

Darlington PCN:

Community Mental Health Care Coordinator Tender

Organisational Background

Darlington Primary Care Network (PCN) is the largest PCN in the North-East, with 11 practices and approximately 114,000 registered patients. To continue bringing general practices together, Darlington PCN work collaboratively at scale to build on the sustainability of GP practices by supporting financial and resource pressures and seeking opportunities for a collective response to political pressure on service provision. Our mission is to ***"empower innovation in primary care to improve access, enhance patient experiences, and reduce health disparities in Darlington"***.

Tender Information

Darlington PCN is working to deliver improved access to mental health and wellbeing support for people living within Darlington (adults and children). Recognising the vital role of the voluntary, community, and social enterprise (VCSE) in system transformation, innovation, and integration through care planning and supporting patient shift towards prevention and self-care, Darlington PCN seeks to support the provision of a coordinated outreach community support offer.

Tender Aim:

To improve access to community mental health and wellbeing services for Darlington's population.

Tender Objectives:

- Supporting participants in accessing care and support for their mental health and wellbeing.
- Providing opportunities for participants to develop friendships and a sense of belonging and to build knowledge, skills, and confidence.
- Providing a single community access point for participants (walk-in and bookable appointments).
- Providing participants with individual assessments of need using shared decision-making to support them in managing their own needs/care through answering queries, making/managing appointments (attending appointments where needed/appropriate), and ensuring good quality written/verbal information is available based on individual participant understanding.
- Preparing a holistic plan that combines the participant's identified care and support based on what matters to the person. (see supporting information regarding care planning).
- Referring participants to Social Prescribers, Health and Wellbeing Coaches, and/or other VCSE organisations to take up:
 - Motivation/coaching health and wellbeing sessions
 - Training/education courses
 - Employment
 - Benefits and personal health budgets

Tender Outcomes:

- To reduce pressure on health and care services through non-medical community-based prescribing.
- To identify gaps in community mental health provision.
- To improve knowledge and understanding of community mental health provision across Darlington.
- To share learning with key stakeholders.

Funding Information

This tender opportunity covers the employment costs of two Community Mental Health Care Coordinators. Applications can be made for a minimum of a part-time employee working 18 hours and up to two full-time employees working 37.5 hours each. Shared bids are encouraged to maximise operational delivery; however, all applications will be considered.

Funding Breakdown:

- Funding covers employment costs only, Darlington PCN cannot cover management costs or tangible assets.
- Funding is secured through the NHS England Network Contract Directed Enhanced Service (DES) under the additional roles reimbursement scheme (ARRS), which covers the financial year from 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025. While funding has yet to be confirmed after this date, NHS England have encouraged PCNs to continue recruitment of these roles.
- Up to £35,301 per full-time Community Mental Health Care Coordinator, which includes employer oncosts (employer national insurance and pension contributions [please note, employees will not be eligible for NHS pension but the scheme the employer provides. Sickness/maternity costs will also be covered according to the scheme the employer provides]).
- Funding is not provided upfront; invoices must be submitted to Darlington PCN monthly by a specified deadline (please note payment will be a month in arrears).
- Community Mental Health Care Coordinators will have access to national care coordinator training to support and develop their role.

Please note that Darlington PCN takes no responsibility for the recruitment or HR/management of employees appointed but does reserve the right to assess suitability if concerns are raised and withdraw the post's funding if deemed inappropriate.

Who Can Apply

Applications can be submitted by VCSE organisations based in Darlington.

Monitoring

The VCSE organisation(s) and Community Mental Health Care Coordinator(s) will meet with the PCN quarterly (and at other times as required) to review the performance and delivery of the service.

Two weeks prior to each quarterly review, the VCSE organisation(s) will ensure a quarterly key performance indicator (KPI) data report is emailed to the PCN Business Manager. KPI to be discussed/agreed upon at the next stage of the tender.

Please note, to support the capture of data, Darlington's commissioned JOY management system must be used – more information to follow.

How to apply

Applications should be made via the Darlington PCN website from 20th December 2024 <https://www.darlingtonpcn.co.uk/>

Deadline: 21.02.2025

Enquiries:

If you have any queries or require any support in completing this form, please contact darlington.pcn@nhs.net

Supporting Information:

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/PRN01583-network-contract-des-spec-24-25-pcn-requirements-entitlements.pdf>

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/publication/workforce-development-framework-for-care-co-ordinators/>

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/personalisedcare/supporting-health-and-care-staff-to-deliver-personalised-care/personalised-care-institute/>

<https://www.england.nhs.uk/personalisedcare/pcsp/>

Thank you, Darlington PCN looks forward to reading your tender proposal.