

SOCIAL PRESCRIBING IN THE DUDLEY BOROUGH

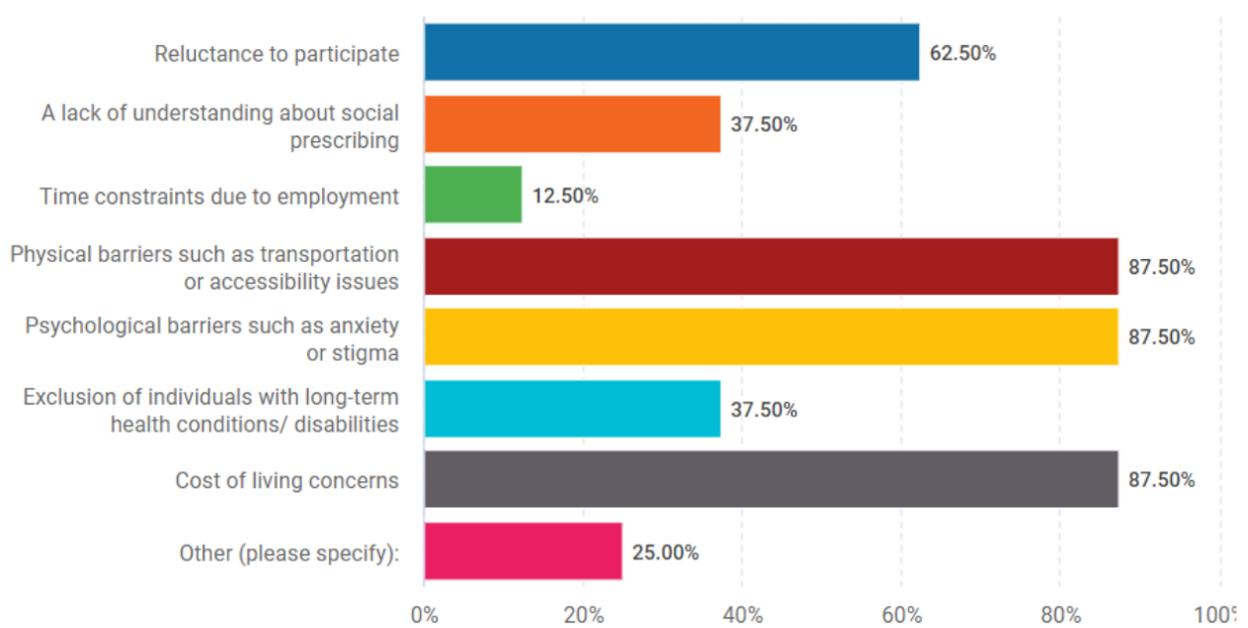


We reached out to Social Prescribers from different areas within the borough so they could share their views about their service.

We found a wide range of socioeconomic barriers for local people to access services that can help them. Social Prescribers provided suggestions to improve the experiences of the community.

HAVE YOU NOTICED SPECIFIC BARRIERS THAT YOUR CLIENTS ARE FACING MORE LATELY?

(Q : Have you noticed any specific barriers that your clients are encountering more frequently lately?)



Other :

"parents can be barriers and not being able to get to us or choosing something else over the appointment"
"Poor english skills"

RECURRING THEMES

(Q : What are some recurring themes in your area that you would like to highlight?)

- Further support for talking therapies
- Issues with GP access and making appointments
- Cost of living and housing crisis
- Transport costs and services, mobility difficulties
- Gaps in community services for working age people
- Social Isolation, anxiety and poor mental health
- Social purpose (such as) loss of health and retirement
- Young people require a stronger voice about their services and the decisions that are made

HAVE YOUR SAY

62%

OF SURVEYED SOCIAL PRESCRIBERS ARE CONFIDENT THEIR CLIENTS WOULD KNOW WHO TO REACH OUT TO WHEN LOOKING TO EXPRESS THEIR VIEWS ON HEALTH & SOCIAL CARE SERVICES

