

20/05/2026

NN-ICB/26-1591

Dear Requestor

**Re: Freedom of Information Request**

Thank you for your request for information, received on 28 April 2026, regarding physiotherapy roles within Integrated Neighbourhood Teams. 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. Are physiotherapists currently involved in the development or delivery of Integrated Neighbourhood Teams (INTs) or neighbourhood-based services within your ICB area?
  - a) If yes, please describe the roles physiotherapists are undertaking (for example: clinical service delivery, leadership roles, pathway development, system transformation, prevention, or population health initiatives).

| Place                 | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| North Nottinghamshire | <b>Bassetlaw</b> - The Team Lead for Urgent Community Response (UCR) and Community Therapy at Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust was a member of the Bassetlaw INT Development Group from its inception in July 2025 until December 2025. The post is currently vacant and has not been replaced. Ongoing physiotherapy input is maintained through a Community Physiotherapist (UCR & Rehabilitation Services, Bassetlaw), who has been a consistent member of INT development meetings and INT panels. |
|                       | <b>Mid Notts</b> - The Head of Service for Community Therapy (NHT) at the time and the Head of MSK (SFHFT) were involved in the Co-Design Meetings (which started April 2025) and Network events looking at development and mobilisation of the INTs in Mid Notts, contributing to service delivery, pathway development, system transformation, development and socialisation of the model.                                                                                                                          |
| Nottingham City       | Physiotherapist are involved in INT clinical delivery but not yet in formal leadership or service design roles.<br><br>Nottingham City is one of 43 Wave One sites in the National Neighbourhood Health Implementation Programme (NNHIP). Two pathfinder Integrated                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

|                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                              | <p>Neighbourhood Teams went live in January 2025: Bestwood &amp; Sherwood and Nottingham City East. Both are active and seeing patients.</p> <p>At this point, physiotherapy input comes through two main routes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Receiving referrals and recommendations</b> from the INT MDT - the MDT identifies that a patient needs physio input and that action is routed back into existing community or practice-based teams via care navigators and community matrons.</li> <li>• <b>First contact physiotherapy</b> - FCPs working within general practice in Nottingham City form part of the wider neighbourhood workforce and see patients who come through primary care routes.</li> </ul> <p><b>What physiotherapists are not yet doing</b> is holding a formal seat in the core INT MDT meeting or in the programme design groups. At the time of the request, no physiotherapist holds a named leadership role within the INT programme. Workforce configuration remains under review.</p> |
| <b>South Nottinghamshire</b> | <p>Community Physiotherapists are core members of the Integrated Neighbourhood Team (INT) Panels in Broxtowe and Rushcliffe, attending weekly Panel meetings to discuss complex patient cases and taking appropriate referrals.</p> <p>The Head of Specialist Services for South Nottinghamshire at Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust is an HCPC registered Physiotherapist. They sit as a key member of the Broxtowe INT Operations group which has developed the Broxtowe INT model. This is not replicated across the other South Nottinghamshire INT operational groups.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

b) If no, please outline any plans or intentions to involve physiotherapists in your neighbourhood working in the future.

| Place                        | Response                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>North Nottinghamshire</b> | <b>Mid Notts</b> - Invitations to INT Weekly Panel meetings have been sent to the newly appointed Head of Service for Community Therapy (NHT) to encourage attendance from Community Therapy. |
| <b>Nottingham City</b>       | There is currently no physiotherapy representation within the core membership.                                                                                                                |
| <b>South Nottinghamshire</b> | There is currently no Physiotherapy representation in the core membership of the Gedling INT or Hucknall INT.                                                                                 |

2. What mechanisms exist for physiotherapists to engage with the development of neighbourhood programmes in your ICB?

| Place                        | Response                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>North Nottinghamshire</b> | <p><b>Bassetlaw</b> - Physiotherapists engage through multiple established mechanisms, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Being core members INT development meetings</li> </ul> |

|                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Participating in INT MDT meetings, where physiotherapists contribute to joint decision-making for frailty and complex care cohorts.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                              | <p><b>Mid Notts</b> - Physiotherapists are invited to the INT Weekly Panel meetings. Where they aren't able to attend, the Care Navigators link in with them on specific cases.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Nottingham City</b>       | <p>Two routes currently exist:</p> <p><b>Community of Practice</b> - an open, inclusive forum for clinicians across the system to come together, discuss pathway development, and contribute to PDSA improvement cycles. The frailty pathway was co-designed through this space. Physiotherapists and OTs are welcome to attend and contribute. This is not an exclusive professional forum; it is designed to be broad and input-driven.</p> <p><b>Organisational route</b> - physiotherapy leaders can engage through their employing organisation (CityCare as community provider, NUH for secondary care therapies) which are both active partners in the Place-Based Partnership. The Community of Practice is the most direct individual professional route; the organisational route is the most formal.</p> |
| <b>South Nottinghamshire</b> | <p>Physiotherapists are able to engage through the following mechanisms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Community Physiotherapists are core members of the Integrated Neighbourhood Team (INT) Panels in Broxtowe and Rushcliffe, attending weekly Panel meetings.</li> <li>The Head of Specialist Services for South Nottinghamshire at Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust is an HCPC registered Physiotherapist. They sit as a key member of the Broxtowe INT Operations group which has developed the Broxtowe INT model.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |

3. Does your ICB or partner organisations employ or commission any "Neighbourhood Coaches" or similar roles within Integrated Neighbourhood Teams? If so, please provide contact details for the relevant neighbourhood coach or coordinating team, where disclosure is permitted under FOI legislation.

