

Job Description

DIRECTORATE:	Social Services & Wellbeing
DEPARTMENT:	Forensic Mental Health Service
POST:	Senior Practitioner – Forensic Mental Health Service
GRADE OF POST:	GR13
RESPONSIBLE TO:	Team Manager

JOB PURPOSE:

The main function of the South Wales Forensic Psychiatric Service based at Caswell Clinic is to provide assessment, treatment, rehabilitation and aftercare to mentally disordered offenders and those patients requiring specialist forensic services.

The multi-disciplinary team approach allows for the skills of a variety of professionals to be utilised in a flexible way. The Social Work contribution is an integral component of this service.

PRINCIPAL RESPONSIBILITIES AND ACTIVITIES:

- Deputise for the Forensic Social Work Team Managers as and when required.
- To hold a caseload and contribute towards the multi-disciplinary approach at all stages of the patient/client's involvement in South Wales Forensic Mental Health Services, through the care pathway of admission, treatment, rehabilitation and resettlement, providing aftercare in the community setting and contribute to multi-disciplinary packages of care.
- Carry out the duties of Approved Mental Health Professional relating to the statutory requirements of the Mental Health Act 1983 (2007), including the role of Social Supervisor linked to the Ministry of Justice.
- Be responsible for the line management of the Forensic Social Work Team, providing ongoing mentorship and professional consultation to ensure effective staff performance.
- Liaising and communicating with community-based services across the regional network, including housing and employment services, promoting the forensic service throughout the catchment area.
- Working closely with patients and their family and/or carers throughout the treatment phase and beyond, providing aftercare in the community setting and contributing to multi-disciplinary packages of care.
- Provide comprehensive reports as necessary for Peer Review conferences, Care and Treatment Plan reviews (Mental Health Measure 2010), Mental Health Review Tribunals and Managers' Hearings.

- Contribute to programmes of education, training and the practice development of the team and Senior Social Work Practitioner's personal development.
- Assist in the continual development of the Forensic Social Work service, contributing to service delivery and overall practice standards.
- Develop the skills and knowledge base of team colleagues and identify staff training needs.

GENERAL DUTIES

Health and Safety

To fulfil the general and specific roles and responsibilities detailed in the [Health and Safety Policy](#)

Equal Opportunities

To ensure that all activities are operated in accordance with Equal Opportunities legislation and best practice.

Safeguarding

Protecting children, young people or adults at risk is a core responsibility of all employees. Any concerns should be reported to the Adult Safeguarding and Quality Team or Children's Safeguarding Assessment Team.

Review and Right to Vary

This Job Description is as currently applies and will be reviewed regularly. You may be required to undertake other tasks that can be reasonably assigned to you, including development activities, which are within your capability and grade.

CRIMINAL RECORDS CHECK (WHERE APPLICABLE)

This post requires a criminal records check through the Disclosure & Barring Service (DBS)

Person Specification

Senior Practitioner – Forensic Mental Health Service

The following attributes represent the range of skills, abilities and experiences etc relevant to this position. Applicants are expected to meet the attributes that have been identified as essential (Yes).

Attributes	Requirements	Essential	Method of Evaluation / Testing
Qualifications, Education & Training	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A recognised social work qualification e.g. CQSW, CSS, Dip SW, Degree in Social Work and registration with the Care Council for Wales Approved Mental Health Professional Award Practice Assessor's Award 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>	Production of original qualification certificates and CCW registration.
Knowledge & Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A minimum of three years post qualifying experience in Mental Health services. Experience of supervising and/or managing staff and social work students in a mental health practice setting. Experience of identifying client's needs. Knowledge of current Social Services legislation, Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014. Knowledge of Mental Health Act 1983 (2007), related Codes of Practice, Mental Capacity Act and Mental Health Measure (Wales) 2010. Knowledge of the criminal justice systems. 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>	Interview, application form, and selection process.
Skills & Personal Qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to make decisions appropriately and problem solve whilst working under pressure in a busy regional service. 	<p>Yes</p>	Interview, application form, and selection process.

Attributes	Requirements	Essential	Method of Evaluation / Testing
Skills & Personal Qualities (Ctd.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to work constructively across clinical teams. • Ability to form constructive working relationships with colleagues and other agencies. • Ability to communicate effectively and see issues in their wider context, comprehend complex information and present such information and reports. • Ability to think clearly in complex or high risk situations. • A commitment to multi-disciplinary approaches. • A commitment to anti-oppressive practice and other core social work values. • Ability to demonstrate good organisational skills, define and achieve targets. • Ability to demonstrate personal and professional integrity • Initiative and positive thinking. • Ability to work flexibly and proactively. • Ability to work as a team member. • Ability to work in a secure environment and work safely. • The ability to communicate through the medium of welsh. 	<p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p> <p>Yes</p>	<p>Interview, application form and selection process.</p>