

Our Reference North East and North Cumbria ICB\
FOI ICB 25–162

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

Further to receiving no response from Stockton Local Authority we are redirecting our FOI request regarding the school nursing workforce to you as their provider.

This request relates to the school nursing workforce in the area covered by your local authority, as 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 aim of this FOI request is to better understand current capacity and workforce trends in school nursing 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 school nursing service? Yes/No
2. Which of the following best describes your current school nursing contract provider:
 - a. NHS trust
 - b. Charity
 - c. Local authority
 - d. Community Interest Company
 - e. Private healthcare provider

f. Other [please specify]

3. How many full-time equivalent (FTE) clinical staff were employed in your school nursing 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 school nurses were employed at each of the following bands (6, 7, 8a, 8b, 8c) in your school nursing 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. If your school nursing team is employed on Agenda for Change bands, please tell us how many FTE clinical staff were employed on each Band (3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8a, 8b, 8c) 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. For each Band (3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8a, 8b, 8c) please state the percentage of school nursing 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]
7. What was the total number of school-aged children that your school nursing service was responsible for in: March 2025; September 2024, March 2024?
8. What was the average number of [primary, secondary and specialist] schools per SCPHN qualified school nurse in your area in: March 2025; September 2024, March 2024?
9. What was the SCPHN qualified school nurse (Band 6) FTE vacancy rate in your school nursing 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]
10. Is your school nursing service currently [in April 2025] employing any SCPHN student school nurses? 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]
11. Is your school nursing service planning to employ the SCPHN student School Nurses upon completion of their training Yes/No, If Yes how many?

Our Response

1. We can confirm, as per Section 1(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, the ICB does hold the information requested. The ICB does not currently commission a school nursing service in Stockton-on-Tees.
2. Please refer to the response to question 1.
3. Please refer to the response to question 1.
4. Please refer to the response to question 1.
5. Please refer to the response to question 1.
6. Please refer to the response to question 1.
7. Please refer to the response to question 1.
8. Please refer to the response to question 1.
9. Please refer to the response to question 1.
10. Please refer to the response to question 1.
11. 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.

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**