

LEICESTER CITY HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Theme of Meeting	Healthy Aging
Title:	Loneliness Prescription Service
Presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board by:	Troy Young: Assistant Director, Age UK Leicester Shire and Rutland
Date:	19th September 2019

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

Recognising that many older people visit their G.P. because of loneliness and other non-clinical issues, Age UK Leicester Shire and Rutland set up the Loneliness Prescription service in 2015.

Loneliness Prescriptions works with people who are over 50 years of age by supporting them to connect with local services and support including local social groups, educational courses, lunch clubs and exercise classes. For older people who require on-going contact, the service offers a telephone befriending service.

The service is enhanced by a team of dedicated volunteers who have been trained to provide short term one to one support that that older people frequently need when they are re-engaging with their local community. The service is funded by the National Lottery Community fund until March 2021.

Contributing to the objectives of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy:

The Loneliness Prescription service recognises that social factors have a significant impact on the health of the population.

The Loneliness Prescription service promotes Healthy Ageing and Healthy Lives themes by connecting people to the services and support that they need.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is requested to:

Note the content of the presentation and signpost people in need of the the Loneliness Prescription Service to their GP practice.