

**GROWING HEALTH – Action Planning Workshop Notes**  
*"How can we best deliver health and wellbeing through food growing/healthy eating in Greater Manchester?"*



**What is the vision for how commissioners and people engage with food growing activities?**

**Group 1**

- Growing groups provide 'evidence based product'
- Everyone can receive a referral to a growing project
- A model is developed that fits all different types of interventions, and explains who they are for
- This can be self-referral but there are also champions and other intermediaries
- Part of the model involves NHS/GP paying from an allocated budget for these services, like they have for medicine  
The GP can find these on an icon on their desktop

NB: Not clear on whether the vision is for Greater Manchester VS local authority areas for Manchester

**Group 2**

- Sort out the 'supply' [provision of 'green care' services] e.g. one garden/growing project per ward with a staff team/person with appropriate experience.
- Support groups to get off the ground via CVS working with CCGs
- Public Health green care champions in each CCG and borough
- Commissioners to be seriously behind it and resourcing it
- CVS's taking the commissions and then co-ordinating the funding for groups
- Someone else has made it happen/lobbied to get the commissions/social prescribing while we [the growing groups] 'get on with it'
- Use/show the benefits and cost saving evidence
- Network/hubs/central part of commissioning process

**Group 3**

- Need a longer term strategy with a clear focus and stop changing the focus e.g. mental health/age/isolation
- Use food as an anchor to address bigger issues e.g. economy, employment and skills, environment (climate change), health and wellbeing
- National Food Policy needed

## What barriers are there?

| From Voluntary sector view  | From Statutory sector  |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lack of consistent funding</li> <li>• Less money available and voluntary sector are competing for same pot</li> <li>• Building relationships takes time</li> <li>• Personnel changes</li> <li>• Social prescribing has not budget attached</li> <li>• Branding not right yet</li> <li>• Capacity to attending meetings</li> <li>• Need to me QA and PPQ</li> <li>• Partnerships – another layer of work, who does it within the organisation?</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Less money</li> <li>• Lots of small organisations</li> <li>• Not clear on who does what, how to find them</li> <li>• No idea of scale or capacity of the voluntary sector</li> <li>• Range of activities that have not been classified/ differentiated</li> </ul> |

## What gaps?

- What is the national strategy for how this could work?
- How is the Green Care Coalition directing this?
- Need a clear and straightforward model to present to CCG
- Need a directory of opportunities - listed by the category of activity
- Not clear on what is need for Greater Manchester vs the individual authorities
- Not a social prescribing budget like there is a medicine budget but....
- Not enough growing groups/projects to meet the demand (potential number of referrals)
- Need champions in CCGS
- Opposition to a / the vision

## Opportunities

|                              |  |
|------------------------------|--|
| <b>Wider Agenda</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DeVo Manc – GM wide Sustainable City</li> <li>• Mayoral/ GM interest in the green agenda and the green sector can help become carbon neutral and provide green jobs? Q: How do people engage with this?</li> <li>• Economic argument for health people via employers.</li> <li>• Need to identify local targets and show how these are being met</li> <li>• Social value Act.</li> <li>• Localism Bill</li> </ul> |
| <b>Funding</b>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corporate money a possibility as realistically not NHS or Local Authority</li> <li>• What medical budgets are available?</li> <li>• GM commissioning hub – could this help with commissioning of these services</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Building Partnerships</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Partnerships allow for structure and easier for Local Authorities to understand plus able to compete with private sector and share attendance at strategic events etc.</li> </ul>   |

|   |  |
|---|--|
|   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Green Health Alliance has started to formulate this and share the workload for attending meetings Q: but what is the model and is this borough or GM wide? How do other groups get involved?</li> <li>CVS (and other organisations) co-ordinating activities</li> </ul>   |
| <b>Other partners/resources/mapping</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Get practice nurses (practice managers) to drive social prescribing and the referrals or employ paid social prescribers</li> <li>Salford Unit – have to find nurse and OT placements and could partner with green sector</li> <li>Mapping of services (maps exists already, just need updating and amalgamating)</li> <li>Big Dig/ Harvest-ometer has data and map that could provide key functions (Sow the City and Sustain)</li> <li>Engage with food banks to support cooking and healthier food/eating</li> <li>RHS as potential umbrella organisation, tap in on the community angle for RHS' activities in the local area, money.</li> </ul> |

## What next?

|   |                |
|---|----------------|
| Find about social Value Act   | Liz            |
| Contact Operation Farm  | Liz            |
| Find out about social value   | Anne           |
| Email local group link  | Michelle       |
| Share prescription form   | Jess           |
| Link to Big Dig map of Manchester projects  | Sarah          |
| Look into student nursing placements  | Michelle       |
| Look into GM commissioning hub  | Kieron         |
| Make links with physical activity referral in Stockport                             | Helen and Jess |
| Send out Webinar link   | Maria/ Sarah   |
| Attend the Winter Wood and Federation conference                                    | Kath           |
| Make an appointment with Philip Burns   | Sow the City?  |
| Sugar tax – where is the money going?   | Maria          |
| Send notes and presentations from workshop (on website)                             | Maria          |
| Identify projects in Bury, Bolton and Wigan as these weren't identified on the map? | ???            |
| Decide on how Growing Health can support groups/partnership                         | Growing Health |

Big Dig Greater Manchester <http://www.bigdig.org.uk/manchester>

Webinar link [https://www.sustainweb.org/growinghealth/events\\_and\\_conferences/](https://www.sustainweb.org/growinghealth/events_and_conferences/)

Workshop survey link <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/GMGrowingHealthWorkshop>