

CONGLETON TOWN COUNCIL
COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

COMMITTEE:	Community Committee		
MEETING DATE AND TIME	29 June 20223 7.00pm	LOCATION	Town Hall, Bridestones
REPORT FROM	Jackie MacArthur, Communities and Marketing Manager & DCO		
AGENDA ITEM REPORT TITLE	12 Potential Health and Wellbeing Hub for Congleton		
Background	<p>Pre- Covid-19 a key driver for the Congleton Town Council health and wellbeing working group was to establish a physical place in Congleton where people needing help with their self-defined emotional or psychological health could receive support. This followed numerous reports of the difficulty people were having getting timely support. The group visited Café 71, run by the Spider Project in Chester, the first crisis café in Cheshire and discussions were started with NHS Trust and Clinical Commissioning Group about whether Congleton could be a pilot for something like this in Cheshire East. Then the NHS priorities had to turn to COVID-19.</p> <p>Improvements have been made over the past four years to support people’s emotional health. The NHS opened a dedicated Mental Health Crisis line on 0800 145 6485. There are two Full Time Equivalent (FTE) mental health practitioners working in the Congleton and Holmes Chapel GP surgeries and every GP surgery has a FTE equivalent Social Prescriber.</p> <p>Having a physical hub is still an aspiration. In February this year, an opportunity presented itself following a Cheshire East Congleton Connected Communities meeting. Funding was being made available to improve the mental health support of residents and Plus Dane Housing Group indicated that it was willing to explore gifting the use of its unoccupied 2nd floor in its building in Worrall Street Congleton for such a hub.</p> <p>A collaborative funding bid was submitted led by Plus Dane. This was not successful, however in the process of putting together the bid several groups and organisations involved in the field of providing emotional and psychological support came together and thought the project was worth pursuing.</p> <p>Work is continuing behind the scenes with the intention of creating a Well Being Hub where the various groups involved in providing mental health support services can make use of the space for 1-2-1 counselling or group work and benefit from the synergy of being in a shared space. The following organisations have said that they would like to be a delivery partner within the hub.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Aura 		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Daisy’s Dream Cheshire East Hub ▪ Friends for Leisure ▪ Mentell ▪ Picture House Consultancy ▪ Swans CIC ▪ Visyon ▪ Wirral Community Service NHS Foundation 0-19 service ▪ Your Purple Life ▪ Congleton and Holmes Chapel Social Prescribing Link Workers <p>In addition Cheshire East Council, Plus Dane Housing, Congleton Partnership, Congleton Community Projects, Congleton Police and Congleton Town Council have helped with the initial shaping of the project.</p>
Next Steps	<p>A Project Development steering group made up of people interested in making the project happen is being put together. This group will bid for funding and set up the agreements for the Hub. There is also a matrix of users being established. Officers from Congleton Town Council and the partnership have been involved in the initial stages of this project.</p> <p>This report is to inform and update Councillors and seek support to remain part of the process via the Health and Wellbeing Working Group and to keep Councillors informed.</p>
Recommendations	That the Town Council supports the project in principle and remains part of the development team.
Financial Implications	None at present.
Environmental Implications	This is in line with the Council’s policies of wherever possibly providing services within Congleton.
Equality and Diversity Impact	This is a positive project aimed at helping those in our community obtain timely and quality support for their emotional or psychological health in a local setting.
PROPOSALS	To support the idea of a Congleton Wellbeing Hub in Worrall Street and to continue to take an active part in the development of the project.