

Collective Force Action Plan 2021-2023

Evaluation reports 2024

Introduction

The national [Collective Force for Health and Wellbeing](#) action plan is an innovative cross-sectoral partnership led by NHS Healthcare Improvement Scotland (HIS), the ALLIANCE and the Scottish Library and Information Council (SLIC.) It aims to maximise the role of libraries as drivers of health and care transformation by consolidating their role as the go-to place in their communities for:

- Quality assured health and wellbeing information
- Digital, information and health literacy skills and access
- Facilitated reading and storytelling for personal growth and therapeutic support
- Social interaction and empathic help and support – both face to face and digital

Collective Force was launched in February 2022, with the initial phase of the action plan covering 2021-2023.

The following two reports highlight the impact of the *Collective Force* action plan in developing self-management and shared decision-making in the community through the support of libraries from April 2022 to end of 2023. They aim to give key decision-makers and policy leads a picture of the value and impact that libraries are delivering on the NHS reform goals of prevention, early intervention and citizen empowerment.

Report 1: A logic model approach to evaluating impact of the Collective Force action plan

- highlights positive outcomes that have already been achieved in the short term, and how foundations have been laid for longer term outcomes.



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Report 2: Enriching lives through libraries | SLIC Collective Force Study

- brings together a wealth of qualitative examples from library users of how support from libraries has directly helped their physical, mental and emotional health.



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Force Impact Paper

Together these reports provide a rich and far-reaching picture of the vital role of libraries in people's wellbeing and in building healthy, resilient communities. The next stage is to build on this foundation to strengthen awareness of the library service offer among health and care professionals and among senior decision-makers within service delivery and at policy level.

This will help use to move together into the next phase of work to realise in full the commitment within *Collective Force* to embedding partnership across health, library and third sectors. This will support a holistic approach to all aspects of people's health and wellbeing and will help to ensure that community resources are fully mobilised to augment and complement the work of the health sector.