

Job title: Approved Mental Health Professional

Grade: 12

Job evaluation reference: HS432

Job family: Health and Social Care

Purpose and impact

1. To undertake statutory duties under the Mental Health Act, including MHA assessments.
2. To assist the AMHP Advanced Practitioners in the delivery of services in accordance with Directorate policy and practice, including case accountability as delegated in specific cases and for specific areas of work as required.
3. To deputise for Advanced Practitioner as required
4. To carry a caseload of complex cases and provide specialist consultation to staff as required.

Key responsibilities

5. Act as an AMHP and undertake statutory duties under the Mental Health Act.
6. Take responsibility for complex cases (including detailed assessments of individuals and their families or carers incorporating risk, reviews, liaison with other professionals and care plans) and provide consultation and advice to staff as required.
7. To bring to the attention of the AMHP Advanced Practitioners issues relating to AMHP conduct and case management.
8. To work collaboratively within the Directorate, with statutory agencies, voluntary agencies and independent sector organisations and take on specific liaison roles in consultation with the AMHP Advanced Practitioner/Team Leader.
9. To operate within financial and budgetary guidelines in the delivery of care plans to meet user/care needs.
10. To provide specialist professional technical advice and support in areas connected with the Mental Health Act
11. To contribute to the provision of an out of hours adult social work service.
12. To assist with staff development, including contributing to developing training plans and undertaking practice teaching or AMHP student supervision as required.
13. To be accountable to the AMHP Advanced Practitioner for the quality of work undertaken against agreed performance standards and key result areas and to advise of any concerns that may affect the standard of performance required.
14. To chair meetings, reviews and case conferences in the absence if or as delegated.
15. To keep the AMHP Advanced Practitioner informed of all issues related to users and carers' needs which have implications for service development and the service standards for the Directorate.
16. To undertake joint work with colleagues within the Directorate and with colleagues from other agencies as relevant to the effective delivery of services.
17. To maintain essential records as required and input records on core computer systems and to undertake any training required to enable this.
18. To be responsible for attending training courses and taking advantage of staff development opportunities in order to improve knowledge and skills for the benefit of service delivery – including the statutory yearly training required to maintain registration as an AMHP.



Job description

19. To contribute to the provision of a response to civil emergencies as required.
20. To act as an Approved Mental Health Professional and undertake assessments and take decisions independently in accordance with the Mental Health Act.
21. To participate in team duties and referral systems as required.
22. To undertake other comparable or lesser duties as required.

NB: The duties and responsibilities of this post are not restrictive and the post holder may be required on occasion to undertake other duties. This will not substantially change the nature of the post.

Other factors

Knowledge and Skills

23. Qualification and Registration as an Approved Mental Health Professional.
24. Comprehensive knowledge of legislation, regulations and practice guidance relevant to the specialist area (e.g. Children Act, 1989, NHS & Community Care Act, 1990, Mental Capacity Act, 2005, Care Act, 2014, etc) as well as the Mental Health Act, 1981.
25. High level of communication and negotiation skills.
26. Ability to manage and chair meetings.
27. Ability to set targets and work within deadlines.
28. Ability to use information technology.
29. Ability to communicate effectively with people with mental health difficulties

Working Environment

30. Driving from work base to service users' homes, hospitals and meetings across the county and, occasionally, beyond.
31. Working with service users in times of crisis who may be emotionally distressed and have the potential to become verbally or physically abusive.
32. Undertaking lone visits to service users.
33. Required to provide specialist advice/guidance on situations that might present risk/jeopardy to individuals or the Directorate.
34. Transportation of small items of equipment as required.

Our behaviours

Dorset Council has developed and embedded a set of behaviours that will form part of everything you do and you will need to be able to demonstrate them through the way you work, regardless of your role or grade within the organisation.

Full details can be found on the job website under ['Working for Dorset Council'](#).



Person specification

Applicants will be shortlisted on the basis of demonstrating that they fulfil the following criteria in their application form and should include clear examples of how they meet these criteria. You will be assessed in some or all of the specific areas over the course of the selection process.

Essential

Essential criteria are the minimum requirement for the above post.

Qualifications/ training/registrations
Required by law, and/or essential to the performance of the role
1. Social Work Degree or equivalent e.g. CQSW, DIPSW, CSS with advanced counselling or (for Youth Justice Officers Only) Diploma in Probation Studies, DipOT, RMN, Chartered Psychologist or equivalent.
2. Current HCPC registration (with the exception of Youth Justice Officers with a Diploma in Probation Studies).
3. Post Graduate certificated AMHP training.
Experience
4. Experience of team working and multi-agency working.
5. Experience of working with relevant client groups.
6. Experience of care planning assessment and implementing care plans.
7. Demonstrable experience of undertaking effective assessment and care planning in a wide range of care issues involving the exercising of professional judgement and discretion,
8. Demonstrable experience of an advanced level of practice ability in the effective assessment and management of a wide range of complex care issues and an advanced level of practice ability in providing day to day advice to team colleagues on a regular basis.
Skills, abilities & knowledge
Knowledge
9. Detailed, comprehensive knowledge of legislation, regulations and Practice Guidance relevant to the post (e.g. Carers Recognition Act, Mental Health Act 1983, NHS and Community Care Act 1990, relevant Childrens legislation, Human Rights Act etc).
10. Understanding of the care management role.
11. Understanding of the contribution of other agencies
12. Understanding of joint working with other agencies.
13. Detailed knowledge of effective assessment and care planning in a wide range of care issues involving the exercising of professional judgement and discretion.
Key Skills
14. High level of written and oral communication skills.
15. Negotiation and advocacy skills.
16. High level of interpersonal skills.
17. Ability to consult appropriately, operate within a team structure and contribute to team development.
18. Demonstrable record keeping skills.
19. Computer literacy.
Behaviours
20. Respect
21. Responsibility
22. Recognition
23. One Team: Collaboration



Other	
24. Ability to fulfil the travel requirements of the post.	

Desirable

Desirable criteria will be used in the event of a large number of applicants meeting the minimum essential requirements.

Qualifications/ training/registrations	
25. Higher level qualification.	
Experience	
26. Experience of working in a multi-agency setting.	
Skills, abilities & knowledge	
Knowledge	
27. Awareness of responsibility of other agencies and relevant legislation.	
28. Knowledge of Continuing Health Care and limits of local authority provision.	
Key Skills	
29. Understanding of best value in care management.	
30. Experience of chairing meetings.	
Other	
31. Experience of working across different client groups.	

Approval			
Manager	Viv Payne – Specialist Manager	Date	October 2018

