

Item: 9.1

REPORT CLASSIFICATION	✓	CATEGORY OF PAPER	✓
Official	✓	Proposes specific action	
Official: Sensitive Commercial		Provides assurance	✓
Official: Sensitive Personal		For information only	

BOARD

31 MARCH 2026

Report Title:

**Executive Committee
Highlight Report and Confirmed Minutes**

Purpose of report

To provide the Board with an overview of the decisions agreed at the Executive Committee meetings in January and February 2026 and the confirmed minutes from these meetings.

Key points

The Executive Committee met on 13 January, 10 February and 10 March 2026.

The key points to bring to the Board's attention from each meeting are detailed in accompanying decision logs (Appendix 1). The confirmed minutes from each meeting are also attached for assurance (Appendix 2).

13 January 2026

The following items were submitted to the meeting of the Committee and details are contained within the attached decision log (appendix 1) and confirmed minutes (appendix 2):

- Niche Report
- Provider Requested Service Change Proforma
- HR13 – Freedom to Speak Up Policy

10 February 2026

The following items were submitted to the meeting of the Committee and details are contained within the attached decision log (appendix 1) and confirmed minutes (appendix 2):

- Digital Update and Ambient Voice Technology (AVT) Overview
- Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Autism Task and Finish Group Terms of Reference
- Sexual Safety Update
- NENC Five Year Strategic Commissioning Plan
- ICBP009 Counter Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy

10 March 2026

The following items were submitted to the meeting of the Committee:
Service Reform Workstream Closedown Report

- Women's Health Hub Investment Proposal 26-29
- Implications of National Special Educational Need and Disabilities Reforms

- Research and Evidence Metrics
- Manchester Arena Inquiry Update
- ICBP033 Procurement Policy
- ICB HR018a Sexual Misconduct Policy

The confirmed minutes from the Executive Committee meeting held on 13 January and 10 February 2026 are attached as appendix 2, respectively.

Risks and issues

The Committee noted the reported risks and mitigating actions being put in place as detailed in the report appendices.

Assurances and supporting documentation

The Committee also received several items for assurance, and these included:

- Chief Delivery Officer report – an information and assurance summary report of business within the respective place areas.
- Assurance via a number of subcommittee minutes.
- Finance reports
- NHS Medium Term Planning 2026/27 – 2030/31 Submission Update
- Integrated Delivery Report
- Board Assurance Framework and Risk Register
- Regulation 28 Prevention of Future Death Reports Issued Across North East and North Cumbria 2025/26 Year to Date (YTD) (April to November 2025)
- Limited Liability Partnerships (LLPs) and Material Subcontractors – Progress Update
- Freedom to Speak Up (FTSU) Report
- System Recovery Board Update
- Healthy Heart Checks and working with PocDoc

Recommendation/action required

The Board is asked to:

- Note the key highlights from the meeting on 10 March 2026.
- Receive the decision logs (appendix 1) and confirmed minutes (appendix 2) for the Executive Committee meetings held on 13 January and 10 February 2026 for information and assurance.

Acronyms and abbreviations explained

NENC - North East and North Cumbria
 ICS - Integrated Care System
 ICB - Integrated Care Board
 IDR – Integrated Delivery Report
 LDT – Local Delivery Teams
 PSR - Provider Selection Regime

Sponsor/Approving Executive Director	S Allen, Chief Executive
Date approved by Executive Director	24 March 2026
Report author	R Herron, Corporate Committees Officer

Link to ICP strategy priorities

Longer and Healthier Lives	✓
Fairer Outcomes for All	✓
Better Health and Care Services	✓

Giving Children and Young People the Best Start in Life						✓
Relevant legal/statutory issues						
Note any relevant Acts, regulations, national guidelines etc						
Any potential/actual conflicts of interest associated with the paper?	Yes		No	✓	N/A	
Equality analysis completed	Yes		No		N/A	✓
If there is an expected impact on patient outcomes and/or experience, has a quality impact assessment been undertaken?	Yes		No		N/A	✓
Essential considerations						
Financial implications and considerations	Identified as part of the committee minutes.					
Contracting and Procurement	Not applicable as highlight report only.					
Local Delivery Team	Not applicable as highlight report only.					
Digital implications	Not applicable as highlight report only.					
Clinical involvement	Yes, as part of the Executive Committee membership.					
Health inequalities	Not applicable as highlight report only.					
Patient and public involvement	Not applicable as highlight report only.					
Partner and/or other stakeholder engagement	Not applicable as highlight report only.					
Other resources	Not applicable as highlight report only.					

