

**Homelessness Specialist Forensic Mental Health Practitioner: Liaison and Diversion**

Job Description

The key purpose of this post is to contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the FMHP service, within Together’s policies and practices. These duties are to be carried out in the context of Together’s value system and in compliance with the best of professional care practice and as outlined in the relevant code of conduct.

**Accountable to** Project Manager (London FMHP Service)

The Homelessness Specialist Forensic Mental Health Practitioner is expected to contribute to the management, development and promotion of a Homeless pathway within the Forensic Mental Health Practitioner provision by:

* Acting as a single point of contact for housing and homelessness related queries.
* Keeping up-to-date with current research, legislation and best practice in supporting service users with accommodation needs.
* Highlighting service gaps and offering suggestions for developments to meet the needs of service users experiencing homelessness.
* Contribute to organisational knowledge and training in this specialist area.
* Contribute to equality impact assessments and subsequent action plans, ensuring the service provides equal access to service users with accommodation needs.

The post holder will demonstrate the competencies in carrying out his/her duties as described below:

# Support service users experiencing homelessness:

* To address their offending behaviour.
* Contribute to the prevention and management of abusive and aggressive behaviour.
* Identify the distinct support needs of this service user group.
* Enable individuals to find out about and use appropriate services and facilities.
* Promote people’s equality, diversity and rights.
* Promote the needs and rights of individuals in a range of settings including mentally disordered offenders, people with a diagnosis of personality disorder and people who misuse substances.

# Contribute to Team Work

* Support the work of the team and individual team members to achieve their objectives through providing case consultation and clinical support when appropriate.
* Contribute to the development of policy and good practice guidelines in accordance with the needs of the service.
* Develop own abilities to enhance work performance and attend training courses as necessary.
* Contribute to the Service User Involvement Plan and gather feedback from service users

# Maintain Positive Working Relationships with External Agencies

* Develop and sustain effective working relationships with staff in other agencies.
* Assist in the assessment of service users offending behaviour by:
	+ Undertaking holistic mental health and wellbeing assessments, with a focus on accommodation needs and related issues.
	+ Liaising with and referring to, appropriate services to reduce the need for custodial remands and sentences.
	+ Providing support to peers working with offenders with complex needs.
	+ Providing case management and follow evidence based approaches where appropriate.
* Assist individuals whose care is being transferred between services/agencies by liaising as appropriate.
* Contribute to the development and promotion of Together and the service by attending relevant forums, including professional meetings.
* Developing a significant understanding of Together and its value system to ensure that you are able to present Together in a positive light.
* Advise statutory agencies about the complex needs of offenders in the relevant geographical area(s) and identify gaps in the service.

### Undertake Activities to meet Objectives

* Contribute to the implementation of quality monitoring systems as required by Together and as agreed with external agencies
* In conjunction with the managers of the service, research, prepare and supply information to monitor the effectiveness of the service, produce statistical data as required and contribute to the development of new evaluation and monitoring strategies as required
* Follow evidence based approaches designed to reduce the likelihood of re-offending by offenders who pose a significant risk of harm.
* Complete reports for courts, formal hearings and other meetings as required.
* Represent Together and other agencies at meetings.
* Ensure own actions reduce risk and promote health and safety
* Facilitate learning in groups through presentations and activities both within Together and external agencies.

## Confidentiality

* Treat any information relating to service users acquired in the course of duty in the strictest confidence, in line with GDPR and discuss only with the appropriate members of staff.
* Comply with locally agreed inter-agency protocols on information exchange, or other arrangements relating to confidentiality as negotiated with Together.
* Treat any information relating to staff acquired in the course of duty in the strictest confidence and discuss only with the Forensic Mental Health Project Manager or, in his or her absence, with the most senior staff member on duty.

This list is not exhaustive and amendments and additions may be required in line with future policy changes.

#### Equal Opportunities

We acknowledge the unique contribution that all Together employees and service users can bring to the work of the projects and the organisation in terms of their culture, race, gender, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, marital status, nationality, age, religion or belief and any physical disability or history of mental health or addition problems.

All appointments and promotions are based on merit and no job applicant or employee will be treated unfairly or discriminated against. All staff have equal access to staff development.

Full details may be found in the Human Resources Policy and Procedure Manual. Any member of staff who breaches this policy may be the subject of grievance and/or disciplinary procedures.