**The ICB (Newcastle Place) are seeking expressions of Interest and quotes required for this pilot project –**

**Social Prescriber Link Worker (SPLW) in Newcastle Emergency Department (ED)**

**RVI Emergency Department Social Prescribing Link Workers**

Many individuals present at The Emergency Department (ED) but do not necessarily meet the thresholds for clinical assessment or clinical intervention. They often present with issues driven by social crisis and/or emotional distress and many of these individuals are also frequent attenders to ED.

The aim is for the Link Worker to see a person quickly within the ED following initial triage to offer advice and a compassionate listening ear in the immediate situation with follow up thereafter if required. The intention would be that this initiative reduces widely acknowledged pressures within ED, in particular 12 hour waits. This approach would free up clinical capacity in services such as Psychiatric Liaison who currently are the referral route for anyone presenting to ED with mental health problems regardless of how mild, essentially meaning those requiring clinical assessment are seen more rapidly too, and long waits are avoided.

**Overview of Social Prescribing Link Worker Role/Function**

The link Worker will carry out an initial assessment, and with consent and wherever possible use collateral information to avoid asking repetitive questions to understand what the needs of the person are and what that person wants. During the initial assessment a robust risk management & risk escalation process will be followed to ensure the person receives the most appropriate support. The Link Worker will help the person identify the issues that are important to them, promote confidence building, acknowledge their strengths and be someone who can respond to changes in individual circumstances.

Together, they develop a plan of support which includes:

• Tools and strategies to manage mental health e.g. DBT skills, graded exposure, anxiety and low mood management, improved sleep patterns, anger management

• Accessing specialist support around housing, finances, substance misuse, healthy lifestyle

• Introductions to supportive, social networks in their community (e.g. ReCoCo)

• Develop resilience to reduce reliance on services

**Evaluation and Measuring Impact/Outcomes**

We believe that these Link workers would:

• Reduce 12hr waits in A&E (from arrival to departure)

• Reduce long length of stay (in line with the NHS 60/90+ day planning metric)

• Reducing the number of people occupying beds who are clinically ready for discharge

• Eliminate Out of Area Placements

During this period activity information would be collected and collated for the Newcastle population including:

• Number of referrals in ED

• Number of people who have received 1:1 support

• Number of signposts

**What we are looking for –**

* **Expressions of interest to provide 1 FTE Social Prescribing Link Worker in the emergency department at Newcastle Hospitals (RVI) for a period of 12 months (please note that this is non-recurrent funding)**
* **A quote for providing this service**
* **An established organisation who can evidence experience in social prescribing**
* **An organisation who can provide supervision and peer support for the role**
* **An organisation who will work alongside other similar initiatives taking place at Newcastle Hospitals such as the Mental Health Social Prescribing service**
* **An organisation who will help to develop this service alongside Newcastle Hospitals, the ICB and wider Collaborative Newcastle partners**

**IF YOUR ORGANISATION IS INTERESTED IN DELIVERING THIS INITIATIVE PLEASE COMPLETE THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM BELOW ALONG WITH A QUOTE FOR THE WORK**

**Expressions of Interest**

**Social Prescriber Link Worker (SPLW) in Newcastle Emergency Department (ED)**

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| Name of Organisation |  |
| Name |  |
| Telephone Number |  |
| Email address |  |
| Please provide a summary of the work your organisation delivers |  |
| Please provide a summary of your experience to deliver this type of work |  |
| Quote (please include any on-costs / equipment costs) |  |

Please return this to form F.A.O Nicola Wakeling / Michelle Crawford at –

[nencicb-ng.collaborativenewcastle@nhs.net](mailto:nencicb-ng.collaborativenewcastle@nhs.net)

Deadline: Wednesday 15th February 2023