



Nature for Health Newsletter

February 2023

National Funding Update

As lots of you will be aware, NHS England submitted a bid in November 2022 to HM Treasury for a two year extension to the national **Preventing and Tackling Mental Ill Health through Green Social Prescribing** programme.

Unfortunately, we since been informed that the national bid extension has not been successful - we appreciate that this will be disappointing news. However, **this is not the end to GSP in GM** and please rest assured that there is still a wealth of support available at a local level to ensure the legacy of the programme.

At a National Level:

- The NHS England Team are committed to continuing to deliver the evaluation of the 2-year programme, with the first draft of the full report due in **June 2023** and sharing the evidence gathered through the programme and using it to advocate for green social prescribing to be included in future policy development.
- NHS England and other partners, including the National Academy of Social Prescribing (NASP), DEFRA, Sport England and Natural England are committed towards sharing and embedding the learning from the national green social prescribing test and learn pilots, including evidence and guidance for organisations and will work with wider partners to support the development of green social prescribing.

At a Greater Manchester Level:

- The implementation of a **Nature for Health Steering Group** committed to help coordinate opportunities for learning, training, funding, and the overall growth of this GSP sector in GM. **The Steering Group will meet for the first time in March.** We'll provide more information on what this means for GSP in GM shortly – including opportunities to be involved.
- The Nature for Health [website](#) will remain as a key resource to support the third sector to deliver more GSP activities in GM, and includes a collection of free resources, such as information guides, templates and training, which enable community groups to harness the healing powers of nature.

Keep using the [#GMNatureforHealth](#) hashtag whenever you are delivering GSP activities across the sector.

- The **NfH newsletter** will continue to share new funding opportunities and news! Sign up to it via the NfH website above.
- NHS GM are still committed to green social prescribing through the NHS GM Green Plan.

A Celebration of Nature for Health in Greater Manchester 🍀

Wednesday 15th March, 10:00 - 16:00

Please join us to celebrate two years of Nature for Health delivery in Greater Manchester. Whilst the national green social prescribing programme draws to a close, we have plenty to celebrate and lots of plans to put nature at the centre of our health and wellbeing.

You'll learn about the impact of the programme, listen to some personal stories from participants and take part in a green social prescribing activity – and you'll get a free lunch!

Where and when: RHS Garden Bridgwater, 15th March 2023 from 10:00 - 16:00

For more information and to register **please follow this link:** [Nature for Health: Green Social Prescribing in GM Celebration Tickets, Wed 15 Mar 2023 at 10:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Capacity is limited so please do carefully consider your attendance before signing up to this event and please let us know if you can no longer attend to allow space for others to join the celebration.

🌱 Sow the City at Castlefield Viaduct 🌱

Greater Manchester test and learn site Sow the City are at the National Trust's Castlefield Viaduct! In collaboration with Hubbub, they have opened a new sensory garden to give people a space to reflect and connect to nature. They will join Hulme Garden Centre and existing partners Castlefield Forum and City of Trees. Find out more about the Sow the City garden [here](#)! To book your visit to the Viaduct and have a chance to check out the amazing work of Sow the City and other partner gardens, [follow the link](#).

We've seen some amazing results from Sow the City's GSP programme, with:

♥ 88% of participants strongly agree/agree they gained access to fruit & vegetables.

♥ 94% of participants strongly agree or agree that they met like-minded people

♥ 100% of participants said the trainer delivered the sessions well

The National Evaluation Team want to hear from you!

The National Evaluation Team of the Preventing and Tackling Mental Ill Health through Green Social Prescribing project, the National Evaluation Team were inviting you to take part in a questionnaire by **17th March 2023**.

The aim of the questionnaire is to understand more about organisations in your area and your perspectives of the project. The findings will be used to inform the development of green social prescribing both on a local and national level.

You may have completed a similar questionnaire about a year ago. We would like you to complete this questionnaire irrespective of whether you did or did not complete the questionnaire last time. This is because we are trying what to see what has changed in the programme over the last year.

Completing a questionnaire

- If your role is to support people access to community activities for example, Link Workers and Social Prescribers, please complete this questionnaire: https://shef.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_7WdMMHrtEL1TjVA
- If you work for an organisation who is delivering green, nature-based or blue activities including community allotments, walking groups and water-based activities, please complete this questionnaire: https://shef.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_e51F8mzSVyqikfQ

Please note that the National Evaluation Team will not be disclosing who completed the questionnaire.

If you have any queries about the questionnaire, would like to see a copy of the Participant Information Sheet (PIS) or would prefer to complete the questionnaire over the telephone or as a virtual meeting, then please contact Alexis Foster (researcher at the University of Sheffield) - alexis.foster@sheffield.ac.uk.

Please remember the deadline for responses is **17th March 2023** - **don't miss out on the opportunity**

to give feedback on your experience.

Upcoming Training Opportunities

All information on training opportunities can be found on the Nature for Health website here

<https://gmnatureforhealth.org.uk/upcoming-training-sessions/>

To book any of these trainings, please email cdavenport@lancswt.org.uk

✦ **Growing and Cooking for Different Cultures | 3rd March 2023 | 11am – 2pm | Platt Fields Market Garden**

Spend an inspiring lunchtime learning session participating in two practical workshops. One with a MUD Grower learning about options for growing culturally diverse food, as well as a Dolma preparation demo with MUD Chef Imam Aaziz Mahdi . Followed by a shared lunch of Kurdish Dolma.

