

Additional information about the Green Health Partnership

The growing recognition in policy and practice of the value of the outdoors to improve public health has led to the development of the concept of Scotland's outdoors as Our Natural Health Service (ONHS), to help support and complement the NHS. Dundee was successful in bidding for funding from SNH to implement ONHS and they will do this through the development of a Green Health Partnership. ONHS action programme is to instigate a step change in how the natural environment can be used to improve people's health. The Dundee Green Health Partnership (DGHP) is one of four GHPs in Scotland piloting new ways to address health inequalities and mental health and physical well-being through the use of Nature-Based Interventions (NBIs). The DGHP is a partnership between the NHS Tayside, Dundee City Council, Universities, Third Sector Organisations including local NBI deliverers, and local communities. Dundee offers several NBIs on a weekly basis catering for a variety of different target groups (cancer, obesity, amputee, mental health, elderly, diabetes, military veterans and ex-uniform personnel, and people suffering from loneliness and social isolation). Dundee offers a variety of NBI programs which are readily available for patients to be signposted to. Signposting will be through a new referral pathway - the Green Health Prescription.

The Green Health Prescription has a set text asking the patient to call the Dial-OP service, run by Volunteer Dundee. Dial-OP holds a directory of accredited DGHP approved NBI programs. The patient will call the operator and submit the prescription reference number to receive a consultation to find a suitable NBI in close proximity to the patient.