

Approved Mental Health Professional – Out of Hours

Salary:	£46,731 - £49,764
Pay Band:	NNCBAND08
Working Hours:	37 hours a week
Service Area:	Adult Social Care
Responsible to:	Team Manager

Main Purpose

To respond to urgent social care queries; risk assess and 'make safe' until daytime services can respond.

To undertake the role and function of an Approved Mental Health Professional

To carry out assessments, including risk assessments of individuals experiencing acute mental health distress under the principles and authority of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and the Mental Health Act 1983 as amended.

To contribute to the rota for North Northamptonshire and West Northamptonshire Councils.

To provide and maintain a high quality of direct practice within the team.

To promote recovery principles, statutory principles, social inclusion and the safeguarding of children and adults.

To undertake delegated tasks and responsibility for the good functioning of the Team.

To promote good working relationships alongside medical, health, and social care colleagues.

Role Responsibilities

- To respond to urgent adult social care queries, assessing and ensuring that adults are supported safely until daytime services can respond. To meet responsibilities under the Care Act, Mental Capacity Act and other relevant legislation.
- To work within a designated Approved Mental Health Professional service, which is responsible geographically for the whole county. Currently a hosted arrangement via North Northamptonshire Council.
- To lead in the co-ordination and assessment process in a variety of settings which would include, hospitals, service users' own homes, care homes and police stations. This may include assessments of Northamptonshire service users who are placed in out of county settings.
- To coordinate multi-agency assessments and to make independent judgments relating to outcomes under the MHA 1983, and Mental Capacity Act 2005, considering a wide range of external influences and factors.
- Ensure that the requirements of the Mental Health Act 1983, Mental Capacity Act 2005, Care Act 2014 regulations are upheld and that patient's rights under these legislative frameworks are met.
- To present at MHA 1983 tribunals and be prepared to account for decisions and judgments made whilst acting under Mental Health legislation and to give consideration to make applications for Community Treatment Orders and Guardianship, under the Mental Health Act.
- To ensure the protection of persons, and safety of Service Users property following application of the Care Act 2014.
- To identify the needs of carers and respond as required under the Care Act 2014.

- To be cognisant with issues relating to people from a wide diversity of backgrounds and to ensure that these are considered at all times and service users and carers are treated with high standards of care, ensuring individuality and dignity is maintained at all times, while promoting independence and working to the principles of the Equality Act 2010.

- To undertake the management of Mental Health Act Assessments and the management of the environment throughout potentially highly distressing, volatile, emotional, unpredictable situations.
- To take responsibility for ensuring that the AMHP is aware of all of the Local Authority(s) policies at all times.
- Ensure that information regarding the Service User needs and progress are communicated promptly and accurately to their nearest relative, other relatives and to other workers involved in their care, having due regard for confidentiality.
- Attend court hearings to represent the Local Authority regarding displacement of the patients Nearest Relative.
- To contribute to effective implementation of performance management and quality assurance systems and to use the information to ensure continuous improvement in delivery of services.
- To attend, and engage in own professional and management supervision, continuing professional development, and annual appraisal.
- To maintain timely, and accurate up to date records of client contact, and diary appointments according to North Northamptonshire Council (NNC) and other partners' policies and procedure on paper and electronically as agreed by the NNC AMHP Lead and AMHP Head of Service.
- To provide supervision and mentoring to less experienced AMHP's and undertake the role of Practice Mentor Assessor to AMHP's in training.
- Maintain continuous professional development including undertaking 18 hours of training/development required to maintain AMHP status.
- The post-holder is required to be registered with Social Work England or other relevant Professional Body and is responsible for maintaining registration.
- If appropriate to report as required to the AMHP Lead/Manager on the work and planning of services in mental health including the professional needs and development of social work and care in particular.
- Ensure that reasonable care is taken at all times for the health, safety and welfare of yourself and other persons, and to comply with the policies and procedures relating to health and safety within the department.

Carry out any other duties which fall within the broad spirit, scope and purpose of this job description and which are commensurate with the grade of the post.

Safeguarding Commitment

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people/vulnerable adults. We require you to understand and demonstrate this commitment.

