



Our Ref: PW/TLR/FOI/0126/1579

23rd January 2026

Smithfield One
Leonard Coates Way
Hanley
Stoke-on-Trent
ST1 4FA

Telephone: 0300 123 1461

Sent by email

Dear

FOI/0126/1579

Your request for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000

Further to your email dated 19th January 2026 for information under the Freedom of Information Act 2000. We can now confirm that Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board can provide the following information.

An anonymised copy of this response will be made publicly available on the ICB website. The ICBs response is provided below in [blue](#) text.

You have requested:

I would be grateful if you might supply the following information under the FOI procedure.

1. For the current financial year and the previous financial year, please provide the number of Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme (ARRS) posts approved by the ICB, broken down by role type (for example: Mental Health Practitioner, Social Prescribing Link Worker, Care Coordinator, Health and Wellbeing Coach).

Details provided are for approved ARRS claims. The ICB does not approve posts, it is at the discretion of the PCN what roles they utilise providing they adhere to the requirements of the PCN Network DES.

Role	ARRS Posts Nov 2025	ARRS Posts Nov 2024
Advanced Nurse Practitioner	19	9
Advanced Paramedic Practitioner	7	5
Advanced Pharmacist Practitioner	14	13
Advanced Physiotherapist Practitioner	2	1
Care Coordinator	182	190
Dietician	11	9
Digital and Transformation Lead	29	30

Role	ARRS Posts Nov 2025	ARRS Posts Nov 2024
Enhanced Practice Nurse	1	N/A
Experienced General Practice Nurse	5	N/A
First Contact Physiotherapist	35	42
General Practice Assistant	75	71
Health and Wellbeing Coach	17	20
Healthcare Support Worker	6	N/A
Mental Health Practitioner	53	54
New to General Practice Nurse	15	N/A
Nursing Associate	15	12
Occupational Therapist	4	7
Paramedic	37	43
Pharmacist	146	140
Pharmacy Technician	67	71
Physician Associate	29	35
Salaried GPs	36	11
Social Prescribing Link Worker	65	72
Student Nursing Associate	8	9
Total	878	844

N/A as these roles were not included in the PCN Network DES for 2024-25

2. For the same period, please provide the number of ARRS posts filled, broken down by role type.

We do not hold information about ARRS vacancies within PCNs.

3. Where available, please provide the number of Primary Care Networks (PCNs) within the ICB that:

- Are utilising Mental Health Practitioner ARRS roles
22 PCNs

- Are utilising Social Prescribing Link Worker ARRS roles
24 PCNs

4. Where held, please provide the average or estimated utilisation of ARRS-funded Mental Health Practitioners (for example, average caseload or appointments per week).

We do not hold this information

5. Please confirm whether PCNs within the ICB are expected to use ARRS roles to support:

PCNs are required to fulfil the requirement of the PCN Network DES, the ICB does not impose any further expectations.

- **Patients with health conditions affecting work**

- **Fit Note–related activity**

- **Patients at risk of falling out of employment**

6. For the current and previous financial year, where held, please provide:

- **The total number of Fit Notes issued by GP practices within the ICB**

We do not hold this information.

- **Any available breakdown by duration (for example, short-term vs long-term Fit Notes)**

We do not hold this information.

7. Please confirm whether the ICB has undertaken any analysis or holds any reports relating to the following and, where held, provide copies of such:

- **The impact of ill health on employment**

We do not hold this information.

- **The use of primary care data to support work and health interventions**

We do not hold this information.

8. Please confirm whether PCNs or GP practices within the ICB are currently involved in any case-finding initiatives related to employment, work retention, or Fit Note reform.

We do not hold this information.

Should you require any further information or clarification regarding this response please do not hesitate to contact us. If you are dissatisfied with the response, you are entitled to request an internal review which should be formally requested in writing and must be within two calendar months from the date this response was issued.

To request an internal review

You can request an internal review by contacting the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent ICB FOI team by emailing; staffsstokeFOI@staffsstoke.icb.nhs.uk or by post to the address at the top of this letter within 40 working days of the initial response.

If you are not content with the outcome of your internal review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner's Office (ICO) for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Integrated Care Board's FOI complaints procedure.

The ICO can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF
www.ico.gov.uk

Yours sincerely

Paul Winter
Associate Director of Corporate Governance