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# **Social Prescribing Link Worker**

## **Job Description**

**Responsible to:** Live Well Wakefield Coordinator

**Responsible for:** No line management responsibilities

**Salary:** £28,412 per year

**Hours:** 37.5 hours per week

**Holidays:** 28 days + bank holidays

**Employing Body:** Nova Wakefield District Limited

**Place of Work:** Wakefield

**Type of Contract:** Fixed term to March 2027

### **Job purpose**

* Work with stakeholders to identify and support vulnerable patients experiencing health inequalities and at risk of reduced health and independence.
* To lead on the development of social prescribing initiatives within a specified primary care network (PCN).
* Work with patients one-to-one to provide information, advice and support for their non-medical needs to improve their health and wellbeing.
* Work in a multi-disciplinary environment, providing collaborative care to PCN patients between the voluntary and community, health and social care, and primary care sectors.

### **Main Duties and Responsibilities**

**Client focused**

* Manage a large caseload, undertaking reviews with clients referred from a PCN assessing their needs and setting health and wellbeing goals.
* Provide personalised care to clients, respecting equality and diversity to meet their non-medical needs.
* Facilitate empowerment and independence by supporting clients to make their own informed decisions and address social barriers.
* Advocate on behalf of clients to ensure best outcomes in relation to long term health and wellbeing.

**Partnerships**

* Work collaboratively with local VCSE, health and social care, and primary care organisations, as part of multidisciplinary teams, supporting the development of neighbourhood working.
* Establish relationships with primary care colleagues and other organisations to develop, and support a range of services and community activities for adults, to promote health and wellbeing.
* Takes an active role in projects aimed at improving the health and wellbeing outcomes for specific groups within the community.
* Build and maintain knowledge on local provision to help promote to clients and others.

**Service development**

* Take responsibility for embedding social prescribing within neighbourhood health approaches.
* Deliver promotional activities at a range of events, and forums to a range of audiences to deliver the aims of the service and advocate for the needs of local adults.
* Seeks new and innovative approaches to providing high quality, needs led services.
* Record, monitor, evaluate and analyse outcomes to ensure that targets are being met, and service development needs are identified.
* Identify gaps in community support for clients and look to address these through partnership working and system intelligence sharing.

**Communicating and influencing**

* Confidently and competently adapt written and oral communication to meet the needs of the intended audience.
* Communicate effectively utilising diplomacy and influencing skills to achieve positive outcomes and the service.
* Use skills such as motivational interviewing to promote behaviour change and ownership of own health and wellbeing.

**Administration**

* Maintains accurate and timely records, using a variety of platforms including SystmOne in line with service policy.
* Produces health, wellbeing, and service information appropriate to differing audiences.
* Develop and maintain a database of contacts and information relevant to the role, acting as a resource for relevant organisations.
* Produce regular reports and case studies to support service evaluation.

**Personal Development**

* Takes responsibility for own continuing professional development.
* Embraces change and new challenges with a positive attitude.

### **Expectations**

1. To attend and contribute to supervision, appraisal process, staff wellbeing events, staff training and any other training identified as appropriate for the role.
2. To ensure that all responsibilities and activities within this post are consistent with the terms and spirit of Nova's Equal Opportunities policy.
3. Report any concerns regarding the safety or wellbeing of children, adult service users, members of their families etc., in accordance with Policy.
4. Understand personal responsibilities with regards to data quality for any information which they create, use or process in accordance with the Data Protection Act 1998.
5. To travel to meetings throughout Wakefield District and beyond.
6. To occasionally work unsociable hours, e.g. attending evening or weekend meetings.
7. The nature of the post will require flexibility in undertaking the role and will require the post holder to undertake other duties that are compatible with the nature and grade of this post.
8. To contribute towards maintaining Nova's commitment to environmental sustainability.

*This is not a final and complete statement of the duties attached to this post which may need to be amended from time to time in accordance with the changing needs of Nova.*

## **Person Specification**

### **Qualifications and Training**

Essential Criteria

* Educated to degree level or equivalent competence/experience.
* Evidence of Continued Professional Development (CPD).

Desirable Criteria

* Educated to degree level in a field related to health and social care.

### **Experience**

Essential Criteria

* Experience of undertaking direct work with people to help improve health and wellbeing.
* Experience of working with communities of interest, individuals, or groups.
* Experience of building effective working relationships.
* Experience of multi-disciplinary team working.
* Experience in managing a caseload and prioritising need.

Desirable Criteria

* Experience of working with or within general practice.
* Experience of working with or within a social prescribing service.
* Experience of local needs assessment within communities.
* Experience of using case management systems e.g. SystmOne.
* Experience in writing reports, and case studies.

### **Skills and Knowledge**

Essential Criteria

* An understanding of health and social care issues for vulnerable adults and how these relate to health inequalities.
* An understanding of Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) working.
* An understanding of the importance of confidentiality and safeguarding.
* Good interpersonal, oral and written communication, and presentation skills.
* Ability to engage, motivate, and create good working relationships with a variety people.
* Good computer literacy and keyboard skills.
* Excellent organisational skills.
* Ability to manage time effectively, prioritise and work under pressure to meet deadlines.
* Ability to maintain accurate and concise records.

Desirable Criteria

* Demonstrates knowledge and understanding of national and local health and primary care priorities.
* Knowledge of Primary Care Networks and non-clinical roles.
* Knowledge of local health and wellbeing services and support.
* Understanding of the NHS and Social Care.
* Knowledge of motivational interviewing and behaviour change techniques.
* Ability to recognise, assess and deal with potential risk in relation to client and personal safety.
* Ability to develop project work with partners.

### **Other**

Essential Criteria

* A satisfactory sickness record over the previous 2 years (subject to the need to act with fairness and equality of opportunity, particularly where the sickness is related to a disability and/or pregnancy).
* Ability to work independently under own initiative, but also to be a proactive and willing team member.
* Ability to drive, access to own vehicle, and willingness to travel and work across various locations within the Wakefield District.
* Ability and willingness to work flexibly to meet the needs of the service, including occasional evening/weekend.