| Place                  | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Nottingham City</b> | <p>Nottingham City is one of 43 Wave One sites in the National Neighborhood Health Implementation Programme (NNHIP).</p> <p>For Nottingham City, the designated national neighborhood coaching support is provided by Ian Razzell (Hosted by ArdenGem, <a href="mailto:contact.ardengem@nhs.net">contact.ardengem@nhs.net</a>)</p> <p>For Nottingham City, the designated local neighborhood coaching support is provided by Manik Arora (hosted by Nottingham CityCare, <a href="mailto:npc.citycarecommunications@nhs.net">npc.citycarecommunications@nhs.net</a>)</p> |

Commented [EP1]: Ian and Manik's roles are publicly know, however, a shared email should be provided if possible

4. What are the core objectives or priority functions of your Integrated Neighbourhood Teams?

The core objectives and priority functions of the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Neighbourhood Teams (INT) are aligned to the aims and outcomes of the Neighbourhood Health

Framework. All Nottingham and Nottinghamshire INT cohorts are aligned to the priority cohorts outlined in the Framework [Neighbourhood health framework - GOV.UK](#).

5. How are physiotherapists currently deployed within Integrated Neighbourhood Teams to support your core objectives/priority functions?

| Place                                                  | Response                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>North Nottinghamshire and South Nottinghamshire</b> | <p>Community Physiotherapists are core members of the following INT Panels across North and South Nottingham and Nottinghamshire:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Broxtowe</li> <li>• Rushcliffe</li> <li>• Bassetlaw</li> </ul> <p>They contribute clinical expertise to MDT discussions relating to frailty, falls prevention, functional decline and rehabilitation needs; support the discussion of complex patients; provide professional clinical input; and accept appropriate referrals into community therapy services.</p> <p>In Mid Notts, Physiotherapists don't routinely attend MDTs or INT Weekly Panel meetings, but input is given through discussions with Care Navigators.</p> <p>The frequency and format of INT panel meetings vary across neighbourhoods, reflecting local population need, service maturity and workforce capacity.</p> |
| <b>Nottingham City</b>                                 | <p>At present, physiotherapy is not embedded in the core INT meeting. Therapy input is accessed by the MDT through referral and coordination via care navigators and community matrons, who act as the connection point between the MDT decision and the therapy team.</p> <p>The process works as follows: the INT MDT identifies a patient need, the care navigator and matron facilitate the link to the appropriate therapy team (community physio, FCPs, or others), and outcomes are reviewed at the next MDT cycle. This means physiotherapists are part of the "wider INT" rather than the "core INT" in current structure.</p> <p>At the time of the request, no feedback had been formally recorded indicating that physiotherapy input was being omitted from MDT decision-making.</p>                                                                           |

6. How have physiotherapists influenced the design or structure of services intended to meet population health needs within neighbourhood models?

| Place                        | Responses                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>North Nottinghamshire</b> | <p><b>Bassetlaw</b> - Physiotherapists have influenced service design through their role as core members INT development groups; directly shaping how therapy services support frailty pathways. This has included active involvement in developing the proposed frailty one-stop shop / holistic clinic model, providing input on feasibility, workforce implications and patient flow.</p> <p><b>Mid Notts</b> - The Head of Service for Community Therapy (NHT) at the time and the Head of MSK (SFHFT) were involved in the Co-Design Meetings (which started April 2025) and Network events looking at development and</p> |

|                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                              | mobilisation of the INTs in Mid Notts, contributing to service delivery, pathway development, system transformation, development and socialisation of the model.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Nottingham City</b>       | Since July 2025, we have delivered a series of engagement and Clinical & Professional workshops to co-design each element of the neighbourhood plan/pathway. These sessions were open to all interested parties and included attendance from falls and bones specialists, as well as the Head of Therapy from our acute provider.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>South Nottinghamshire</b> | <p>The Head of Specialist Services for South Nottinghamshire at Nottinghamshire Healthcare Trust is an HCPC registered Physiotherapist. They sit as a key member of the Broxtowe INT Operations group which has developed the Broxtowe INT model. This is not replicated across the other South Nottinghamshire INTs.</p> <p>An organisational development session was held with the Broxtowe INT Panel in April 2026. The purpose of this session was to take the Panel members through a Plan, Do, Study, Act (PDSA) cycle to identify aspects of the current INT Panel processes that could be adapted to improve both the function of the Panel and outcomes for the patients. The Broxtowe INT Panel has consistent community physiotherapy representation that was present at this session and actively contributed to discussion. This has not been replicated across the other South Nottinghamshire INTs.</p> |

7. How are you moving elements of physiotherapy provision from traditional outpatient models into neighbourhood or community-based settings?

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board will be procuring a single musculoskeletal (MSK) provider from April 2027. The new MSK specification will continue to focus on pathway optimisation in community-based settings

8. Please provide a designated named contact and work e-mail address for the person responsible for physiotherapy services within neighbourhood teams in Notts.

To make contact with the physiotherapy services within neighbourhood teams, please use the Contact Us links below:

- For Bassetlaw, Mid Notts and South Notts – contact Nottinghamshire Healthcare via [PALS and Complaints | Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust](#).
- For Nottingham City – contract CityCare via [Contact us :: Nottingham City Care](#).

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 Governance and Assurance via [lucy.branson@nhs.net](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto:nnicb-nn.foi@nhs.net). All requests for re-use will be responded to within 20 working days of receipt.