

This is a published notice on the Find a Tender service: <https://www.find-tender.service.gov.uk/Notice/072431-2025>

Planning

## **NENC ICB Acute Respiratory Infection Hubs Service**

NHS NORTH EAST AND NORTH CUMBRIA INTEGRATED CARE BOARD

F01: Prior information notice

Prior information only

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-072431

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-05ddc0

Published 10 November 2025, 1:53pm

### **Section I: Contracting authority**

#### **I.1) Name and addresses**

NHS NORTH EAST AND NORTH CUMBRIA INTEGRATED CARE BOARD

PEMBERTON HOUSE COLIMA AVENUE SUNDERLAND ENTERPRISE PARK

Sunderland

SR53XB

#### **Email**

[nencicb.procurement@nhs.net](mailto:nencicb.procurement@nhs.net)

#### **Country**

United Kingdom

#### **Region code**

UKC23 - Sunderland

#### **NHS Organisation Data Service**

QHM

**Internet address(es)**

Main address

<https://northeastnorthcumbria.nhs.uk/>

**I.3) Communication**

Additional information can be obtained from the above-mentioned address

**I.4) Type of the contracting authority**

Body governed by public law

**I.5) Main activity**

Health

---

**Section II: Object**

**II.1) Scope of the procurement**

**II.1.1) Title**

NENC ICB Acute Respiratory Infection Hubs Service

Reference number

NENC044

**II.1.2) Main CPV code**

- 85140000 - Miscellaneous health services

**II.1.3) Type of contract**

Services

**II.1.4) Short description**

NHS North East and North Cumbria Integrated Care Board is issuing this Prior

Information Notice (PIN) as a market engagement exercise Request for Information (RFI) to gather information on the market landscape in regards to Acute Respiratory Infection Hubs (ARI Hubs) services for North East and North Cumbria.

This is a market landscape exercise only and is not a guarantee of a future provider selection process and/or contract.

The RFI on-line questionnaire should be submitted by no later than 11:59:59 pm on Monday, 24 November 2025.

The NENC044 RFI will be conducted via the Atamis portal at: [It is free to register on the portal and it can be accessed at any time of day providing you have a working internet connection.](https://health-family.force.com/s>Welcome.</a></p></div><div data-bbox=)

Should you have any queries, or problems registering on the portal, please contact the Atamis helpdesk via:

[Support-health@Atamis.co.uk](mailto:Support-health@Atamis.co.uk) or phone number 0800 0988201

The helpdesk is open Monday - Friday 08.00 am - 06.00 pm

## **II.1.6) Information about lots**

This contract is divided into lots: No

## **II.2) Description**

### **II.2.2) Additional CPV code(s)**

- 85140000 - Miscellaneous health services

### **II.2.3) Place of performance**

NUTS codes

- UKC - North East (England)
- UKD1 - Cumbria

Main site or place of performance

North East and North Cumbria

### **II.2.4) Description of the procurement**

This Request for Information (RFI) process is being undertaken to engage with the market to gather information on the market landscape in regards to ARI Hub services for North East and North Cumbria. This is a market landscape exercise only and is not a guarantee of a future provider selection process and/or contract.

The RFI on-line questionnaire should be submitted by no later than 11:59:59 pm on Monday, 24 November 2025.

The objective of the RFI is to:

- Understand Market Capability and Capacity
- Understand potential service delivery models
- Understand market appetite in regards to contract length
- Understand potential financial risks
- Understand potential mobilisation requirements and risks
- Understand potential concerns re: mandatory data sharing
- Understand potential premise arrangements and risks
- Understand any barriers and whole service risk

NHSE has asked systems to build on existing infrastructure to move on establishing ARI hubs to manage demand over winter, providing additional capacity to support primary and secondary care pressures and matching the needs of its population and to work towards a smoother interface between primary, community and secondary care. ARI hubs may help to reduce the risk of infection spread through reducing the footfall in A&E and primary care.

## SERVICE AIMS

Support patients with urgent clinical needs by enhancing and providing additional same day access to assessment and specialist advice as needed.

Seek to reduce ambulance callouts, A&E attendances and hospital admissions for patients who could be appropriately managed in the community.

Reduce the burden of acute respiratory illness on primary care and provide more time for practice teams to support patients where continuity of care is most important.

Reduce nosocomial transmission by separating the high expected flow of infectious patients through hubs rather than usual GP waiting rooms and clinics.

Seek to provide an accessible and equitable service to support same day access (with consideration given to the location of these services). This approach would support a positive impact on the health outcomes of the Core20PLUS population for tackling health inequalities and provision of inclusive services.

#### **II.2.14) Additional information**

For 2025/26 services, NENC ICB has split the ARI Hub allocated funding by a Fair Shares arrangement as outlined in the RFI supporting documents as provided in the Atamis e-tendering portal.

It is expected that funding for 2026/27 and 2027/28 will remain £1.5m per annum split once again through Fair Shares arrangements.

A critical service model principal is the mandatory completion of operational and clinical outcome data reporting which will offer NENC ICB and the regional population multiple benefits including the ability to demonstrate positive impact on patients.

This is mandated information and data requirements will be enforced in any future contracting arrangements and for all future providers.

#### **II.3) Estimated date of publication of contract notice**

1 January 2026

---

### **Section IV. Procedure**

#### **IV.1) Description**

##### **IV.1.8) Information about the Government Procurement Agreement (GPA)**

The procurement is covered by the Government Procurement Agreement: Yes

---

## **Section VI. Complementary information**

### **VI.3) Additional information**

The RFI on-line questionnaire should be submitted by no later than 11:59:59 pm on Monday, 24 November 2025.

The NENC044 RFI will be conducted via the Atamis portal at: <https://health-family.force.com/s/Welcome>.

It is free to register on the portal and it can be accessed at any time of day providing you have a working internet connection.

Should you have any queries, or problems registering on the portal, please contact the Atamis helpdesk via:

[Support-health@Atamis.co.uk](mailto:Support-health@Atamis.co.uk) or phone number 0800 0988201

The helpdesk is open Monday - Friday 08.00 am - 06.00 pm