

Proposal for health conference

Title: How the natural environment can help meet the city's health priorities: A conference for Oxford's healthcare professionals and green space providers.

Aim: There is now clear evidence that local green spaces provide huge opportunities for improving residents' physical and mental health and wellbeing. Nationally, providers of outdoor spaces are seeking to collaborate with healthcare and public health organisations to maximise these benefits and deliver safe, cost-effective outcomes to meet health priorities and tackle inequalities. This conference provides an opportunity for this to happen locally.

EG South West Conference: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kTo-jl0r3ko>

When: Spring 2018 **Venue:** Rose Hill Community Centre, Ashurst Way, Oxford

Cost to delegates:

What will it cover?

- It will focus on how green spaces and nature can help contribute to meeting Oxford's health priorities by:
 - Providing an opportunity to present ideas and practical examples of green spaces and nature delivering benefits to physical and mental health
 - Providing examples of best practice
 - Allowing Oxford's health professionals to network with those providing outdoor space and running nature-based projects on their doorstep
- It will identify any pros and cons from the point of view of health professionals and where and how green space providers can help, by:
 - Looking at the capacity to deliver and the willingness to refer
 - Identify any obstacles to communities utilising their local green space or developing healthier lifestyles

Who is it aimed at?

Decision makers working in the health system and green space such as:

- GPs
- Health Commissioners
- Members of Health and Wellbeing Boards
- Social care providers
- Health service decision makers
- Green space providers (local authorities and trusts etc) and landowners
- Organisations running nature-based projects

Inspirational / Key note speaker suggestions

Dr. Dan Bloomfield is an expert on nature-based solutions to local health priorities. With support from NERC he runs a project (www.adoseofnature.net) at the University of Exeter to increase the number of 'green prescriptions' provided by GPs to patients with long-term conditions. <https://youtu.be/su7nUVCBsbs>

Cost to deliver: £500/800 Venue hire, refreshments including lunch, printed and on-line versions of materials, speakers.