NHS Highland
Community Link Worker Service

The Community Link Worker (CLW) service, which is available to patients who are 18 years of age and over, can offer:

- Short term social prescribing support
- Support and information on a wide range of social issues that can impact on health and wellbeing
- Between 1 ~ 8 sessions

Some examples of appropriate referral reasons:

- Bereavement
- Carer/ caring responsibilities
- Alcohol and/ or drug use
- Physical activity
- Smoking
- Weight Management
- Housing issues
- Long-term conditions
- Learning difficulties/ disability
- Loneliness and isolation
- Social isolation
- Marginalised groups
- Low to moderate mental health needs
- Dementia
- Relationship issues
- Money worries
- Employment and learning

Some examples of inappropriate referral reasons:

- Patients under the age of 18 years old
- Patients who are experiencing symptoms of acute physical and/ or mental illness
- Patients at active risk of suicide or self-harming behaviours
- Patients where it is clear that they are unable to make changes to their lives at present
- Patients requiring home visits

Who can make are referral to a CLW?

- GPs
- Practice Nurses
- Reception Team
- Practice Managers
- Multi-disciplinary Team Members attached to the practice

Risk Assessment

All referrals to the CLW service should be risk assessed by the referrer and any issues that may impact on safety communicated to the CLW.

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