

## APPENDIX 2

Further Information

A unique new concept in dementia care (believed to be unique in the Country) has been opened in Beeston. **The Studio**, at Padge Road, is essentially an art centre, where people with dementia can try out new skills or practise familiar leisure activities with support. With provision for music making and singing, exercise and dance, theatre and all forms of visual and plastic arts, The Studio is a place for people to 'connect and create', supported by professional ArtsCare Assistants, while carers have a well-earned break.

A committee of local dementia experts, (including Professor Justine Schneider a part time professor at Nottingham University specialising in this field, and Catherine Gordon one of two consultants in the Young Onset Dementia service in Nottinghamshire) and family carers developed and planned **The Studio**, forming a non-profit Community Interest Company in 2019. **The Studio's** location, on an industrial estate at Padge Road, Beeston, has its own parking space and a No. 18 bus stop only minutes away on Beacon Road.

**The Studio's** team of ArtsCare Assistants is led by professional artists Emma Wass and Sarah Griffiths-Wright, who devise and lead a varied programme of individual and group-based creative pursuits tailored to participants' abilities and interests. Everyone will be fully assessed at the outset but no previous artistic experience is required; the principle is that human beings are all creative. For example, Emma is trained in the Timeslips technique, a storytelling approach that uses the inspiration of all present to weave a narrative. This shows powerfully that people with memory problems can still use their imaginations.

Carers do not have to accompany people with dementia to every session. The 3 hour sessions (morning or afternoon) at **The Studio** cost £35, including a light lunch and refreshments.

This is a unique and valuable new service for people with dementia in our area. Broxtowe is fortunate to have people like those who formed the CIC living within the community, who are entrepreneurial and courageous enough to take the financial risks involved in setting up such a venture.

As it is this Council's vision to support people to live well with dementia, and in particular recognising that carers for people with dementia have little support, the council has an opportunity to partner with the project to support its success in its early days.

As cost is often a barrier (according to the experts mentioned above) to accessing this sort of service, it is suggested that a pilot "voucher" system benefitting either carers and those they care for or those living with a dementia diagnosis who may be on their own and who may benefit from social contact in this particular context, be set up funded initially from contributions from

£5,000 (earmarked from the grants budget)

£5,000 from the HRA (earmarked for tenants and their carers who may be living with dementia)

£5,000 from the existing mental health budget

To fund vouchers which would be distributed through a clinical referral pathway to those who might most benefit from this opportunity, either carer or patient.

The details of the scheme would be delegated to the Chief Executive to agree in consultation with the chair and Vice Chair of the Leisure and Health Committee.