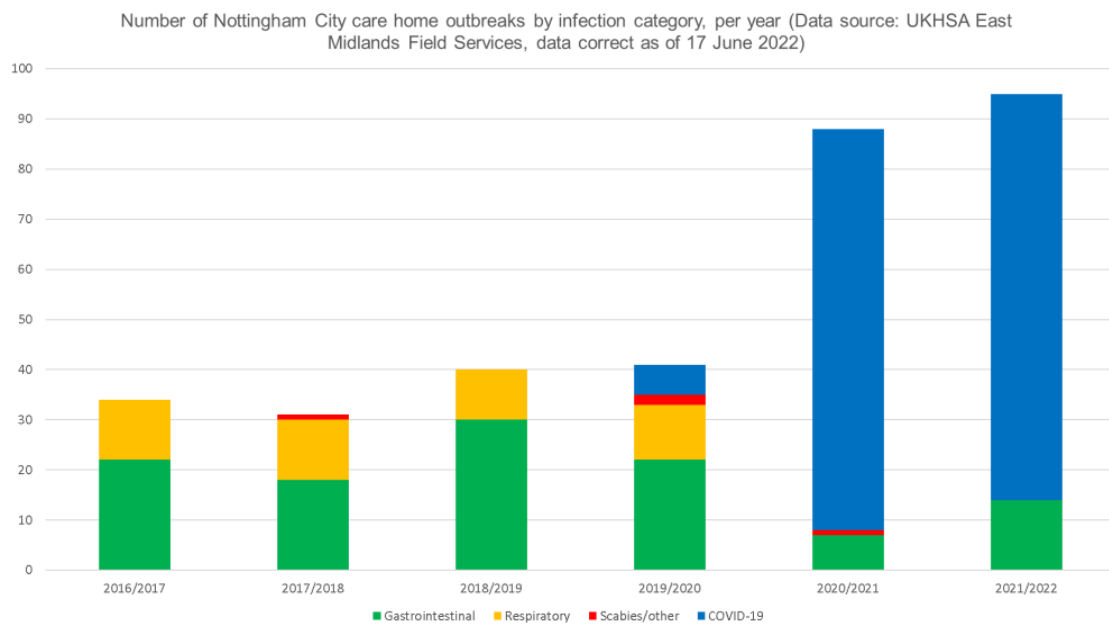


Operational Decision Record

Publication Date 18 July 2023	Decision Reference Number 4991
Decision Title	
Infection Prevention and Control Service	
Decision Value	
£232,614 (£77,538 per annum from 1 st April 2024 – 31 st March 2027)	
Revenue or Capital Spend?	
Revenue	
Department	
People (Public Health)	
Contact Officer (Name, job title, and contact details)	
<i>Cara Squires (lead commissioning officer)</i> <i>Cara.Squires@nottinghamcity.gov.uk</i>	
Decision Taken	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"><i>To approve the spend of £232,614 on the delivery of an Infection Prevention and Control service in residential care homes in Nottingham</i><i>To approve the establishment of a S76 agreement with the Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board (ICB)</i>	
Reasons for Decision and Background Information	
<p>The existing contract for the provision of infection prevention and control services in Nottingham's residential care homes will expire on 31 March 2024, with no further extensions possible. The annual contract value is £39,581 per annum.</p> <p>We currently have 52 residential homes across Nottingham City that IPC are commissioned to support. The current figures we have amount the number of outbreaks are below, and in due course data will be released about the previous year.</p>	



Due to Covid-19, a delegated decision was made to approve funding of up to £189,090 for an enhanced infection prevention and control service for a period of 12 months commencing 1 April 2022 which expanded their services to settings outside residential homes, increased instances of outbreak management, IPC training offer and also introduced regularly auditing homes.

Currently, the Integrated Care Board (ICB) are responsible for commissioning ICP for Nursing homes across Nottingham City, and also commission and have a current contract with CityCare for their service until 31st March 2027.

The commissioning review has concluded it is not operationally viable or financially best value to deliver a service solely to residential homes and separate it from residential homes across Nottingham City. The service is only able to deliver as part of a larger service delivering across nursing & residential care homes as occasionally residents can be placed within the same home.

It would cost most to commission a standalone service, and it would also lose the benefits of being integrated with secondary care services.

Similarly, the review found that there are some post pandemic work streams that would be advantageous to keep, the focus being to keep mandatory auditing and follow ups.

Commission

ICB have confirmed that they are happy to do a contract variation and add Nottingham City Councils IPC service to residential homes to their current contract with CityCare under a Section 76.

We would pay the ICB for the continuation of the service until their contract ends on 31st March 2027.

Budget

This decision is to seek approval to spend £232,614 (£77,538 per annum for 3 years). This due to a 50% increase of outbreaks so would expect the new contract to reflect this at £59,372, plus another £18,166 per annum on the current contract value for auditing. The current contract is insufficiently sized and is only able to provide a limited reactive service to care homes experiencing an outbreak. Increasing the per annum contract value will allow for additional preventative elements to be included within the service specification, most importantly ensuring that auditing and follow ups are an essential part of the service.

Since auditing has been introduced, residential homes have fed back how useful and informative this has been and that they feel supported and more skilled in managing infection prevention and supporting in controlling infection/outbreaks. This will allow the service to take more preventative measures for residential homes.

Also, there has been an increased demand for the services post-pandemic; this could be due to increased awareness around the IPC service, increased training around infection prevention and control, and increased incidences of outbreaks. Therefore, an increase in budget will support the IPC service to respond to the current demand.

Other Options Considered and why these were rejected

A procurement options appraisal has been completed in order to inform the recommendations after the commissioning review.

A summary of options considered:

- 1. Direct award (not possible)
- 2: Go out to procurement with open procedure
- 3: Section 76 with ICB
- 4: Joint commissioning with Nottingham County Council

Reasons why this decision is classified as operational

- Is within recurrent IPC line within the Public Health Grant spend.
- Operational decision as it is under £249,999

Additional Information**Decision Maker (Name and Job Title)**

Lucy Hubber Director of Public Health

Scheme of Delegation Reference Number

1

Date Decision Taken

10/07/23

