## **Seeking a consultant who can support the Early Intervention in Psychosis Advisory Group**

## **Healthcare Improvement Scotland, in partnership with a range of organisations is leading a project which is seeking a consultant to Co-chair the Early Intervention in Psychosis Advisory Group. The consultant will be required to have lived experience of psychosis.**

**Background**

Healthcare Improvement Scotland is leading a piece of work to improve access to early care and support for people experiencing psychosis. We believe that improvements in care and support will only be possible when we understand people’s experiences of the care and support we are trying to improve. We are involving people with lived experience in informing and influencing this programme of work, but we have also want to appoint a co-chair to jointly spearhead it.

Due to the pandemic restrictions, our work on early intervention in psychosis was paused but we are now recommencing and we are in a position to appoint a consultant to co-chair to the advisory group, initially until the end of March 2021. The co-chair will be a person who has experience of psychosis, who is confident and comfortable to chair meetings. They will work alongside and be supported by another co-chair who comes from a health service background, along with a quality improvement team at HIS.

The advisory group includes people from health and social care, civil service, academia and third sector. There is also a reference group of people with lived experience of mental illness, third sector organisations representing the interests of those experiencing mental ill health, and third sector service providers. The co-chair will also link closely with the reference group so that they are able to hear directly from the lived experiences of this wider group and their views on the improvement work being undertaken.

The advisory group co-chairs will work together to facilitate the meetings of the group, ensuring all voices are respectfully heard and decisions taken on required actions to achieve improvements in services for people experiencing psychosis. Please see attached the terms of reference of the group*.*

**Project overview and deliverables**

* To work with Healthcare Improvement Scotland and VOX Scotland (who the consultant’s contract will be with) to help ensure we meet our programme’s objectives.
* To co-chair the advisory group meetings, decide how best to plan, prepare and maintain the focus and smooth running of the meetings.
* To work with the other co-chair to enable the advisory group to offer leadership in achieving programme outcomes through respectful challenge and consensus.
* To represent and promote the advisory group/HIS at other meetings as appropriate.
* To champion the programme and undertake activities as required to promote the work of the group.

**Essential skills, experience and qualities**

* Experience of psychosis in Scotland.
* Drive and passion to lead discussions on improving outcomes for people experiencing psychosis through evidence based earlier interventions.
* Confident communicator who is open, honest and receptive to others.
* Prepared to constructively and respectfully challenge whilst remaining objective.
* Commitment to tackling health inequalities, eliminating discrimination and advancing equality in care and support improvements being made.
* Experience in chairing meetings.

**Desirable skills, experience and qualities**

* Experience in co-produced work.
* Ability to facilitate to achieve consensual agreement on actions/way forward.
* Experience of contributing to working groups.
* Broad understanding of health and social care in Scotland.

**Time commitments and requirements**

* **Attendance at two EIP advisory meetings (taking place online) – dates to be confirmed (November 2020/February 2021).**
* **An expected three days (estimated 21 hours) per month between November 2020 and the end of March 2021.**
* **Preparation for meetings and attending briefing sessions, as appropriate.**
* **Time with HIS staff to discuss their role and what support may be required.**
* Providing advice and consultancy on the overall People with Lived Experience component of the EIP work, as appropriate.

**Remuneration**

* This role will be remunerated at £400 per day up to a total of £6,000 until the end of March 2021

**How do I apply?**

* Consultants should complete the form below by the **9Th November** and be available to attend an online/Zoom interview on the 12th of November (Please note work will commence immediately thereafter). Please email responses to Wendy McAuslan **wmcauslan@mentalhealth.org.uk**

Thank you for your interest in the role of co-chair of the advisory group for early intervention in psychosis. Please answer the following questions (in no more than 2000 words) to help us understand your drive and passion to take on this role, and help bring about improvements in outcomes for people experiencing psychosis.

Your answers will be confidential and shared anonymously with our shortlisting panel. Please get in touch with Wendy McAuslan by emailing wmcauslan@mentalhealth.org.uk if you have any questions regarding any of the above.

Please note we will try and support and signpost you if you need advice on how this role on may affect your benefits.

* Full Name
* Email Address *\**
* Contact number *\**

1. Why do you want to be co-chair of the advisory group on early intervention in psychosis?

2. What skills, experience and qualities can you bring?

3. Tell us about any employment or volunteering that you have done that might be relevant to this role?

4. Is there any other information that you want to tell us in support of your application?