

Our Ref: ID 1521

NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group  
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## Re: Freedom of Information Request – Social Prescribing

Thank you for your request for information made under the Freedom of Information Act 2000, which was received into this office on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019.

### You Asked for:

1. What was the Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) total spend on social prescribing in 2018/2019?
2. Please provide the CCGs total forecast expenditure on social prescribing for 2019/2020?
3. How many patients were referred to a social prescribing programme in 2018/2019?
4. Does the CCG have a target number of patients to be referred to a social prescribing programme? (If so, please provide detail of the CCGs target)
5. What quantifiable benefits has the CCG achieved, or hoping to achieve (financial and/or operational) through the utilisation of social prescribing? (*e.g. a reduction in A&E attendances, savings from reduction in drug costs etc.*)
6. What is the name and job title of the individual who leads on social prescribing at your organisation?
7. Does your organisation use a third-party software to manage/support social prescribing? (*services offered by the third-party provider may include manages patient referrals, enables self-referrals, directory of social prescribing programmes etc.*)
  - a. If yes, please state the name of the supplier (*e.g. Elemental Software, Public Consulting Group*)
  - b. What was the annual cost to the CCG in 18/19 for using this supplier?

### Our Response:

1. During 2018/2019, the Wirral Social Prescribing Scheme was wholly funded by a Department of Health Grant.
2. NHS Wirral Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) will invest £96,643 in the Wirral Social Prescribing scheme during 2019/2020. In addition, during 2019/2020, additional funding has been made available from NHS England for each Primary Care Network to recruit a social prescribing link worker.
3. During 2018/2019, 222 people were referred into the Wirral Social Prescribing Scheme (from mid-November 2018 when the scheme started to 31st March 2019).
4. The 2019/2020 target set by NHS England is 324 referrals.
5. An evaluation of the Wirral Social Prescribing service including a cost-benefit analysis is currently being undertaken.

6. The lead on Social Prescribing is Iain Stewart, Assistant Director for Primary Care and Partnerships and Planned Care.
7. Please see below:
  - a. Citizens Advice Wirral records all contact with patients on Charity Log including the Action Plan produced through conversation. Charity Log is a Client Relationship Management (CRM).
  - b. There is no cost to the CCG. All costs are covered by Citizens Advice Wirral.

We hope this information is useful, however if you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact a member of the Corporate Affairs Team (contact details at the top of this letter)

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