

Health and Wellbeing Board Meeting Date 12th September 2019

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1. Summary

The Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) have previously received key papers and documents relating to the development of social prescribing in Shropshire, this includes; the business case, development of the demonstrator site, proposals for expansion, phase 1 interim evaluation and headline suggestions for future possibilities. This paper includes the full and final report from Westminster University who were commissioned to carry out an independent evaluation of the Social Prescribing Service in Shropshire.

2. Recommendations

- That the Board receive and endorse the findings of the independent evaluation
- That board members acknowledge the cost effectiveness and return on investment that can be achieved with social prescribing
- Board members consider how social prescribing can be scaled up across the system

REPORT

3. Background

The team carrying out the research, are highly respected with expertise in evaluation, and mixed methods application. They have a national role in co-chairing the National Network for Social Prescribing, collaborating with NHS England to shape the social prescribing. The findings will be summarised in the slide presentation provided today.

They were commissioned in 2017 with the following aims:-

- To develop a robust social prescribing service using best practice in development and data collection
- To evaluate the Shropshire Social Prescribing demonstrator site to understand why the programme was being used and how well the different components are working together.

A mixed methods, pre and post data collection design was used to assess the longitudinal benefits of the service, with a matched control group used to compare health service usage between people who did and didn't use the service.

Data collection was through a range of quantitative data collection tools and administered by the social prescribing advisors at baseline and 3 month follow up. Interviews were carried out with professionals establishing the service and those receiving it in the GP practices. Validated and

reliable questionnaires were used, working status and patient satisfaction information was gathered.

Qualitative data was gathered from 24 stakeholders including service users and key themes identified to understand how people valued the service.

The following are the main findings from the evaluation:-

1. The service design adhered to national best practice identified by the Social Prescribing Network and NHS England
2. Between May 2017-May 2019, 515 referrals were made via 11 GP practices.
3. 134 people recruited into the evaluation. 105 completed pre & post
4. **A reduction of 40% of GP appointments was found at 3 month follow up**
5. The patient reported outcome data showed improvements in Measure Yourself Concerns and Wellbeing (MYCaW) concerns
6. Changes translated into improvement in weight, Body Mass Index, cholesterol, blood pressure, levels of smoking and physical activity
7. **Patient satisfaction was high for suitability of times, convenience of venue and ability to discuss concerns with the Adviser**
8. **Unmet needs were supported beyond the remit**
9. Reasons why the service has 'triggered' changes have been captured

The approach is aligned with the most recent National Public Health Strategy (2018)

The service seeks to address real life social complexity and inequalities by offering integrated, holistic solutions to complex health and care issues

4. Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

(NB This will include the following: Risk Management, Human Rights, Equalities, Community, Environmental consequences and other Consultation)

5. Financial Implications

None

6. Additional Information

7. Conclusions

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)



Final report-
Shropshire social pre:

Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)

Dean Carroll Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care, Public Health & Climate Change

Local Member

Appendices