

Reference: FOI.ICB-2627/247

Subject: NHS Funded Nursing Care (FNC) Review Metrics, Backlogs, and Costs

I can confirm that the ICB does hold some of the information requested; please see responses below:

QUESTION	RESPONSE
Under the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act 2000, I am writing to request information regarding the volume, compliance, and expenditure associated with NHS Funded Nursing Care (FNC) 3-month and Annual Reviews within your Integrated Care Board (ICB). Please provide the following information covering the most recent financial year 2025 / 2026 or the last full 12-month period for which data is available:	
1. Activity Volume and Backlogs a. What is the total number of individuals currently eligible for and receiving NHS Funded Nursing Care (FNC) within your ICB footprint? b. As of the date of this request, how many FNC reviews (broken down by 3-month reviews and Annual Reviews) are currently overdue or outstanding beyond national framework timelines? c. Over the last 12 months, what percentage of FNC reviews (both 3-month and annual) were not completed within the statutory NHS national framework timelines? d. What is the age (in months or days) of the single oldest outstanding FNC review (either 3-month or annual) currently awaiting completion within the ICB?	1. a. 2164 as 01/09/2026 b. Overdue FNC 3m Reviews = 89 Overdue FNC 12m Reviews = 104 c. In financial Year 2025/26 = 99% of FNC reviews were not completed within timescale d. 257 days overdue

2. Financial and Workforce Expenditure a. What is the total annual budget and current headcount (Whole Time Equivalent / WTE) allocated specifically to the ICB's Continuing Healthcare (CHC) and FNC assessment/review team? b. In the last financial year, what was the total expenditure on external agency staff, independent clinical contractors, or third-party private organizations utilized specifically to clear FNC review backlogs? c. What is the ICB's estimated or calculated baseline cost to complete a single FNC review using internal resources? d. How many formal complaints, appeals, or disputes were lodged against the ICB over the last 12 months regarding delayed, inaccurate, or overdue FNC or CHC assessments/reviews?	a. The total annual budget forecast for 26/27 financial year is £237,395 6 WTE band 5 Nurse assessors comprise the FNC assessment/review team b. No agency staff have been used specifically for this requirement. c. The ICB does not hold this information d. • Complaints: 22 Complaints / 3 MP complaints • Disputes received 01/09/2025 to 31/08/2026 = 12 • It is not possible to appeal an FNC review • Appeals received of CHC Assessments 01/09/2025 to 31/08/2026 = 32
3. Provider Frameworks and Quality Assurance a. What is the total number of Registered Nursing Homes currently operating within the ICB's geographic footprint? b. Does the ICB currently operate, pilot, or commission a "trusted assessor" scheme, delegated authority framework, or digital pathway that allows trained care home staff to complete and submit FNC review documentation directly to the ICB? c. Over the last 12 months, what percentage of FNC reviews or assessments submitted to the ICB were rejected or returned to care providers due to insufficient evidence, incorrect documentation, or quality issues? d. What digital software, case management system, or electronic portal does the ICB currently use for the tracking, submission, and management of CHC and FNC workflows?	a. There are currently 91 registered nursing homes in the BNSSG geographical area. b. FNC Reviews are completed internally by ICB staff only c. 12% of FNC applications were discounted/rejected in the period 01/09/2025 to 31/08/2026 d. Caretrack

4. Competitor Mapping and Commercial Structure

- a. Is the ICB currently under contract with any private third-party organisation, clinical consultancy, or independent provider to deliver CHC or FNC assessments/reviews? If so, what is the name of the provider and the contract end date?
- b. What are the job titles of the individuals within the ICB who hold operational responsibility and budgetary sign-off for Continuing Healthcare (CHC) and Funded Nursing Care (FNC) services?

- a. Contract in place with UB Healthcare to undertake CHC assessment work. The contract is in place until April 2027
- b. Overall accountability sits with the ICB Cluster Chief Nursing Officer

Administration of Request

If any part of this request is unclear, or if a specific metric is not centrally recorded, please contact me immediately to help clarify or refine the query so that it can be fulfilled.

If the administration of this request is estimated to exceed the statutory cost limit for any specific question, please fulfil the remaining questions that can be managed within the limit and advise me on how to narrow the remaining points in accordance with Section 16 of the Act.

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 2 October 2026 and has been approved for release by Lee Colwill Associate Director Business Operations (Service Delivery) for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.