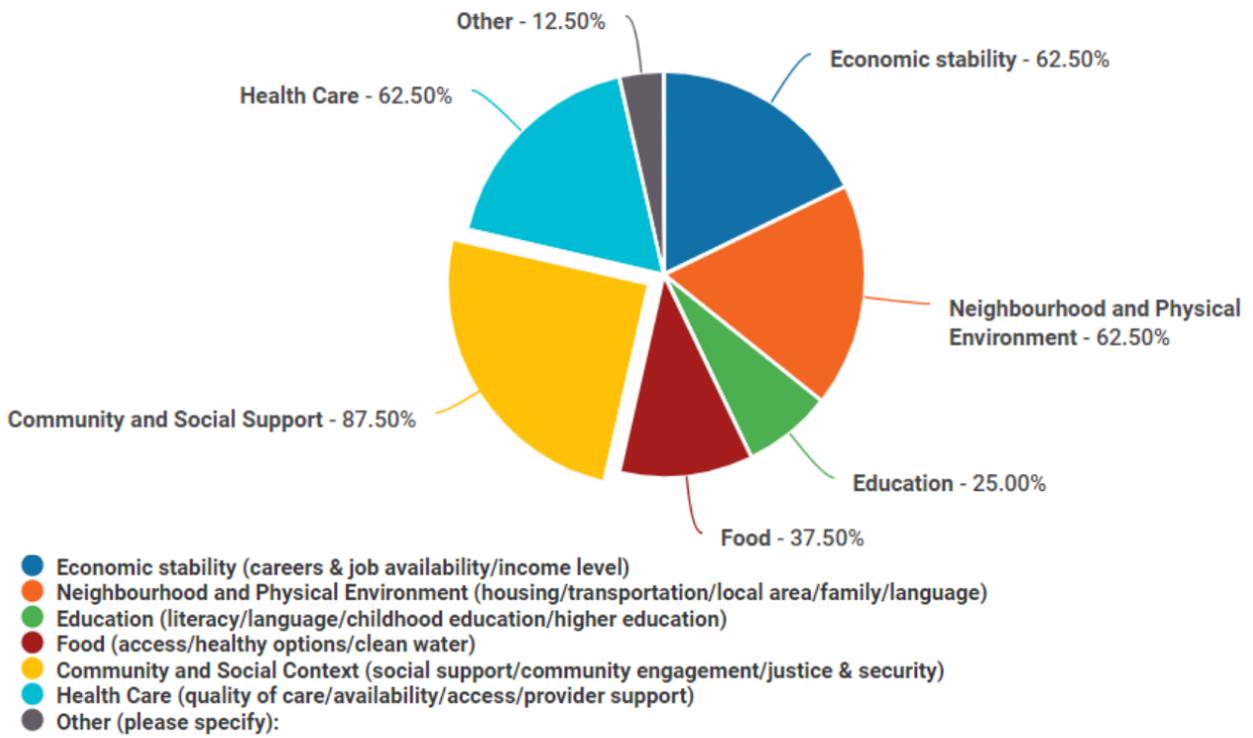
healthwatch
Dudley

Your health
and social care
champion



WHAT SOCIAL FACTORS DO YOU THINK CONTRIBUTE TO THESE BARRIERS?

(Q: Out of the following social determinants which do you think is more prevalent and contributes to these barriers?)



SUGGESTIONS FOR SERVICES THE COMMUNITY MAY BENEFIT FROM:

(Q: Have you identified any services that you believe the community could benefit from if they were provided?)

- More services for young people, social interactions and youth clubs
- Opportunities for free exercise and sport
- Easily available volunteering opportunities
- More befriending opportunities for speakers of various languages
- Digital inclusion projects
- Secondary care mental health support groups
- A bridge between the gap of referral and diagnosis where the wait is long such as mental health, CAMHs, autism and ADHD



80% of respondents reported receiving inappropriate referrals that require follow-up replies to ensure clients receive the right service.

HOW CAN HEALTHWATCH DUDLEY SUPPORT THESE VIEWS?

- Work closely with local authorities, healthcare providers and community organisations to ensure that people's views are prioritised and put into action
- Work actively with local initiative boards to support the implementation of services based on community input
- Continuously gather feedback from the community and share it with relevant stakeholders, facilitating positive changes
- Create and provide resources to help individuals navigate available services more easily

REFERENCES

- Survey shared with Social Prescribers in the Dudley Borough
- Views collected in August 2023
- Social determinants taken from *The Office for Health Improvement and Disparities*

healthwatch
Dudley

www.healthwatchdudley.co.uk

hello@healthwatchdudley.co.uk

03000 111 001

[@hwdudley](https://twitter.com/hwdudley) [@hwdudley](https://facebook.com/hwdudley) [@healthwatchdudley](https://instagram.com/healthwatchdudley)