

BSW CCG Primary Care Commissioning Committee Meeting in Public

14 October 2021

Questions from the Public

Questions received from a member of the public

What has the BSW CCG Primary Care Commissioning Committee done thus far to introduce Social Prescribing in their locality?

How is social prescription being accessed locally by residents of the BSW CCG?

CCG Response:

Social Prescribing is an effective means of enabling health professionals working in Bath and North East Somerset, Swindon and Wiltshire (BSW) to refer people to a range of local, non-clinical services. Social prescribing also aligns with the BSW Integrated Care System's focus on addressing how wider determinants influence the health and wellbeing of the people we serve and will help us achieve our vision of *working together to empower people to lead their best life*.

Specifically, in terms of introducing social prescribing across BSW, we have promoted the role of social prescribers as part of the Additional Roles Reimbursement Scheme (ARRS) which provides funding for 26,000 additional roles to create bespoke multi-disciplinary teams. We have also assisted with workforce planning to further support this scheme.

As part of this scheme, BSW Clinical Commissioning Group plan to increase the number of Social Prescribing Link Workers during the 2021/22 financial period to 44 Full Time Equivalent positions. Additionally, we have been promoting the role of the Social Prescriber through our Training Hub, which is a training and skills resource available for all clinical staff working across the BSW area. (<https://bswtraininghub.nhs.uk/>)

Information on the hub website includes a guide for those looking to move into the Social Prescribing Link Worker role, information about careers paths and links to training opportunities.

The Training Hub is part of the South West Personalised Care Collaborative that has put a training package together which received accreditation from the Personalised Care Institute recently. This training will now be offered throughout the South West region through a Train the Trainer approach. Through the Training Hub we have offered training in Mental Health first aid, welfare benefits support, motivational interviewing and health coaching – all areas essential in our approach to social prescribing.

We have also set up a monthly Personalised Care Forum to provide support and share best practice and provided information about the role of Social Prescribers on our Training Hub website. The people we serve in BSW are benefiting from this approach and will continue to do so in the future. At present local people are accessing social prescribing via referrals from members of the primary care team based at GP surgeries, but in some areas people can self-refer.