

Greater Manchester's Green Social Prescribing Programme

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Background to the programme

- Cross-Governmental Project that looks at how to increase use and connectivity to the natural environment through referral to green and/or blue social prescribing services within communities in England
- £5.77m project funding (£5million from The Treasury Outcomes Fund + additional funds from NHSEI, NASP and Sport England)
- The hypothesis is that scaled up provision of green social prescribing would offer more choice and control for individuals and users of the health system and have the potential to deliver significant savings by reducing demand on health services and reducing health inequalities.
- The outcomes:
 - Scale up green social prescribing
 - Understand system barriers and enablers
 - Evidence to inform Government policy



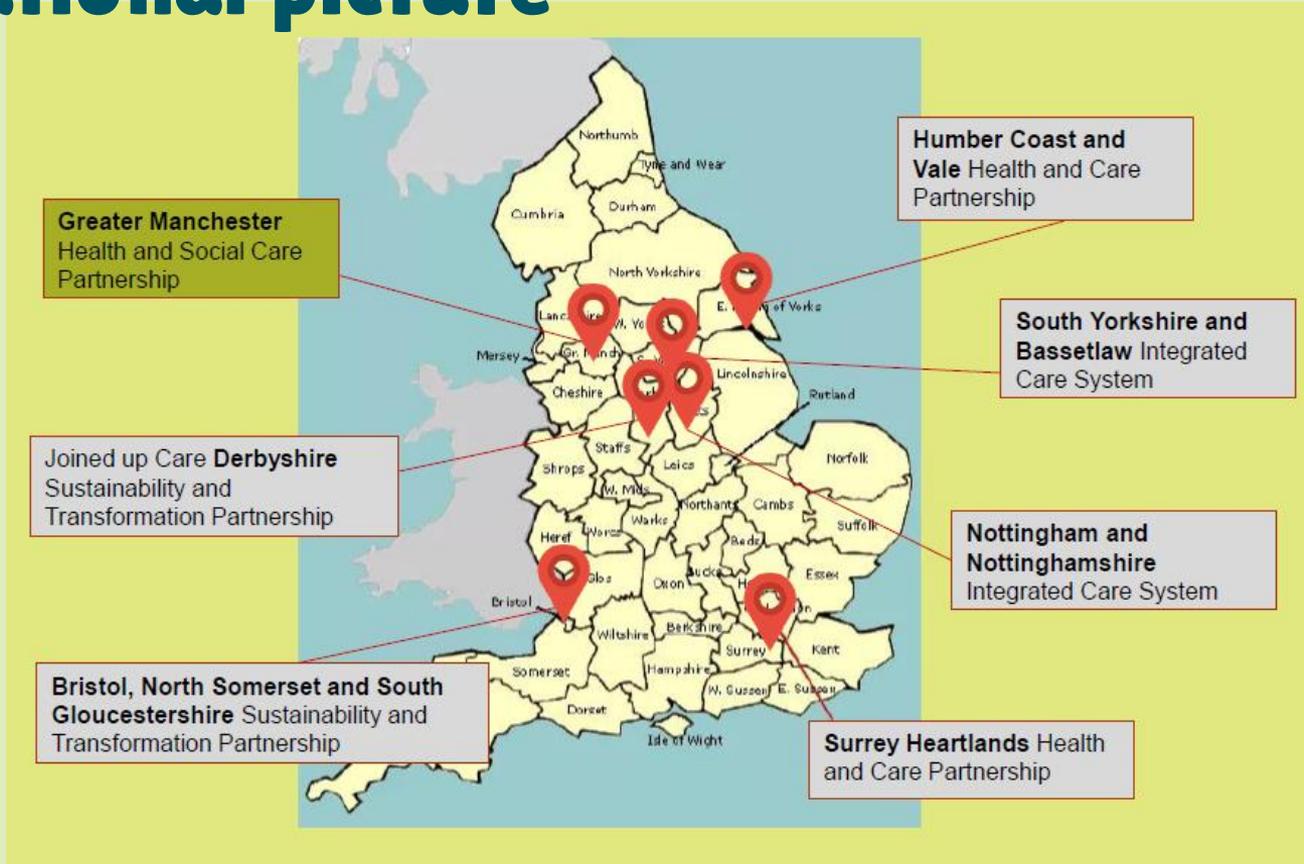
National research work

The national research work will build on the insights from the seven 'test and learn' sites and the evaluation, to inform future national policy on green social prescribing.

The national research work is split into **two** strands:

1. A longer term **clinical study(ies)** testing the **effectiveness** of green social prescribing on mental health outcomes for specific common mental health conditions
2. A shorter term **social research** project to assess the **scalability and acceptability** of green social prescribing on a national level, likely focusing on patient and clinician perceptions and preferences, and barriers and enablers for GSP activity providers outside pilot areas.

The national picture



Greater Manchester's Programme

- As one of the seven national test and learn sites GM secured £500,000 across two years. It will target those most disproportionately impacted by Covid-19.
- GM Health and Social Care Partnership: overseeing and coordinating delivery.
- Four local test and learn sites delivering the programme, providing the interventions:
 - Lancashire Wildlife Trust in Bury
 - Petrus in Rochdale
 - Salford CVS in Salford
 - Sow the City in Manchester
- One GM wide initiative delivered by City of Trees. This initiative will create and grow a stakeholder group, creation of a resource hub, delivering shared assets and workshops.



Evaluation

- The evaluation aims to assess processes, outcomes and value-for-money, in order to inform implementation and future policy and practice. It will improve understanding of what works, for whom, in what circumstances and why.
- The evaluation is designed to be iterative and developmental, taking a flexible, mixed methods approach. It includes a scoping phase from April-June 2021, quantitative and qualitative evaluation in the seven test and learn sites, and lighter touch evaluation in 6-8 other sites.
- NHSE awarded a contract to a team of researchers from four universities (University of Sheffield, University of Exeter, University of Plymouth and Sheffield Hallam University).

Questions?

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