

## Westminster Health Forum policy conference:

### Next steps for social prescribing in England

Timing: Morning, Friday, 18<sup>th</sup> September 2026

\*\*\*Taking place online\*\*\*



WESTMINSTER  
HEALTH FORUM

Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 9.05 **Examining the future role of social prescribing in neighbourhood health services**  
**Dr Michael Dixon**, Chair, The College of Medicine; former Co-Chair, National Social Prescribing Network; and Visiting Professor, University of Westminster  
**Charlotte Osborn-Forde**, Chief Executive, National Academy for Social Prescribing  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.45 **Integration of social prescribing in local services - commissioning, partnerships and delivery**  
*integration with PCNs and neighbourhood teams | implications of the NHS 10 Year Health Plan | link worker roles, caseload management and ARRS funding | commissioning and partnership arrangements across ICSs, local government and the VCSE sector | tackling postcode variation and digital exclusion | supporting people in deprived communities and from some ethnic minority backgrounds | referral pathways, co-production and patient engagement | financial sustainability for community organisations and local provision | aligning commissioning with prevention and increasingly complex caseloads*  
Senior representative, primary care  
Senior representative, commissioning  
Senior representative, VCSE  
Senior representative, workforce  
Senior representative, patients  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.35 **The future for social prescribing in primary care - access, demand and prevention**  
**Mark Joannides**, Deputy Director, Community Health, Department of Health and Social Care  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.00 **Chair's closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.05 Break
- 11.15 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian
- 11.20 **Evidence and evaluation - outcomes, metrics and recent findings**  
Senior representative, research  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.40 **International approaches to social prescribing - models, evidence and insights from practice**  
Senior representative, international
- 11.50 **Community-led approaches to green social prescribing - evidence, implementation and insights from practice**  
**Caroline Emmerson**, Principal Officer, Health and Environment, Natural England
- 12.00 **Innovation, workforce, community partners and sustainable models for the future**  
*workforce sustainability, supervision and link worker wellbeing | developing models for complex social needs and long-term conditions | VCSE and faith-based community capacity | digital infrastructure, referral platforms and outcome-tracking tools | standardising metrics, data collection and reporting | evaluating cost-effectiveness and approaches to reducing future demand on services through earlier intervention | green social prescribing and nature-based approaches | sustainable funding models for neighbourhood-level delivery | learning from international practice*  
Senior representative, NHS  
Senior representative, link workers  
Senior representative, VCSE  
Senior representative, innovation  
Senior representative, research
- 12.30 Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Westminster Health Forum closing remarks**  
Senior Parliamentarian  
**Jessica Lear**, Westminster Health Forum