

# Chichester District Council

THE CABINET

6 March 2018

## Social Prescribing

### 1. Contacts

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### 2. Recommendation

**2.1 That the Cabinet approves the preferred option 1, detailed in the Project Initiation Document in the appendix to the agenda report, that Chichester District Council hosts the Social Prescribing service.**

### 3. Background

3.1 This report introduces the Project Initiation Document (PID) for a Social Prescribing pilot project, at appendix 1. This builds on the Initial Project Proposal Document (IPPD) which was approved by the Cabinet on 9 January 2018 along with a funding commitment of £57,000 per year for two years from reserves.

3.2 Social Prescribing is defined as the skill of connecting people to services and support in local places. It is a service for GPs and other health professionals to access for patients who present with problems that are essentially non-medical and require more holistic community-based interventions

### 4. Outcomes to be achieved

4.1 A 10% reduction in repeat GP visits by those patients who engage with the service following a GP referral, measured in the 12-month period following the completion of the intervention with a Community Referrer

4.2 Measured using the 5 Ways to Wellbeing tool at the start and end of the intervention with a Community Referrer, where at least 50% of clients demonstrate:

- (a) an increase in self-esteem and confidence,
- (b) Improvements in mental wellbeing, and positive mood
- (c) Increases in sociability, communication skills and making social connections
- (d) Acquisition of learning, new interests and skills

- 4.3 Monitoring of onward referrals will identify gaps in service / capacity within Voluntary Sector services.
- 4.4 Case studies will demonstrate how individuals become more independent leading to reduced dependency on Council, GP and hospital services.
- 4.5 Further details of outputs and outcomes are included in section 4 of the PID at appendix 1, however, the project fulfils the corporate objective of 'support for our communities, particularly those who are vulnerable, to be healthy and active'.
- 4.6 A robust evaluation process will be put in place at the start of the project but the steering group are still taking advice from WSCC Public Health on the evaluation and therefore the measurable outcomes listed in the PID are subject to change. Further evaluation measures are being planned to enable longer term monitoring of outcomes.

## 5. Proposal

- 5.1 To undertake a two year Social Prescribing project in accordance with the PID in the appendix hosted by Chichester District Council and funded as shown in section 7.1.

## 6. Alternatives Considered

- 6.1 Page 9 of the PID outlines the detail of other options that have been considered which in brief are as follows;
- The project is hosted by a Voluntary Sector provider. This option is not the preferred option due to the potential for increased costs leading to a reduction in the level of service provided.
  - GPs host the service. This option is not possible due to restrictions in GPs ability to employ staff
  - Do nothing is not the preferred option because the project gives the council the opportunity to work towards the corporate objective of supporting vulnerable communities as part of a new innovative partnership.

## 7. Resource and Legal Implications

- 7.1 The match funding that was a pre-requisite of the Cabinet's approval at its meeting on 9 January 2018 has now been confirmed as follows;

<b>Funding source</b>	<b>Yr1</b>	<b>Yr2</b>	<b>Total</b>
Chichester District Council	57,000	57,000	114,000
South Chichester GPs	30,000	30,000	60,000
Rural North Chichester GPs	13,000	13,000	26,000
Clarion housing	10,000	10,000	20,000

A2 Dominion	5,000	0	5000
Midhurst League of Friends	16,000	16,000	32,000
One off contribution from West Sussex County Council Chichester Partnerships and Communities Team	2000	0	2,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>133,000</b>	<b>126,000</b>	<b>259,000</b>

## 8. Consultation

8.1 No formal public consultation has been carried out but partners including GPs, Local Community Networks, Chichester in Partnership, West Sussex County Council Public Health, Voluntary and Community Sector organisations have been consulted during the planning of the service and are supportive.

## 9. Community Impact and Corporate Risks

9.1 The Social Prescribing project is designed to have a positive impact on the community and individuals with particular focus on those who need additional support to access services.

9.2 Any risks to the project are associated with GPs not engaging with the service and not referring or potential capacity issues with the service becoming overwhelmed. A programme of engagement and training will be put in place for all practice staff to encourage appropriate referrals to avoid creating an unmanageable workload for the service.

9.3 Additional risks are also set out in section 13 of the PID document

## 10. Other Implications

Are there any implications for the following?		
	Yes	No
<b>Crime and Disorder</b>		x
<b>Climate Change</b>		x
<b>Human Rights and Equality Impact</b> This project will have a positive impact on vulnerable people and protected groups.	X	
<b>Safeguarding and Early Help</b> Safeguarding issues may be identified by the Community Referrers.	X	
<b>Other</b> (please specify) eg biodiversity		X

## 11. Appendices

11.1 Social Prescribing PID

## 12. Background Papers

12.1 Equalities Impact Assessment