

Item10-Community News

Buckinghamshire Community Wellbeing Hub Project Brief

Prepared for: Aylesbury Community Board

Prepared by: Buckinghamshire Health & Social Care Academy and Buckinghamshire New University

The Community Wellbeing Hub is being delivered by Buckinghamshire New University (BNU) and the Buckinghamshire Health & Social Care Academy (BHSCA). BHSCA is a non-profit partnership organisation, established by the Buckinghamshire NHS Trust, Buckinghamshire Council, Buckinghamshire New University, University of Bedfordshire, Buckinghamshire Local Enterprise Partnership, Buckinghamshire College Group, Health Education England, FedBucks and Primary Care. The goal of BHSCA is to optimise the Health and Social Care workforce's education, training and skills development through partnership-working across systems, ensuring the best possible delivery of care to the population of Buckinghamshire.

This project sets out to co-design and co-deliver physical hubs based at BNU campuses in Aylesbury and High Wycombe to benefit students and residents. Building on evidence from other university-based wellbeing centres, the hub aims to meet the needs identified by colleagues in primary care, the Integrated Care Board (ICB), Adult Social Care and Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE) to better support residents with their wellbeing and mental health: a space to learn together and share specialist knowledge, provide outreach to their clients/patients, and create additional capacity to deliver services in the town centres. By delivering a collaborative space for professionals, the hub meets the needs identified by BNU as well: providing opportunities for students to shadow professionals, engage in new placements, volunteer at the Hub as part of BNU's new curriculum, and engage in training alongside health and care professionals.

Buckinghamshire Community Wellbeing Hub objectives

1. Create a physical space for health and social care professionals and VCSE providers to collaborate and co-locate services to improve the health and wellbeing of citizens
2. Support student wellbeing and mental health through the hub, in complement with existing BNU services
3. Provide opportunities for students to develop skills and gain work experience, including volunteering, placements, job shadowing, and training

The Hub will benefit the community by:

- Providing a centrally located and accessible space for residents to participate in wellbeing activities that promote better physical and mental health (e.g. weekly walking groups, wellbeing activities from GP health and wellbeing coaches, dementia or menopause talking cafes)
- Providing additional capacity to health and social care services to meet with residents on a 121 basis (e.g. social prescribing link worker sessions, counselling or group therapy from Healthy Minds)
- Providing space for health and social care to deliver community outreach and preventative/awareness raising activities (e.g. NHS health checks, adult social care assessments)
- Providing a space for local groups that promote wellbeing to meet (e.g. healthy cooking classes, social groups for older residents that reduce social isolation)

Implementation

The Community Board Manager has been engaged from the beginning of the project to ensure the hub aligns with local priorities for the community identified by the Board, and will continue to steer the development of the hub in line with these priorities wherever possible, including looking for opportunities for Board funded projects to link in with the Hub. A project board, which includes representation from Buckinghamshire Council, has been established to steer the development of the hub and recruitment is currently underway for a [Hub Manager](#) to lead the implementation of the hub.