

# Social Prescribing Link Worker – Grade 8-9

## Job purpose

Social prescribing empowers people to take control of their health and wellbeing through referral to non-medical 'link workers' who give time, focus on 'what matters to me' and take a holistic approach, connecting people to community groups and statutory services for practical and emotional support. Link workers support existing groups to be accessible and sustainable and help people to start new community groups, working collaboratively with all local partners.

Social prescribing can help to strengthen community resilience, personal resilience, and reduces health inequalities by addressing the wider determinants of health, such as debt, poor housing and physical inactivity, by increasing people's active involvement with their local communities. It particularly works for people with long-term conditions (including support for mental health), for people who are lonely or isolated, or have complex social needs which affect their wellbeing.

Social Prescribing has a direct focus on early intervention and prevention feeding directly into the councils Well outcome.

This role is based within Adults & Health, Community Plus – Local Integrated Partnerships. Find out more about [working for Kirklees](#).

## Key areas of responsibility

- Take referrals from a wide range of agencies, working with GP practices within primary care networks, pharmacies, multi-disciplinary teams, hospital discharge teams, allied health professionals, fire service, police, job centres, social care services, housing associations, and voluntary, community and social enterprise (VCSE) organisations
- Provide personalised support to individuals, their families and carers to take control of their wellbeing, live independently and improve their health outcomes. Develop trusting relationships by giving people time and focus on what matters to them
- Co-produce a personalised support plan to improve health and wellbeing, introducing or reconnecting people to community groups and statutory services.
- Managing and prioritising caseload, in accordance with the needs, priorities and any urgent support required by individuals on the caseload. Strong awareness and understanding of when it is appropriate or necessary to refer people back to other health professionals/agencies, when what the person needs is beyond the scope of the link worker role – e.g. when there is a mental health need requiring a qualified practitioner.
- Work sensitively with people, their families and carers to capture key information, enabling tracking of the impact of social prescribing on their health and wellbeing.
- Work closely with the voluntary and community sector, draw on and help to increase the strengths and capacities of local communities, enabling local VCSE organisations and community groups to receive social prescribing referrals

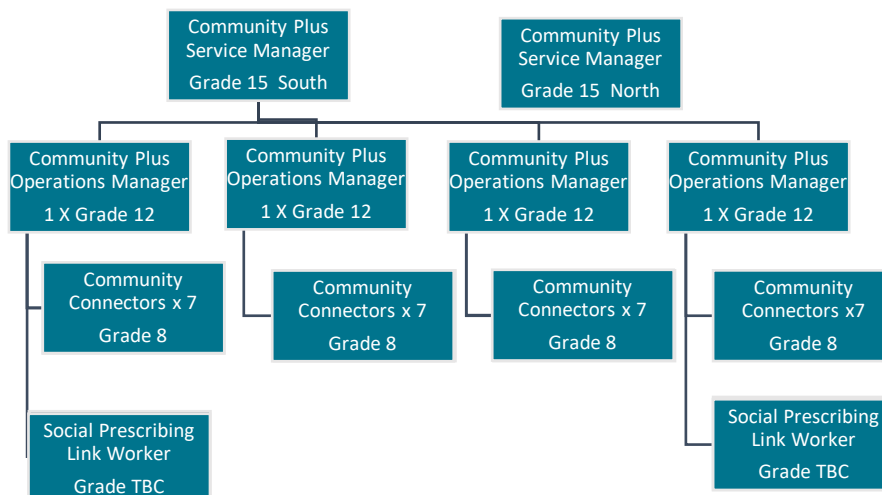
- Work with commissioners and local partners to identify unmet needs within the community and gaps in community provision.
- Champion Social Prescribing and support educating non-clinical and clinical staff within their PCN multi-disciplinary teams on what other services are available within the community and how and when patients can access them. This may include verbal or written advice and guidance.
- Work as part of the healthcare team to seek feedback, continually improve the service and contribute to business planning
- Be committed to their own personal development and proactive in seeking opportunities for CPD

<b>• Knowledge, qualifications, skills and experience</b>	<b>Shortlisting criteria</b>
Experience of using coaching techniques to help people take control of their health and well-being	Essential
Experience of using an asset and strength-based approach to support individuals and communities	Essential
Experience of supporting people, their families and carers in a related role (including unpaid work)	Essential
Experience of partnership/collaborative working and of building relationships across a variety of organisations	Essential
Understanding of the wider determinants of health, including social, economic and environmental factors and their impact on communities, individuals, their families and carers	Essential
Knowledge of the personalised care approach	Desirable
Experience of working with the voluntary and community sector and of using community development approaches	Essential
Presents information effectively (informative, interesting and persuasive) to a range of audiences	Essential
Ability to organise, plan and prioritise own workload including when under pressure and meeting deadlines	
Up to date IT skills, knowledge and experience of using MS office applications including Teams and Outlook.	Essential
Willingness to work flexible hours, including evenings and weekends on occasion	Essential
Health Coaching or Motivational Interviewing qualification	Essential
Accepts an enhanced DBS check is required. Please note that a conviction may not exclude candidates from appointment but will be considered as part of the recruitment process.	Desirable

To progress to Grade 9, you will need to complete or currently hold Level 3 Accredited Training in Social Prescribing.

You will also need to demonstrate how you have provided additional capacity, guidance and leadership to colleagues to support PCN initiatives and priorities. This will include providing leadership on the development of project activities, the improvement and implementation of methods used to measure the outcomes of social prescribing interventions and additional support to colleagues to implement good practice and improved methods across PCN's.

## Position of job in organisational structure



## Behaviours and expectations

The right behaviours and attitudes are as important to us as the skills you bring to the job. We expect all our employees to demonstrate the following behaviours:

- Positive
- Honesty
- Respectful
- Flexible
- Communicative
- Supportive

You will also promote and be a role model of the Council's expectations of a New Council Employee within the organisation. This role is at level 2. Find out more about [Council Behaviours and Expectations](#).

## General information

See your responsibilities related to [Safeguarding](#).

This Job Profile is intended to provide an understanding and appreciation of the responsibilities of this particular job. It is not possible to specify every detail and we expect you to work flexibly within your skills, knowledge, experience and grade of this job.

## For Office Use Only:

Job Category		Grading ID	
Job ID		Last Updated	
Job Focus		Career Progression	

## Contractual Variants

DBS Category	Enhanced	DBS Type	
Health Check		Politically Restricted	N/A
24/7 working	N/A	Public Holidays	N/A
Night Working	N/A	Alternating Pattern	N/A
Standby	N/A	Other	N/A
Checked by HR	Michael Roberts		