

27/08/2025

NN-ICB/25-1277

Dear Requestor

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information, received on 6 August 2025, regarding the role of nurse leader. We have processed your request in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

We can confirm that NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB does hold information relevant to your request. However, this information is exempt from disclosure under Section 22(1) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 – information intended for future publication.

Details of your request:

1. Does this ICB plan to remove the executive role of nurse leader who is a board member (for example, chief nurse, chief nursing officer, nursing director) from its leadership structure in the near future?
2. Has this ICB held discussions about potentially removing the executive role of nurse leader who is a board member (for example, chief nurse, chief nursing officer, nursing director) from its leadership structure in the near future?
3. If yes to question 1 or 2, what is the timescale. Is this likely to happen within the next three months, within the next six months or within the 12 months, or longer?
4. If yes to question 1 or 2, what are the ICB's overriding reasons for removing this senior nursing role from the leadership structure?
5. If yes to question 1 or 2, in the future absence of a senior nurse from the board/executive leadership structure, how does the ICB plan to get advice on nursing matters or input from a nurse on decisions?
6. If yes to question 1 or 2, in the future absence of a senior nurse from the board/executive leadership structure, which role in the ICB will lead on quality, safety and experience?
7. If yes to question 1 or 2, in the future absence of a senior nurse from the board/executive leadership structure, which role(s) in the ICB will lead on safeguarding, CHC and SEND?

Our response to your request:

At the time of writing:

- No decisions have been made regarding the composition of the ICB's leadership structure including those pertaining to the Nursing leadership of the ICB.

- The ICB is currently reviewing its leadership and governance arrangements as part of a broader cluster-wide organisational alignment process.
- Any proposed changes would be subject to appropriate governance processes and formal consultation in line with statutory duties.

FOIA Exemption: Section 22(1)

We are withholding detailed information about board composition and potential changes under Section 22(1) of the FOIA, which applies when:

- The information is held with a view to future publication;
- It was held as such at the time of the request; and
- It is reasonable in all the circumstances to withhold the information until publication.

This exemption applies here because the relevant information (including the ICB's updated Constitution and board composition) is being prepared for future publication and will be made publicly available on our website once finalised.

Public Interest Test

Section 22 is a qualified exemption and subject to a public interest test. We recognise the public interest in:

- Transparency and accountability in NHS decision-making;
- The importance of nursing leadership in healthcare governance.

However, we also consider:

- The ICB has a defined and reasonable timeline for publishing updated governance documents;
- Premature disclosure of draft or unconfirmed information may cause confusion or unnecessary concern;
- Cost-effective publication via official channels supports consistent and accessible communication.

On balance, we have concluded that the public interest favours withholding the information at this stage in favour of publication in due course.

If you are unhappy with the way in which your request has been handled, NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) has an internal review procedure through which you can raise any concerns you might have. Further details of this procedure can be obtained by contacting Lucy Branson, Director of Corporate Affairs via lucy.branson@nhs.net or by writing to FOI Team at NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB, Sir John Robinson House, Sir John Robinson Way, Arnold, Daybrook, Nottingham NG5 6DA.

If you remain dissatisfied with the outcome of the internal review, you can apply to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO), who will consider whether the organisation has complied with its obligations under the Act and can require the organisation to remedy any problems. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB. You can find out more about how to do this, and about the Act in general, on the Information Commissioner's Office website at: <https://ico.org.uk/for-the-public/>.

Complaints to the Information Commissioner's Office should be sent to:

FOI/EIR Complaints Resolution, Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire, SK9 5AF. Telephone 0303 123 1113 or report a concern via <https://ico.org.uk/concerns/>.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information (FOI) Officer on behalf of NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board

nnicb-nn.foi@nhs.net

All information we have provided is subject to the provisions of the Re-use of Public Sector Information Regulations 2015. Accordingly, if the information has been made available for re-use under the [Open Government Licence](#) (OGL) a request to re-use is not required, but the license conditions must be met. You must not re-use any previously unreleased information without having the consent of NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board. Should you wish to re-use previously unreleased information then you must make your request in writing (email will suffice) to the FOI Lead via nnicb-nn.foi@nhs.net. All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.