

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 25–161

North East and North Cumbria ICB
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By Email

8 August 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 24 July 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 submit a Freedom of Information (FOI) request. This request pertains to the health visiting workforce within the area covered by your local authority, which is listed among the upper-tier and unitary authorities receiving Public Health Grant allocations for 2025 to 2026. Please note that you must not amalgamate any FOIs you may have received from us and that each one should be considered and actioned separately.

The purpose of this FOI request is to gain a better understanding of current capacity and workforce trends in health visiting services commissioned by local authorities across England.

Specifically, we would like to request responses/information relating to the following questions:

1. Do you currently commission a health visiting service?
2. Please select which of the following best describes your current health visiting contract provider:
 - a. NHS trust
 - b. Charity
 - c. Local authority
 - d. Community Interest Company
 - e. Private healthcare provider

f. Other [please state]

3. How many full-time equivalent (FTE) clinical staff in total, and on each Agenda for Change Band (if this or equivalent framework is used) [3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8a, 8b, 8c] were employed in your health visiting service in: March 2025; September 2024, March 2024? [If you do not have data for these specific months, please provide the most recent full workforce data that you have]
4. How many FTE SCPHN qualified health visitors at each of the following bands: 6, 7, 8 were employed in your health visiting service in: March 2025; September 2024, March 2024? [If you do not have data for these specific months, please provide the most recent full workforce data that you have]
5. For each Band (3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8a, 8b, 8c) please state the percentage of health visiting service staff on: temporary (agency), temporary (employed), fixed term, permanent contacts in: March 2025; September 2024, March 2024? [If you do not have data for these specific months, please provide the most recent full workforce data that you have]
6. What was the total number of children under 5 years of age that your health visiting service was responsible for in: March 2025; September 2024, March 2024? [If you do not have data for these specific months, please provide the most recent full workforce data that you have]
7. What was the average caseload per SCPHN qualified FTE health visitor in your area in: March 2025; September 2024, March 2024? [If you do not have data for these specific months, please provide the most recent full workforce data that you have]
8. Which mandated health visiting contacts in your area are currently carried out only by qualified SCPHN health visitors? (select all that apply; antenatal, New Birth Visit, 6-week check, 1 year review and 2-year review)
9. Is your health visiting service currently [in April 2025] employing any SCPHN student health visitors? Yes/No, if Yes how many? [If you do not have data for these specific months, please provide the most recent full workforce data that you have]
10. Is your health visiting service planning to employ the SCPHN student Health Visitors upon completion of their training (Yes/No) If yes, how many?

Our Response

We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB on this occasion is not able to provide the requested information. In line with your rights under section 1(1)(a) of the Act to be informed whether information is held, we confirm the ICB does not hold any of the information requested. Commissioning health visiting services is the remit of Public Health which sits within Local Authorities.

In accordance with our duty under s.16 of the FOIA to provide reasonable advice and assistance to an individual requesting information, we have provided the FOI email addresses for the local authorities in the North East and North Cumbria ICB region, for you to make your request.

NENC Local Authorities	Email
Cumbria County Council	information.governance@cumbria.gov.uk
Darlington Borough Council	freedomofinformation@darlington.gov.uk
Durham County Council	foi@durham.gov.uk
Gateshead Council	informationrights@gateshead.gov.uk
Hartlepool Borough Council	freedomofinformation@hartlepool.gov.uk
Middlesbrough Borough Council	foi@middlesbrough.gov.uk
Newcastle City Council	freedomofinformation@newcastle.gov.uk
North Tyneside Council	foiofficer@northtyneside.gov.uk

Northumberland County Council	foi@northumberland.gov.uk
Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council	informationgovernance@redcar-cleveland.gov.uk
South Tyneside Council	foi@southtyneside.gov.uk
Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	foiandcomplaints@stockton.gov.uk
Sunderland City Council	freedom.information@sunderland.gov.uk

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**