Appendix 1 - Decisions Log – Public Executive Committee – January 2026

Agenda Item	Description	Decision/action
Niche Report	<p>The report provided the Committee with an update on progress following receipt of the full Niche Report.</p> <p>The report outlined the importance of ensuring that all relevant system partners were appropriately briefed and engaged in the follow up work arising from the report.</p>	<p>The Committee approved sharing the Niche Review with relevant communications, jointly engaging the sector on transparent NHS fee setting including ending Continuing Healthcare premiums and reinvesting savings, and developing a new fee setting approach for 2027/28 while maintaining current arrangements for 2025/26 and 2026/27.</p>
Provider Requested Service Change Proforma	<p>The report provided the Committee with the proposed Provider Requested Service Change Proforma.</p> <p>The proforma had been developed following an informal engagement exercise undertaken in late 2025, during which a range of stakeholders had provided extensive and constructive feedback.</p> <p>The proforma represents an important step towards standardising how providers notify the ICB of proposed service changes. While many voluntary notifications were already submitted to the ICB, these varied in format and level of detail; therefore, the introduction of a structured proforma would strengthen oversight, minimise ambiguity, and support commissioners to understand potential impacts on contract performance, patient quality and system resilience.</p>	<p>The Committee approved the contents of the proforma with a trial of the proforma with a Trust for further feedback and refinement before full roll out.</p>
Policies	<p>The following policies were presented to the Committee following an annual review and minor updates:</p> <p>The following Policies were reviewed and agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICB HR13 – Freedom to Speak Up Policy 	<p>The Committee approved the ICB HR13 – Freedom to Speak Up Policy</p>

Appendix 1 - Decisions Log – Public Executive Committee – February 2026

Agenda Item	Description	Decision/action
Digital Update and Ambient Voice Technology (AVT) Overview	<p>The report provided the Committee with an overview of Artificial Intelligence (AI)-enabled ambient scribing products in health and care settings.</p> <p>A series of slides illustrated a complex network of digital forums, programmes and networks. Many of these, particularly those previously funded and led by the ICB, were now at risk of being stood down because of organisational change, with functions likely to move into foundation trusts or other regional structures.</p>	<p>The Committee approved the cautious adoption and phased implementation of AI-enabled scribing products, with assurance on safety, data protection, regulatory compliance, appropriate training, patient engagement, ongoing monitoring, and participation in evaluation to inform future best practice.</p>
Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD) and Autism Task and Finish Group Terms of Reference	<p>The report provided the Committee with the Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder Task and Finish Group Terms of Reference.</p> <p>The ADHD and Autism Task and Finish Group, which had been established under the Committee to provide focused leadership on ADHD and autism pathway issues, including waiting times, service models and interface with education and social care.</p>	<p>The Committee approved the ADHD and Autism Task and Finish Group Terms of Reference, with a six month review point.</p>
Sexual Safety Update	<p>The report provided the Committee with the progress made to meet the standards set out in the NHS Sexual Safety Charter; and the implementation of the ICB Sexual Misconduct Policy.</p>	<p>The Committee approved the inclusion of compliance with the sexual safety assurance framework in the ICB's internal audit programme.</p>
NENC ICB and ICS Finance Update Month Nine	<p>The report provided the Committee with the financial year 2025/26 for the nine months to 31 December 2025.</p> <p>It was noted that some organisations had approached the ICB for additional support to reach year-end balance. The Committee were requested to delegate authority to the Chair and Chief Finance Officer to take necessary decisions on year-end adjustments within agreed thresholds.</p>	<p>The Committee approved the delegation of authority to the Chair and Chief Finance Officer to take necessary decisions on year-end adjustments within agreed thresholds.</p>
NENC Five Year Strategic Commissioning Plan	<p>The report provided the Committee with the proposed NENC Five Year Strategic Commissioning Plan.</p>	<p>The Committee supported the draft NENC ICB Five Year Strategic Commissioning Plan be submitted to Board for approval.</p>

Agenda Item	Description	Decision/action
	<p>The draft NENC ICB Five Year Strategic Commissioning Plan, is a substantial refresh of the previous joint forward plan to reflect current guidance, 2026/27 commissioning intentions and system changes.</p>	
Policies	<p>The following policies were presented to the Committee following an annual review and minor updates:</p> <p>The following Policies were reviewed and agreed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ICBP009 Counter Fraud, Bribery and Corruption Policy 	<p>The Committee approved the minor amends of the current policies</p>