

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\  
FOI ICB 25–465

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By Email

2 March 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 12 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 am writing to make a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

Please provide the following information in relation to Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme (ARRS) funding claimed by Copeland Primary Care Network (PCN) from 2019 to the present day:

1. Social Prescribing (ARRS-funded roles)

For each financial year from 2019 to present:

- a. The total amount of ARRS funding claimed for social prescribing
- b. The number of social prescribing roles/workers this funding covered
- c. The amount of funding drawn down in each year
- d. Details of any uplift applied in each year (including the percentage and/or monetary value of the uplift)

2. Other ARRS-funded Roles

For each financial year from 2019 to present:

- a. A list of all other roles funded through ARRS
- b. The amount claimed per role each year
- c. The total ARRS funding claimed per year
- d. A breakdown of any uplift applied, specifying:

- Which roles received uplift
- The value and/or percentage of uplift applied to each role

### 3. PCN Split Information

I understand that Copeland PCN subsequently split. From the date of the split to the present day, please provide the same information as outlined above for:

- Haven PCN
- Copeland Alliance PCN

Specifically, for each PCN and for each financial year since the split:

- ARRS funding claimed for social prescribing (amounts, number of roles, drawdown, and uplift)
- ARRS funding claimed for all other roles, including role titles, annual amounts claimed, and details of any uplift applied

If the information is held in a spreadsheet or tabular format, I would be grateful if it could be provided in that format to aid clarity. If any part of this request exceeds the cost limit, please provide the information that can be disclosed within the limit and advise how the request may be refined to obtain the remaining data.

## **Our Response**

### General information on ARRS (publicly available)

The Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme (ARRS) forms part of the Primary Care Network (PCN) Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service (DES). The DES specification and associated guidance are publicly available documents published annually by NHS England here: [NHS England » Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service \(DES\)](#). These documents set out:

- Eligible ARRS roles
- Nationally determined maximum reimbursable amounts per role
- The basis of reimbursement, including employer on costs (National Insurance and NHS Pension contributions)

The DES does not publish actual salaries paid, PCN specific claim values, or individual level data.

### 1 Social Prescribing (ARRS-funded roles)

- a. NENC ICB holds some of the information you have requested. There is no data held pre-2021 and data 2021/22 and 2022/23 was submitted by claim, so limited information is held. The total reimbursed is detailed in the spreadsheet attached.
- b. NHS NENC ICB does hold a breakdown of the total reimbursed figure by role. The ICB considers that this information is exempt under Freedom of Information Act 2000, Section 40(2) (personal information) as disclosure of this level of detail could lead to the identification of individuals' salaries, which would be in breach of Data Protection legislation.

The Freedom of Information Act 2000 introduces a broader concept of risk of personal identifiable information because its test for deciding whether personal data can be disclosed is whether disclosure to a member of the public would breach the data protection principles. This means that public authorities have to assess whether releasing apparently anonymised data to a member of the public would breach the data protection principles.

- c. Please refer to the response to question 1b.

- d. Please refer to National DES guidance link provided within the general information above. “Uplift” under ARRS reflects national changes to maximum reimbursable rates, rather than PCN specific uplifts or discretionary increases.

## 2 Other ARRS-funded Roles

- a. Please see attached spreadsheet
- b. NHS NENC ICB does hold a breakdown of the total reimbursed figure by role. The ICB considers that this information is exempt under Freedom of Information Act 2000, Section 40(2) (personal information) as disclosure of this level of detail could lead to the identification of individuals' salaries, which would be in breach of Data Protection legislation.

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- c. Please refer to the attached spreadsheet
- d. Please refer to the response to question 1d.

## 3 PCN split – Haven PCN and Copeland Alliance PCN

Please refer to the attached spreadsheet and responses to question 1a-d and 2a-d.

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**