

## APPENDIX 1

### OFFICER DECISION RECORD 1 FORM

This form should be used to record Officer Decisions in Excess of £100k (but below the key decision threshold), or where required by Financial, Contract or other Procedure Rules or following formal delegation from Cabinet or a Cabinet Member or a Council Committee.

**Decision Reference No: AHWB.060.2021 Social Prescribing Service extension**

#### **BOX 1**

**DIRECTORATE: Adults, Health & Wellbeing**

**DATE: 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021**

**Contact Name: Stacey Chaplin,  
Senior Policy and Insight Manager**

**Tel: 01302 735447**

**Subject Matter:** Better Care Fund: 12 months contract extension of existing Social Prescribing Service.

#### **BOX 2**

##### **DECISION TAKEN**

To agree with the recommendation from Joint Commissioning Operational Group (JCOG), approved by Joint Commissioning Management Board (JCMB) on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2021, to provide a further 12 months funding of £260k for a contract extension of the existing Social Prescribing Service. This is due to commence from 1st April 2022, from the Non-Recurrent Better Care Fund (BCF) Earmarked Reserve.

This decision is subject to all partners reviewing the strategic review and collaborating to ensure a co-ordinated system approach to social prescribing moving forward.

This decision is in accordance with recommendations made in a Cabinet Report dated 27<sup>th</sup> March 2018 which approved the spending plan for the non-recurring BCF Ear Marked Reserve as set out in the report: and delegated detailed spending decisions for the implementation of the Doncaster Place Plan £3m, other Integrated Functions £0.7m and unallocated balance £0.7m, to the Director of People in consultation with the Chief Finance Officer and relevant Portfolio Holder.

### **BOX 3**

#### **REASON FOR THE DECISION**

Social Prescribing is defined as a means of enabling medical services to refer patients with social, emotional and/or practical needs to a diverse range of local non-medical sources of support within the community often provided by the voluntary and community sectors.

The main aims of social prescribing are to:

- Facilitate access to a diverse range of support services that enable individuals to significantly improve their health and wellbeing.
- Release specialist capacity across the system, so that individuals with the most intense health and social care needs can receive the care they require despite funding constraints.
- Encourage and support the promotion of self-care to help people with long term conditions
- Reduce the number of General Practitioner visits.
- Increase the capacity and capability of the Voluntary, Community Faith Sector in the provision of services.

Doncaster's Social Prescribing Service was launched as a pilot in 2015 as a joint venture between South Yorkshire Housing Association (SYHA) and Doncaster CVS. Since early 2017, the service has been delivered by SYHA. The number of eligible and onward referrals has increased significantly year on year. A contract extension was granted in October, 2020, however a combination of the departure of staff and the pandemic delayed the strategic review arrangements, thus the need for a further extension.

There is a robust body of evidence that demonstrates that social prescribing offers significant benefits to patients and health and social care professionals. Social Prescribing is a critical component of a wider transformation programme that aims to streamline patient flows through the health and social care system. Without the service, consultation slots with statutory providers will continue to be heavily used by clients who fundamentally require non-clinical/non-specialist support

#### **BOX 4**

##### **ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

**Option 1** – Do Nothing: If funding is not authorised then there is an increased risk to individuals, increased referrals to GPs, an impact on the commitment and objectives included in the Doncaster Place Plan and an impact on the ability to meet legal obligations as set out in the Care Act. If the service was removed or reduced, data suggests that there would be a disproportionate negative impact on carers.

**Option 2** – Approve funding for a further 12 months of £260k, which will enable the provider to develop a clear exit strategy. **(Recommended)**

#### **BOX 5**

##### **LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

Section 1 of the Care Act 2014 (“the Act”) places a number of duties on the Council to promote an individual’s wellbeing. Section 3 of the Act states that the Council must ensure that care and support provision is integrated with other health provision and health related provision where it will promote the wellbeing. Section 6 of the Act states that the Council must co-operate with each of its partners and each relevant partner must co-operate with the Council in exercise of their respective function relating to adults with needs for care and support.

