PCNs to ensure the ICB fulfils responsibilities and statutory duties, regarding the quality assurance of primary medical care services.
3. There is no single person responsible for Digital Transformation in the ICB. PCNs have the opportunity to create Digital Transformation roles through Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme (ARRS) funding.

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 Senior 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**