

Our Reference      North East and North Cumbria ICB\  
FOI ICB 25-059

North East and North Cumbria ICB  
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By Email

29 May 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 22 May 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**

This FOI relates to carers' leave; we would like to explore what is currently being offered by GP practices across the North East and North Cumbria region. Would you happen to have:

1. Any benchmarking data or summary of current policies among practices?
2. Any recommended approach or model policy from the ICB regarding carers' leave?
3. Guidance on aligning practice-level policies with NHS standards?

**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 as per the responses to individual questions below.

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

GP practices are independent contractors and terms and conditions (T&Cs) for the staff they employ are determined by the practices. NHS T&Cs as applied to ICB staff would not be applicable in this instance. You may wish to redirect your questions to GP practices in the NENC region.

For your reference, a list of practices is available on the NHS Digital website: [GP and GP practice related data – NHS England Digital](#) The GP Practices full file name is **eppracur** and for your reference, NENC ICB's Organisation Data Service (ODS) code is **QMH**.

2. Please find attached NENC ICB's Carers Leave Policy. Please note the policy is applicable to NENC ICB employees only and other NHS organisations, such as Trusts, will have their own version of a Carers Leave Policy
3. 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 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](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**