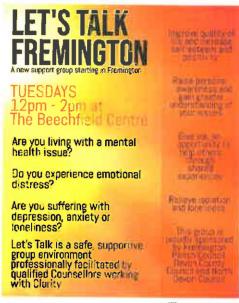


AUTHOR: Mrs Kate Graddock, Deputy Executive Officer

DATE: 12th October 2020

TITLE: Provision of Services from Clarity

FOR: Full Council



Members will recall that in June 2019, members commissioned a 'Let's Talk Fremington' service to be provided by Clarity¹ for a period of 46 weeks. The group officially started in December 2019 and it is now time to consider whether to continue with this service from January 2021.

The group meets each week (46 times a year) for 2 hours in The Beechfield Centre and at present the programme is partially funded by Fremington Parish Council, Devon County Council Cllr F Biederman and North Devon Councillors. The group is limited to 12 local individuals who need support for all manner of emotional and mental health issues. The group provides them with a safe and confidential forum to be able to explore their feelings and to gather help, support and direction from trained counsellors and others that attend.

To find out further information and/or join the Let's Talk Framington group, contact Unrity



From December 2020, Clarity will need to increase their costs to provide this service, this will mean the following:

Additional budget for continuation of service after December 2020	£975.00 plus approx. £130 travel expenses
Provision for 2021 – 2022	£3,450.00 (increase of £690.00 p/y) plus approx. £400 travel expenses

You will need to be mindful about simply cutting a service. These individuals have complex needs and to suddenly stop a service could be detrimental to their wellbeing, therefore a decision on whether to continue does need to be made at this Full Council meeting. Clarity has provided a confidential feedback report for councillors' information, which is attached for members only.

RECOMMENDATION:

- 1. For the Council to continue with the service until 31st March 2022.
- That budgetary provision is made from General Reserves to continue the service until 31st March 2021 and that the Council ensure there is sufficient budgetary provision in the 2021-2022 budget.

¹ A Barnstaple based mental health charity which offers a range of counselling and group therapy to people experiencing mental health or emotional issues.