

Reference: FOI.ICB-2627/049

Subject: Physiotherapy in Integrated Neighbourhood Teams

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

QUESTION	RESPONSE
I would be grateful if you could provide information relating to the role of physiotherapists within Integrated Neighbourhood Teams (INTs) and neighbourhood working arrangements across your Integrated Care Board area. In particular:	
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). b. If no, please outline any plans or intentions to involve physiotherapists in your neighbourhood working in the future.	BNSSG has a range of integrated and multidisciplinary teams operating across the system currently, however, we are at the first stages of developing a shared vision for our local Integrated Neighbourhood Teams (INTs). In line with national direction (NHS 10-Year Health Plan) the system is moving towards a population health approach, with an initial focus on frailty and multimorbidity. This reflects a shift away from single disease-based pathways towards a whole-person approach, recognising that people experiencing the poorest outcomes are often managing a combination of medical and social needs. Within this context, physiotherapists are among a number of professional groups contributing to neighbourhood-based services and system development, with further opportunities for involvement expected to evolve as neighbourhood models and INTs are developed.

2. What mechanisms exist for physiotherapists to engage with the development of neighbourhood programmes in your ICB?	The detailed design of Integrated Neighbourhood Teams, will be undertaken through provider partnerships. This work will be provider-led, with collaboration expected across organisations and professional groups. Engagement will be inclusive, with all staff groups, including physiotherapists, involved through local provider-led design and development arrangements, rather than via a centrally led ICB process.
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.	No
4. What are the core objectives or priority functions of your Integrated Neighbourhood Teams?	As above, in development
5. How are physiotherapists currently deployed within Integrated Neighbourhood Teams to support your core objectives/priority functions?	N/A
6. How have physiotherapists influenced the design or structure of services intended to meet population health needs within neighbourhood models?	See question 1

7. How are you moving elements of physiotherapy provision from traditional outpatient models into neighbourhood or community-based settings?	This will be part of wider neighbourhood work along with other pathways
8. Please provide a designated named contact and work e-mail address for the person responsible for physiotherapy services within neighbourhood teams.	The ICB does not have this role.

The information provided in this response is accurate as of 20 May 2026 and has been approved for release by Seb Habibi, Chief Transformation and Digital Officer for NHS Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire ICB.