

10/12/2025

NN-ICB/25-1402

Dear Requestor

Re: Freedom of Information Request

Thank you for your request for information, received on 17 November 2025, regarding the ICB cuts/running costs. We have processed your request in accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA).

Under the FOIA, public authorities like ours are required to respond to requests for information within 20 working days. In response to your request, I can confirm that we do hold the information requested.

Please find below our response to your request:

1. How does the ICB plan to cut running costs by 50%. Please provide as much detail as possible and where possible add a short description to each area of savings.

The first step towards the savings requirements is the clustering of ICBs; it is deemed that individual ICBs are unsustainable once cost reductions are applied. Derby and Derbyshire ICB, Lincolnshire ICB and Nottingham and Nottinghamshire ICB (DLN) received NHS England approval to cluster. For the DLN cluster to achieve the mandated corporate costs ceiling of £19.41 per head of population, we require a 46% cost reduction, which equates to £55m across the cluster (from £120m to £65m). All areas for cost savings are being considered including non-pay spend. These include saving money by reducing the costs of estates, IT systems, travel, and maintaining vacancy control measures, but pay costs will form the vast majority of the savings target.

2. How many WTE staff is the ICB planning to cut?

DLN's initial modelling anticipates that the required savings will amount to around 600 Whole Time Equivalent (WTE) posts – from around 1450 to around 850. The final number of staff exiting the organisations will be supported by savings in non-pay areas, as indicated above, and natural wastage. Since March, 85 people have left the cluster, which equates to a saving of around £4m.

3. What will be the shape of the new organisation? Please provide a diagram if necessary.

DLN has confirmed its Executive Team structure; the diagram attached indicates the portfolios of the appointed Executive Team. Executive Directors continue to work on structures below this level, and we have now opened consultation on the Director-level structure (9th December). The structures for the remainder of staff in the cluster will follow in early 2026.

The ICB is also working with NHS England and other partners to define how the cluster will operate and what the shared structure will look like. Options are being looked at for transferring some functions to other organisations, based on the Model ICB Blueprint. We are also in discussion about the future location of Commissioning Support Unit functions and are awaiting guidance on other functions noted for transfer into the ICB, for example those currently discharged by Healthwatch organisations as highlighted in the Dash Report.

4. How does the ICB plan to transform itself into a “strategic commissioner”?

The Executive Director portfolios are based on the core functions of a strategic commissioner, as identified in the Model ICB Blueprint and Strategic Commissioning Framework issued by NHS England. To further support the transformation as a strategic commissioning organisation, DLN will undertake an assessment against NHSE's national Strategic Commissioning Framework programme in Quarter 4 of 2025/26, in line with the to-be-published NHS England toolkit and take part in national workshops and support offers to help shape the approach we will take. Our organisational development plan to support this transition will be built from this assessment into 2026/27.

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

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