#### Conversations with Vulnerable People

## 'Our priority is your welfare'



#### Norwich Foodbank vision

We want to have enough resources (food, volunteers, money) and relationships with referral
partners to ensure those who need help can access it.

 We want to better understand why people need our help and involve them in informing research and shaping current and future projects.

• We want to speak to those who aren't heard and, as part of the Trussell Trust, to engage with our local and wider community in order to change minds, change communities and change policy.



#### Looking after ourselves and each other

#### Emotional Health

- Our emotional health can be seen on a scale like our physical health
- We can usually deal with difficult situations and challenges when our emotional health is stronger
- We know our physical health can be impacted but our emotional health and wellbeing can impact us greatly also



# Language to help understand where someone is on the emotional scale

#### Struggling to cope

- I'll try to
- I'll see if I can
- I can't
- I'm not sure
- I don't know how
- It's hard to

#### Coping well

- I will
- I can
- I'm going to
- I'm looking forward to
- I want to
- I'll do that



## **Active Listening**

 Active listening is a communication skill that involves paying close attention to what someone is saying and then reflecting back to them. It's a way to show that you're engaged in the conversation and understand the speaker's point of view.



## **Active Listening**

Sometimes the act of listening becomes a barrier

- We start to listen
- We then rehearse in our minds what we want to say
- We wait for the speaker to pause before we talk to make our point



# The listening wheel

- Open Questions
- Reacting
- Short words of Encouragement
- Clarifying
- Reflecting
- Summarising



#### **Unconscious Bias**

• Refers to the unconscious associations and beliefs that we all have, that lead to positive or negative inclinations towards or against other people, groups or communities.



#### Ending Conversations sensitively and effectively

 Ending conversations can be challenging for both us and the person themselves

#### For us:

- We may lack confidence in how to bring conversations to a close with sensitivity
- We may worry about the person and what might happen next
- The person might keep returning to the topic

#### For them:

- They may feel listened to and not want the feeling to end
- They might not know how to end the conversation
- They may be alone with their problems or feelings



#### The unexpected

 How to deal with unexpected questions or situations?



## Signposting

 There may be times when you need to let callers know about other services that can offer them practical or emotional support. This section explains when and how to signpost a caller and what services you can suggest to them



#### **NCAN**

#### NCAN referral form

#### Personal Details

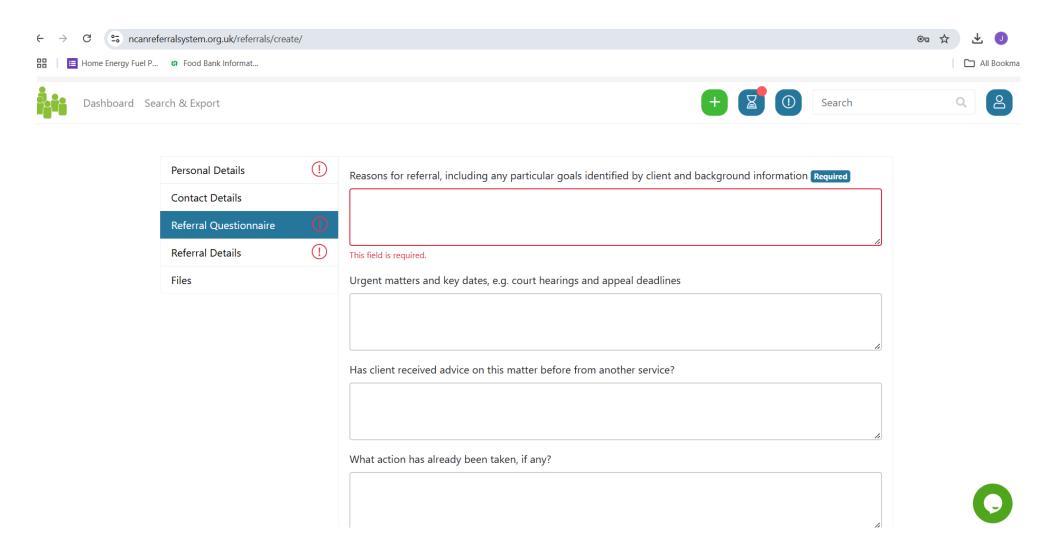
*REQUIRED			
Title			
*First Name		*Last Name	
Date of Birth		_	
		Contact Details	
•Main Contact Nu	ımber		
Permission to leav	ve Voicemail?		
Permission to leav	ve Text message?		
	ū		<b>40</b>
*Address			_ *Post code
_			-
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01	No fixed abode		
Email Address			
	Re	ferral Questionnaire	
*Reasons for refe	rral, including any partic	ular goals identified by cli	ent and background information.
Urgent matters a	nd key dates, e.g. court h	earings and anneal dead	ines
orgent matters at	na ney autes, eigi coure ii	carrigo ana appear acaa	
			_
Has client receive	d advice on this matter b	efore from another servi	ce?

What action has already been taken, if any?
Please also include food vouchers given and/or home energy payments.
Any risks the advisor should be aware of?
Does the client have any communication needs or are there any other arrangements that need to be made jn order for the service to be accessible? E.g. interpreters or easy <u>read</u> information.
Referral Details
*Is this an urgent referral? Yes   No  No  No  No  No  No  No  No  No  N
*Issues please select all that apply.
Advocacy□, Befriending□, Child Protection□, Community Care & Health□, Consumer Rights□,
Crime□, Debt□, Discrimination□, Domestic Abuse□, Education□, Employment□, Equality□, Family
Financial Capability□, Housing□, Immigration□, Loneliness & Social Isolation□, Mental Health□,
Migrant Worker□, Money Matters□, Welfare Benefits□, Wills & POA□.
Other please specify
*Have you checked that this referral meets the criteria for referrals?   Check NCAN Referral Directory
$^{ullet}$ Please confirm you have the client's consent to send these details $\Box$
*Consent Granted date
Name of referrer

Collection Centre\_



## NCAN system



### Thank you for coming today

- We really value you as leaders of our Distribution Centres and telephone volunteers.
- Feedback will be taken after the session so please look out for a Form sent to your email address.