



Portfolio Holder Decisions

Resources Portfolio

1. **Match funding contribution towards a Communities Fund bid by Healthier Fleetwood** (Pages 1 - 4)

Report of the Service Director Health and Wellbeing

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Portfolio Holder Report

The portfolio holder will make a decision on this item after seven days have elapsed (including the date of publication).

Report of:	Portfolio Holder	Date of publication
Mark Broadhurst, Service Director Health and Wellbeing	Cllr Alan Vincent, Resources Portfolio Holder	8 February 2018

Match funding contribution towards a Communities Fund bid by Healthier Fleetwood

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To seek retrospective approval for a contribution of £10,000 of match funding in support of a Department for Communities and Local Government (recently re-named the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government) Communities Fund bid submitted by Lancashire County Council on behalf of the Healthier Fleetwood partnership.

2. Outcomes

- 2.1 We will improve the health and wellbeing of our communities.

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 That, following the success of a bid to the Communities Fund, retrospective approval be given for a match funding contribution of £10,000 to Healthier Fleetwood to support social prescribing.

4. Background

- 4.1 The Government continues to support public services and community-led projects in order to provide better services and meet the challenges of increased customer demand.
- 4.2 In many cases, commissioning services at scale can deliver real savings. However, there is evidence that for people with more complex or demanding issues it is more effective to use neighbourhoods and communities as partners in commissioning and delivering services more locally. This approach encourages greater tailoring and co-production of services, more focus on outcomes that matter to service users, potential efficiencies from joining up local services, and more effective harnessing of assets within the community.

- 4.3** In January 2017 bids were invited from local authorities/other service providers and community-led groups to apply to a new Communities Fund that would provide funds to local collaborations of local authorities and neighbourhood or community organisations.
- 4.4** The Council worked in partnership with Lancashire County Council (LCC), NHS Fylde and Wyre Clinical Commissioning Group, Mountview Practice, Regenda, West View Community Association and UR Potential and submitted a bid for funding towards the development of a social prescribing project for Healthier Fleetwood.
- 4.5** Social prescribing, sometimes referred to as community referral, is a means of enabling GPs, nurses and other primary care professionals to refer people to a range of local, non-clinical services.
- 4.6** Recognising that people's health is determined primarily by a range of social, economic and environmental factors, social prescribing seeks to address people's needs in a holistic way. It also aims to support individuals to take greater control of their own health.
- 4.7** Social prescribing schemes can involve a variety of activities which are typically provided by District Councils, voluntary and community sector organisations. Examples include volunteering, health walks, arts activities, community singing, gardening, befriending and sports activities.
- 4.8** Social prescribing is designed to support people with a wide range of social, emotional or practical needs, and many schemes are focussed on improving mental health and physical wellbeing. Those who could benefit from social prescribing schemes include people with mild or long-term mental health problems, vulnerable groups, people who are socially isolated, and those who frequently attend either primary or secondary health care.

5. Key issues and proposals

- 5.1** The Communities Fund bid was awarded to establish a social prescribing project in Fleetwood. The project is well underway with a coordinator in post employed by the Mountview Practice. The mapping and identification of services is ongoing and work is underway to ensure that primary care staff have the right information and systems in place so that they can make referrals to activities and groups that are effective for the client / patient. The project runs until September 2018 by which time it is hoped that the infrastructure will be in place for social prescribing to continue to run on a sustainable basis.
- 5.2** Outcomes anticipated from the project include:
- Positive change in terms of health outcomes and wellbeing.
 - An engaged and informed health community (including General Practitioners).
 - Increased mapping of local community assets.

- More effective harnessing of assets within the community.
- Support for the Healthier Fleetwood partnership.
- Increased referrals into Wyre Council activities, services and events.

5.3 The Council was awarded funding to explore establishing social prescribing by NHS Fylde and Wyre Clinical Commissioning Group and it is proposed that this funding be used to support the Healthier Fleetwood social prescribing project.

6. Delegated functions

6.1 The matters referred to in this report are considered under the following executive function delegated to the Resources Portfolio Holder (as set out in Part 3 of the council's constitution): "To determine payment of grants to outside bodies within the Council's Scheme and budget".

Financial and legal implications	
Finance	The one-off funding contribution of £10,000 will be met from existing Health and Wellbeing Directorate budgets in 2017/18.
Legal	There are no specific legal implications related to this report.

Other risks/implications: checklist

If there are significant implications arising from this report on any issues marked with a ✓ below, the report author will have consulted with the appropriate specialist officers on those implications and addressed them in the body of the report. There are no significant implications arising directly from this report, for those issues marked with a x.

risks/implications	✓ / x
community safety	x
equality and diversity	x
sustainability	x
health and safety	x

risks/implications	✓ / x
asset management	x
climate change	x
data protection	x

report author	telephone no.	email	date
Mark Broadhurst	01253 887433	Mark.broadhurst@wyre.gov.uk	16/01/2018

List of background papers:		
name of document	date	where available for inspection
None.		

List of appendices

None.

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