**Annual Health Checks: Offer of Support**

This briefing aims to inform you of the current support opportunities for annual health checks in BANES, Swindon and Wiltshire (BSW).

First Option Healthcare have been commissioned to support GP Practices across BSW since February 2021. To date over half of all Wiltshire practices have opted in or expressed interest in this support.

This project has recently been extended to March 2022, if you are interested in opting in or would like more information, please contact Shoenagh.mackay@firstoptionhc.com

The extension from 1 December 2021 will focus on two parts:

1. **Severe Mental Illness Annual Health Checks**

First Option Healthcare are commissioned to undertake annual health checks on behalf of any BSW GP Practice, for patients with severe mental illnesses. There is no cost to opt into this and achievement of QOF would still apply, as usual. Slots are now available from 1 December 2021 to the 31 March 2022.

Malmesbury Primary Care Centre are one of the practices that opted in and the Practice Manager has given us this feedback to share: “*The First Option team were exceptional from start to finish. Our internal leads led a proactive approach to invitations, balancing mailings, texts, and individual follow up calls to maximise uptake in this new cohort of patients who were unfamiliar with the concept of a health check. The team completing the checks were enthusiastic, well informed, and very much part of our team even though they were only here for a week. They were committed to patient care and inclusivity and were a pleasure to have with us in the surgery*”

1. **Annual Health Checks in Special Schools**

First Option Healthcare will be extending their offer, with a focus on individuals 14+ with learning disabilities in a BSW Special School. As part of the check, the Health Care Action Plans will be updated and all young people will be encouraged and provided with information to book in with their GP for the second part of their annual health check as per usual.

This project is currently being mobilised with locality Commissioners, Special Schools and First Option Healthcare. This will include identifying the practices that these young people are registered with, any practices that have not yet opted into the project will be directly contacted for permissions to enable this.