

In partnership with



North  
Northamptonshire  
Council



West  
Northamptonshire  
Council

## Job description

### Details of the job

Post title:	APPROVED MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONAL (substantive team)
Salary grade:	CW07 £40,221 - £43,421
Hours:	As specified by job advertised
Location:	Northamptonshire currently North (NNC) and West (WNC)
Reports to:	Approved Mental Health Professional Lead
Service area:	Adult Social Care – Safeguarding and Wellbeing

### Overall purpose of the post

- 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.

## □ Principal responsibilities

- 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, taking into account 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 application 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 taken into account 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 Service Manager/Principal Social Worker.
- To provide supervision and mentoring to less experienced AMHPs, 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.

This job description reflects the major tasks to be carried out by the post holder and identifies a level of responsibility at which they will be required to work. In the interests of effective working, the major tasks may be reviewed from time to time to reflect changing needs and circumstances. Such reviews and any consequential changes will be carried out in consultation with the post holder.



## PERSON SPECIFICATION

Post Title:	Approved Mental Health Professional
Grade	£40,221 - £43,421
Service Area:	Adult Social Care, Safeguarding and Wellbeing

ATTRIBUTES	ESSENTIAL CRITERIA	DESIRABLE CRITERIA
<b>Education and Qualifications</b>	Registration as a Social Worker, Nurse or Occupational Therapist with the appropriate professional body.  Approved Mental Health Professional Qualification or completion of training and waiting approval.	Best Interest Assessor (BIA)
<b>Experience and Knowledge</b>	At least 3 years post qualified experience working knowledge of mental health.  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.  Detailed knowledge of the Mental Capacity Act 2005, Code of Practice and an up to date knowledge of contemporary issues and case law.  Working experience of the Care Act 2014 including adult safeguarding, Equality Act 2010, and Human Rights Act 1998.	Experience of: 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

ATTRIBUTES	ESSENTIAL CRITERIA	DESIRABLE CRITERIA
<b>Ability and Skills</b>	<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>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</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>

	realistically possible to meet the requirement.	
<b>ATTRIBUTES</b>	<b>ESSENTIAL CRITERIA</b>	<b>DESIRABLE CRITERIA</b>
	<p>Ability to make positive working contacts with other agencies, and maintain ongoing effective working relationships and multi-agency partnerships.</p> <p>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>	
<b>Equal Opportunities</b>	Ability to demonstrate awareness/understanding of equal opportunities and other people's behaviour, physical, social and welfare needs	