✦ **Creating Space for Nature | 9th March 2023 | 1pm – 3.30pm | Philips Park**

Join Lancashire Wildlife Trust to learn about some of the different types of homes for we can make for nature and the things to consider with each. Throughout the afternoon you'll also have the opportunity to make bird boxes and bug homes.

✦ **Safeguarding Training | 13th March 2023 | 2pm – 4pm | Online**

This session will cover the basics of safeguarding, the differences between child and adult safeguarding, how to develop a policy and procedures, as well as time to work through practical examples of safeguarding.

✦ **Willow Coppicing | 22nd March 2023 | 10.30am | 3pm | Sale Water Park**

Join Ruth from TCV for a practical day learning about coppicing willow, followed by time to turn your willow in to a variety of crafting projects.

Funding Opportunities

Cycle and Stride for Active Lives – funding for walking / cycling / wheeling projects

Transport for Greater Manchester (TFGM's) **Cycle and Stride for Active Lives** programme is now open to applicants!

Applicants are invited to apply for community programmes to deliver/encourage walking and cycling/wheeling for groups least likely to be active (e.g. ethnic minority communities, people on lower incomes, women and girls).

Groups can apply for **up to £10,000**.

Applications close by **Friday 3rd March 2023**.

For further information and to apply, see: <https://beeactive.tfgm.com/cycle-and-stride/>

Please note the Cycle and Stride team are happy to have a chat with you if you are interested in applying, but have any questions or concerns. Email them on cycleandstride@tfgm.com

Grants for Science & the Arts Projects (North West of England)

[How to apply - Granada Foundation](#)

The Granada Foundation has launched a new funding round for projects that encourage and promote the study, practice and appreciation of science and the arts. Awards of £500 to £10,000 are made three times a year (with the average award being around £2,000) to organisations (preferably with charitable status) for imaginative and innovative proposals which will make the North West of England a richer and more attractive place in which to live and work. The grants are usually for projects in art, architecture, cinema, dance, drama, literature, music, and science.

The next closing date for applications is the 31st March 2023.

Grants to Support the Health & Wellbeing of Local Communities (Stockport)

[CDL Fund - Forever Manchester](#)

Grants of up to £1,000 are available to grassroots community and voluntary groups delivering activities that improve the quality of life, health and wellbeing of people living in Stockport. The funding will give organisations flexibility to address the needs of local communities through a range of community projects that focus on digital inclusion, older people, children and young people, the environment, health and wellbeing, and/or strengthening communities. Applications from adjoining neighbourhoods in Denton and Hyde in Tameside and Wythenshawe, Didsbury, Withington and Fallowfield in Manchester will also be considered.

The funding is being made available by Cheshire Datasystems Limited through the CDL Fund, which **closes to applications on the 3rd March 2023.**

Funding and Support Available for Innovative Ideas in Greater Manchester's Foundational Economy (Greater Manchester)

[Foundational Economy Innovation Fund - Greater Manchester Combined Authority \(greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk\)](#)

The Greater Manchester Combined Authority has launched the Foundational Economy Innovation Fund to support and provide grants to businesses and organisations in Greater Manchester's foundational economy to experiment with innovative ideas and methods. The initiative will be divided into two phases, with up to 40 projects receiving £10,000 grants in Phase 1 to test out concepts, followed by £60,000 grants to the top 10 projects for further development in Phase 2. Successful participants will obtain guidance on innovation and be welcomed into an innovator community. The deadline for Phase 1 applications is 12 March 2023, and the eligible sectors for the first stage of funding include health and social care, early education and childcare, retail and personal services, and hospitality and leisure.

The deadline for applications is the 12th March 2023.

Green Skills Training from Groundwork

Groundwork will be running short 1 hour taster sessions on various green skill modules throughout March, including topics on A Guide to Native Tree Planting, Creating Tiny Forests, Invasive Non-Native Species, Introduction to Wet Woodlands and Fens, Introduction to Living Walls and Creating & Maintaining Wildflower Meadows.

See here for dates and zoom links: [Green Skills Online Taster Sessions - Groundwork](#)

Dates for the Diary

Greater Manchester Walking Festival is back in May 2023

GreaterSport alongside, GMMoving and GMwalking will be celebrating the joy of walking and being outside, bringing together neighbours, friends, communities, schools and encouraging participants to have fun, discover, and re-discover, the joy of the walking journey.

The aims of the festival are;

- To promote walking activity across GM during **May 2023**, National Walking Month.
- To support people to **walk regularly in around their neighbourhoods**,
- To encourage **more walking** amongst those who are **inactive** or may be **new to walking**,
- To champion **sustained walking behaviours beyond the festival**.

They are inviting individuals and organisations to consider planning a new walk(s) or promote walks already organised for May 2023.

To be involved, submit a walk and find out more, please visit: <https://gmwalking.co.uk/gm-walking-festival-2023/>

National Social Prescribing Day – 9th March 2023!

Social Prescribing Day will be a celebration of social prescribing, demonstrating the amazing impact it can have on people's health and wellbeing. [Find out more here](#).

And finally did you know...?

And finally, did you know?... Fashionable seaside towns in England owe much of their popularity to the 18th-century doctors who advised their patients to take the 'sea cure'.

[:Read more here](#)

Visit our website today!



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