Section 1 of the Localism Act 2011 gives the Council a general power to do anything that an individual may generally.

The decision to extend the existing social prescribing service will assist the Council in meeting the above-mentioned duties.

**Name: Neil Concannon Signature: NC (By Email) Date: 21/12/21.**

Signature of Assistant Director of Legal and Democratic Services (or representative)

#### **BOX 6**

##### **FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:**

This ODR Waiver seeks approval of additional BCF funding for 12 months to enable a 1 year extension the costs are £260k for the 12 month period April 2022 – March 2023. Approval was given at the Joint Commissioning Group meeting on 30/11/21 to enable the continuation of the existing social prescribing contract with South Yorkshire Housing Association, for staffing and infrastructure with a value of £240,000 pa, also £20,000 pa for onward referrals to voluntary community sector (12 month period

This scheme will be funded from the Better Care Fund Earmarked Reserve as part of the Place Plan.

The BCF earmarked reserve plan for 2022/23 has been drafted and was approved at a virtual JCMB meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021

**Name: Nick Cameron Signature:  Date: 12<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

Signature of Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Director of Finance (or representative)

**BOX 7****OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS**

 N/A

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Assistant Director (or representative)

**ANY IMPLICATIONS SENT TO DEPARTMENTS SHOULD GENERALLY BE SUBMITTED AT LEAST 5 WORKING DAYS IN ADVANCE TO ENSURE THESE CAN BE GIVEN THE RELEVANT CONSIDERATION.**

**BOX 8****EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS:**

The service will require the successful provider to continue to deliver the service in such a way that does not discriminate against any of the protected characteristics (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation) other than service users must be aged 18 years and over. The service will not tolerate behaviours that are prohibited by the Equality Act 2010 and will actively work to advance equality of opportunity and the fostering of good relations.

**BOX 9****RISK IMPLICATIONS:**

As the current contract is due to expire at the end of this financial year, failure to not approve this ODR would result in a contract breach situation, if contract termination sufficient notice isn't given.

In the event of a change of provider, the Council will ensure a robust exit plan is agreed with the incumbent provider to ensure a safe transition while the new contract is mobilised.

**BOX 10****CONSULTATION**

The original Service Specification has been considered by a Strategy and Delivery Manager NHS Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group, Communities, including Stronger Families and Public Health. A Service Review is presently underway.

**BOX 11****INFORMATION NOT FOR PUBLICATION**

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act 2000, it is in the Public's interests for this decision to be published in full, redacting only the signatures.

Name: Gillian Parker Signature by email Date: 13/01/2022

Signature of FOI Lead Officer for service area where ODR originates

**BOX 12  
BACKGROUND PAPERS**

Please confirm if any Background Papers are included with this ODR YES

(If YES please list and submit these with this form)

**Business case submitted to the Joint Commissioning Operational Group on 30th November 2021 and approved / ratified by Joint Commissioning Management Board on 16 December 2021**

**BOX 13  
AUTHORISATION**

Name: Phil Holmes\_ Signature:  Date: 13/01/2022

Director of Adults Health and Wellbe

**Does this decision require authorisation by the Chief Financial Officer or other Officer**

**YES/NO**

**If yes please authorise below:**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Chief Executive/Director/Assistant Director of \_\_\_\_\_

**Consultation with Relevant Member(s)**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Designation \_\_\_\_\_

(e.g. Mayor, Cabinet Member or Committee Chair/Vice-Chair)

**Declaration of Interest YES/NO**

**If YES please give details below:**

**PLEASE NOTE THIS FORM WILL BE PUBLISHED ON THE COUNCIL'S WEBSITE IN FULL UNLESS IT CONTAINS EXEMPT OR CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION.**

**Once completed a PDF copy of this form and any relevant background papers should be forwarded to Governance Services at**

[Democratic.Services@doncaster.gov.uk](mailto:Democratic.Services@doncaster.gov.uk) who will arrange publication.

**It is the responsibility of the decision taker to clearly identify any information that is confidential or exempt and should be redacted before publication.**