**The London Social Prescribing Map – Frequently Asked Questions**

This document aims to answer frequently asked questions around the social prescribing map. If you have a different question or need any further support, please contact: beth.medforth1@nhs.net

**1. What is the purpose of the map?**

The purpose of the map is to help people understand how social prescribing is being delivered across London, along with supporting collaboration and shared learning through connecting people working within social prescribing services.

**2. Why was the map created?**

The map was created to support both national and regional priorities/requirements related to social prescribing, such as proactive social prescribing offer. Examples of good practice and key contacts are available on the map to support shared learning between people who work within social prescribing services. There was also a need for information about social prescribing provision across London be collated in one place, therefore the map was created as an open-source tool to provide easier access to resources, service information and contacts.

The map was created to showcase social prescribing service models and **not** to share local services that social prescribing refers onto.

**3. Who is the map for?**

The map is most useful for:

* Social prescribing services in and out of London to connect, collaborate and share learning
* Voluntary, Community, Faith Sector Enterprise (VCFSE) organisations to build partnership with social prescribing and healthcare services, strengthening routes of referral or exploring ways of working together ​
* Primary Care Networks, Local Authority, as well as Universities, Colleges, Housing Associations, Police, Fire and Rescue to create stronger anchor networks at place ​
* ICS, system, regional and national partner organisations involved in social prescribing including GLA, OHID, NHSE, ADPH etc. ​to have clear oversight of the social prescribing landscape across London

**4. What can I add onto the map?**

* Information on your social prescribing service, including key contact details
* Case studies that highlight an innovative or new model of social prescribing, or patient case studies
* Proactive social prescribing interventions enabling outreach to a targeted population to reduce health inequalities

The map allows you to add information about your social prescribing service model and any case studies/additional projects that you’re doing within the service. The map **is not** a platform to add information about local services that you refer onto.

**5. Why should I add my service onto the map?**

* Space to share and promote service models with a wide range of stakeholders involved or interested in social prescribing, raising profile of services
* Opportunity to connect & promote social prescribing services in a local area, improving access for people in the local community ​
* Platform to showcase & easily share case studies demonstrating impact (proactive social prescribing or innovative projects)​
* Unique opportunity to support expansion of social prescribing into new settings, such as secondary care, through providing open access to information about service models and pathways
* Opportunity to connect with other link workers, VCFSE & 3rd sector organisations

**6. How can I add a contribution to the map and what can I submit?**

**Adding to the map is quick and user – friendly, it should take a maximum of half an hour to sign up to the platform and complete your contribution.** We have created instructions & a video to support you with the map:

This [short youtube video](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bukzBKwPwI8&embeds_referring_euri=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.transformationpartners.nhs.uk%2F&source_ve_path=OTY3MTQ&feature=emb_imp_woyt) demonstrates how you can sign up to the platform, add or edit a contribution to the map.

Instructions within the slides: [The New London Social Prescribing Map Showcase.pptx](https://nhs.sharepoint.com/%3Ap%3A/r/sites/msteams_16a05f/_layouts/15/Doc.aspx?sourcedoc=%7B170AFC3C-EB76-4B44-BD12-A9AE1325B637%7D&file=The%20New%20London%20Social%20Prescribing%20Map%20Showcase.pptx&action=edit&mobileredirect=true)
**7. Why is it important to keep my contribution up to date?**

Many stakeholders working within and in partnership with social prescribing, both in and outside of London, use the map to gain understanding of social prescribing provision across all boroughs. For example, the map can support partner organisations in developing reports of what is currently available and identifying where there are gaps.

Ensuring the map stays up to date and accurate requires a collaborative effort between services, contributors and TPHC, to support shared learning and improvement.

**8. How often do I need to update my contribution?**

In order to keep the information on the map relevant and up to date, we recommend that you edit your contribution if there are any changes to your service/information. We encourage contributors to check their social prescribing service contribution monthly but we will also contact contributors every 6 months to ask if there are any changes.

**9. Who can I contact if I need help with the map?**

If you need help with using the map, signing up, adding or editing a contribution or anything else, please contact: Beth Medforth, beth.medforth1@nhs.net