Person Specification – Approved Mental Health Professional

ATTRIBUTES	ESSENTIAL CRITERIA	DESIRABLE CRITERIA
Education and Qualifications	Mental Health Social Work Award & Approved Mental Health Professional Status (AMHP)	Best Interest Assessor (BIA) – or prepared to train as a BIA
Experience and Knowledge	<p>At least 3 years post qualified experience working knowledge of mental health.</p> <p>Detailed knowledge of the Mental Health Act 1983 as amended by The Mental Health (Amendment) Act 2007, commitment to the Code of Practice, Guiding Principles, and keeping up to date with contemporary issues/case law.</p> <p>Detailed knowledge of the Mental Capacity Act 2005, Code of Practice and an up-to-date knowledge of contemporary issues and case law.</p> <p>Working experience of the Care Act 2014 including adult safeguarding, Equality Act 2010, and Human Rights Act 1998.</p>	<p>Experience of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervising less experienced AMHPS and mentoring trainees Practice Teaching and willingness to develop this. • Dual diagnosis – substance misuse Dual diagnosis learning disability & mental health • Multi Agency Public Protection Panels and arrangements • Forensic mental health social work practice in hospital and community settings. Working with mentally disordered offenders
Ability and Skills	<p>Excellent verbal and writing skills in English as our main language of communication.</p> <p>Excellent information technology skills in word processing, data applications, electronic communication and patient/client data systems.</p> <p>Advanced mental health social work practitioner skills.</p> <p>Demonstrate clear understanding and application of the value of supervision.</p> <p>Ability to analyse practice being delivered by the team and develop service improvement.</p> <p>Sound professional judgement and ability to make decisions.</p> <p>Demonstrate the ability to travel effectively to different locations within and outside Northamptonshire.</p>	<p>Experience in team building and identification of staff development needs.</p> <p>Providing professional training in relation to mental health.</p> <p>Experience of chairing meetings Ability to participate in service development planning, and creation.</p> <p>Experience of working in particular Court settings and presenting reports to Court.</p>

ATTRIBUTES	ESSENTIAL CRITERIA	DESIRABLE CRITERIA
	<p>Negotiate with colleagues within the Services and external agencies as a representative of North Northamptonshire and West Northamptonshire Councils.</p> <p>Prioritise tasks and manage own workload.</p> <p>Ability to work to and achieve reasonable deadlines, and appropriately negotiate alternatives where it is not realistically possible to meet the requirement.</p> <p>Ability to make positive working contacts with other agencies, and maintain ongoing effective working relationships and multi-agency partnerships. Ability to achieve high professional standards, and leadership.</p> <p>Ability to act on own initiative, but also receptive to direction.</p> <p>Ability to recognise own personal and occupational stress and recognise this in others.</p> <p>Ability to assess and manage risks in a multi-agency and team context.</p> <p>Able to demonstrate a clear understanding of and a commitment to health and safety, and a willingness to undertake training to enable implementation of procedures.</p> <p>Ability to apply health and safety requirements with both clients and staff.</p>	

Equal Opportunities

Ability to demonstrate awareness/understanding of equal opportunities and other people's behaviour, physical, social and welfare needs.

Safeguarding

Demonstrate an understanding of the safe working practices that apply to this role.

Ability to work in a way that promotes the safety and well-being of children and young people/vulnerable adults.

Health & Safety

Ensure that reasonable care is taken at all times for the health, safety and welfare of yourself and other persons, and to comply with the policies and procedures relating to health and safety within the department.

Disclosure Level

What disclosure level is required for this post?			
<input type="checkbox"/> None	<input type="checkbox"/> Standard	<input type="checkbox"/> Enhanced	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Enhanced with barred list checks

Our Values and Behaviours

Our values define who we are and how we operate, by forming the foundation for how we interact with our customers, colleagues and provide our services. They are also at the forefront of our decision making and delivery and include:



Our Key Commitments

Our key commitments help ensure that the priorities we make, now and in the future, maintain the necessary breadth of focus in those areas that we believe matter most.

Our key commitments are:

- **Active, fulfilled lives:** We will help people live healthier, more active, independent and fulfilled lives.
- **Better, brighter futures:** We will care for our young people, providing them with a high-quality education and opportunities to help them flourish.
- **Safe and thriving places:** We will enable a thriving and successful economy that shapes great places to live, learn, work and visit.
- **Green, sustainable environment:** We will take a lead on improving the green environment, making the area more sustainable for generations to come.
- **Connected communities:** We will ensure our communities are connected with one another, so they are able to shape their lives and the areas where they live.
- **Modern public services:** We will provide efficient, effective and affordable services that make a real difference to all our local communities.

Why choose us?

We offer a fantastic working environment including diverse and active staff networks, great flexible working opportunities and well as many other benefits, you will:

- Receive a generous annual leave allowance.
- Have access to our Employee Assistance Programme which offers a confidential service for employees and their families 24 hours a day / 7 days a week. The programme provides expert advice and counselling in areas such as finances, family and personal problems, work issues, health related problems, childcare and consumer rights.
- Join the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), which is a tax approved occupational pension scheme with a generous employer contribution rate, immediate life cover and ill-health protection. Benefits are based on the length of your membership and final salary.

We are proud to be a recognised Disability Confident Employer and is committed to providing an inclusive recruitment process and will offer an interview to disabled applicants who meet the essential criteria for the role.

