GIG CYMRU NHS WALES

Bwrdd Iechyd Prifysgol Aneurin Bevan University Health Board

Helping you live longer by preventing Stroke Heart Disease Diabetes

Social Prescriber Project

Aneurin Bevan University Health Board; Torfaen North Cluster

Project Lead / Contacts

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Rationale The model of Social Prescribing in Torfaen came about as a response to the need to better connect primary care with a range of services available across the community and public sectors; and in so doing, ensure that individuals gain access to the support they need to overcome the social determinants that impact on their health and well-being.

Project Details Torfaen Neighbourhood Care Networks have recognised the value in social prescribing for the benefits it can bring to patient outcomes and to primary care. In October 2015, Torfaen North developed a pilot project to test a model of social prescribing based in general practice. The aim of the pilot was to:

- To provide the link between primary care and the network of services offered in the community providing support to prevent ill-health, tackle the underlying causes of ill-health and promote self-help
- To increase the number of people who are referred from primary care to an important range of existing, quality assured, local community services – covering a range of issues including: debt management, legal services, mental wellbeing, carers support, benefits advice, housing, routes to employment, domestic violence, befriending.
- To improve outcomes for users of the service as a result of appropriate referrals

Intended Outcomes

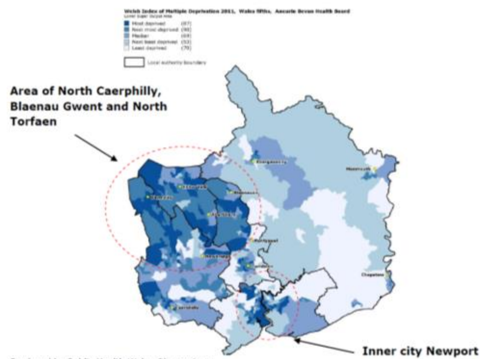
To date Social Prescribing in North Torfaen has made a real contribution to connecting vulnerable individuals with the non-clinical services available across the public and third sectors. Taking a patient-centred, value- based care approach the Social Prescribing Project has began to identify the complex, often interrelated; social issues affecting people's health and well-being and started to build and engage the network of services required to provide holistic support

Partners; Torfaen's Social Prescribing Project Team; North Torfaen Neighbourhood Care Network (NCN) and the Communities Services of Torfaen CBC; WCVA; Public Health Wales

Time-frame; Fixed Term pilot project operated between October 2015 and 31st March 2016 but funding has been extended to October 2017

Future Development Planned; The project has been extended with the appointment to the same role in the South NCN. There is now the potential to develop the role further by better integrating the network of wellness services and improving individual/patient pathways. There are significant opportunities to align with the Living Well Living Longer approach and the programmes legacy, as well as further reduce the burden on Primary Care by moving closer to creating a Torfaen Integrated Wellness Network (IWN).

Welsh Index of Deprivation 2011, Wales fifths, Aneurin Bevan Health Board



Percentage of patients living in the most deprived fifth of areas in Wales (using WIMD, 2011), GP clusters (NCNs) in Aneurin Bevan Health Board in 2013

Commissioning / Funding; North Torfaen Neighbourhood Care Network

Evaluation / Reporting; Interim report March 2016

Torfaen Report.March 2016.d

Supporting Documentation;

Torfaen SP Project.docx

Torfaen Final Reports.doc

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Similar projects; Note Living Well, Living Longer Programme