



## Value for Money – Nominee

### Lancashire Women’s Centre (Sub-Contractor- ANWC)



Lancashire Women’s Centre are a sub-contractor operating a gender specific ‘one stop shop’ model to all CFO3 women participants irrelevant of barriers or life experience across Lancashire. Their contractual requirements are to enroll, offer voluntary work and support women participants into employment, they go ‘above and beyond’ their contractual requirements on an ongoing basis. Their delivery model is recognised as a highly effective route to supporting women to effectively engage in CFO3 activity and move into employment. All CFO3 activity is delivered within their network of accessible female-only centres enabling participant’s unlimited access to a wide range of complementary services that do not form part of their contractual delivery but supports participants into sustainable outcomes. The range of services offered are:

- Money and Benefit advice (including FCA authorised debt counselling)
- Volunteering- from administration to therapy placement hours.
- Family work – intensive support for some of the most troubled families.



- Therapy – from person centred counselling, CBT, HIT and PWP to their MIND Fit programme (group therapy about confidence and self- esteem).
- Training – accredited courses to therapy through arts to public speaking, to counselling.
- Employability – work clubs, mentoring and intensive employability support.
- Training - as a Mentor and work on the project/area of work they are most interested in.
- Digital Support – across Lancashire matched to a participant's needs and wants.
- Body fit – these are easy to access 'free' exercise activities across the centres from Walk fit, Tone fit (easier levels) to Zumba and Box fit.

In addition to providing extra services to CFO participants, LWC have also found value in new ways of working alongside Achieve Case Managers (ACM) to enable important outcomes to be achieved, they recognised that the a proportion of their case workers were new to the role and acknowledged that ANWC case managers were very experienced so introduced a 'buddying' system for both organisations enabling peers to support each other by sharing experiences, offering advice and providing a sounding board for ideas and problems. The strength of this 'buddying' system is that it takes the view that both partners can offer each support and opportunities to learn whatever role they fulfil. LWC case workers attend Achieve Team Meetings once a quarter strengthening the relationships between both organisations. LWC also asked to be actively involved in promoting the 'open awards' that Achieve deliver to participants with the desired outcome being to expand the skills and improve the knowledge of their Case workers. They attended a one day 'train the trainer' workshop delivered by ANWC case managers, as the teams learned and grew with each other in an internal knowledge-sharing environment, a sense of support and wellbeing enhanced team dynamics. The quality of the management of relationships between LWC case workers and Achieve case managers is paramount to project outcomes and the extra 'mile' that LWC go in enabling both organisations to share rewards that enhance value for money for all the stakeholders.