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| **Job Description** | |
| **Post title** | Social Worker (Mental Health- Homelessness) |
| **JE Reference No** | Grade 9 (pre progression) *– JE Ref No:* N10975  Grade 11 (post progression) *– JE Ref No:* N10974. |
| **Grade** | Grade 9 (pre progression)  Grade 11 (post progression) |
| **Service** | Adult and Health Services |
| **Service Area** | Adult Care – Mental Health |
| **Reporting to** | The postholder will be accountable to the Adult Mental Health Services but based within Housing to support and provide direction for those living rough and assessing whether individuals would benefit from secondary adult provision and if appropriate redirect to appropriate services. They will work with a team of staff to ensure the delivery of services to a rough sleepers/former roughsleepers . You will have access to the expertise of a wide range of other personnel in the Service and other agencies and may be required to oversee the work of  other staff who are carrying out tasks on your behalf. |
| **Location** | Your normal place of work will be Countywide attached to housing services but working into substance misuse and all County Durham mental health services. |
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| **DBS** | This post **is** subject to a **Enhanced Disclosure** |
| **Flexitime** | This post **is** eligible for flexitime |
| **Politically restricted** | This post **is not** designated as a politically restricted post in accordance with the requirements of Section 1(5) of the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and by regulations made from time to time by the Secretary of State |

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| **Description of role** |

To ensure that the social care needs of people are fully assessed and that individuals are referred to secondary services appropriately or signposted to services that may be able to support an individual who has social care or health needs. The Social Worker will assist housing to navigate adult social care and health provision.

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| **Duties and responsibilities** |

Listed below are the responsibilities this role will be primarily responsible for:

**Assessment:**

To undertake assessments of the needs of potential users that are rough sleepers/former rough

sleepers. To obtain contributions to that assessment from other personnel and/or agencies; to

encourage the participation of users and carers and ensure that their views are taken fully into

account; and to relate those needs to agency policies and ensure that the process is carried out

in accordance with published standards.

**CPA Policies & Procedures:** To undertake duties and responsibilities as defined within care co-ordination policies. To define service requirements and design individually tailored packages of care to meet assessed needs; taking into account the views of users and carers and agreeing any areas of risk with them; and to cost the care plan and assess the user’s ability to contribute towards the cost of services, in conjunction with administrative and other staff. To specify the nature of the services to be provided in terms of volume, frequency, duration and quality. To pass onto team as appropriate. This postholder will not directly commission services but ensure that the appropriate adult provision does.

**Implementing the Care Plan**

To negotiate the provision of services at the most cost effective rate and ensure they

meet service principles, objectives and specifications; to make imaginative use of

community resources and stimulate the development of local services; and to contribute

to the drawing up of contracts with providers, in conjunction with staff of the Contracts

Unit.

**Targeted Work**

Assess the mental health needs of individual rough sleepers/homeless, providing support plans & care as necessary

Train identified staff in Housing Solutions assessing needs & awareness raising on services

**Monitoring**

To be responsible for developing systems to monitor the delivery of services within

budgetary limits in line with objectives and specifications and to provide continuing

support to users and carers.

**Reviewing**

To review the achievement of care plan objectives, reassess needs, revise the care plan

and redefine service requirements accordingly, to ensure value for money.

**Service Standards & Service Planning**

To maintain published standards for the delivery of care co-ordinations and assessment;

to notify providers and quality controllers about deficiencies in the standards of services

and to inform service planners about unmet need and gaps and shortfall in provision.

To understand and implement current and future legislation that applies to the post.

**Specialist Services and Therapeutic Intervention**

Where appropriate, to provide specialist intervention with service users as requested by them or other professionals, in keeping with the training, experience and aptitude of the postholder. To ensure that users have access to an advocate or independent representative whenever necessary.

**Administration and Development**

To ensure that records and user information are maintained using new technology wherever appropriate; to produce reports for management staff when requested; and to contribute to other Service administrative requirements necessary.

**Personal Development / Training**

To maintain up to date professional knowledge and skills through appropriate training; to undertake Approved Mental Health Professional training within 18months (or less) of appointment, and to act on the AMHP rota when warranted.

There is also a requirement to undertake a Practice Teaching qualification, and to mentor

students on completion of this qualification.

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| **Organisational responsibilities** |

**Values and behaviours**

To demonstrate and be a role model for the council’s values and behaviours to promote and encourage positive behaviours, enhancing the quality and integrity of the services we provide.

**Smarter working, transformation and design principles**

To seek new and innovative ideas to work smarter, irrespective of job role, and to be creative, innovative and empowered. Understand the operational impact of transformational change and service design principles to support new ways of working and to meet customer needs.

**Communication**

To communicate effectively with our customers, managers, peers and partners and to work collaboratively to provide the best possible public service. Communication between teams, services and partner organisations is imperative in providing the best possible service to our public.

**Health, Safety and Wellbeing**

To take responsibility for health, safety and wellbeing in accordance with the council’s Health and Safety Policy and procedures.

**Equality and diversity**

To promote a society that gives everyone an equal chance to learn, work and live, free from discrimination and prejudice and ensure our commitment is put into practice. All employees are responsible for eliminating unfair and unlawful discrimination in everything that they do.

**Confidentiality**

To work in a way that does not divulge personal and/or confidential information during the course of their work and follow the council’s policies and procedures in relation to data protection and security of information.

**Performance management**

To promote a culture whereby performance management is ingrained and the highest of standards and performance are achieved by all. Contribute to the council’s Performance and Development Review processes to ensure continuous learning and improvement and to increase organisational performance.

**Quality assurance (for applicable posts)**

To set, monitor and evaluate standards at individual, team and service level so that the highest standards of service are delivered and maintained. Use data, where appropriate, to enhance the quality of service provision and support decision making processes.

**Management and leadership (for applicable posts)**

To provide vision and leadership to inspire and empower all employees so they can reach their full potential and contribute to the council’s values and behaviours. Managers and leaders must engage in personal development to ensure they are equipped to lead transformational change; always searching for better ways to do things differently to meet organisational changes and service priorities.

**Financial management (for applicable posts)**

To manage a designated budget, ensuring that the service achieves value for money in all circumstances through the monitoring of expenditure and the early identification of any financial irregularity.

The above is not exhaustive and the post holder will be expected to undertake any duties which may reasonably fall within the level of responsibility and the competence of the post as directed by your manager.

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| Person specification | | |
|  | Essential | Desirable |
| Qualifications | Professional qualification -  Degree in SW, Dip SW, CSS or CQSW or equivalent  (SWE registration) | Post qualifying award in subject to the relevant specialism.  AMHP qualifications/warrant. |
| Experience | In Health or Social Care & Health Service settings.  Of working with client group serviced by the Team.  Working within Social Care and Health in Mental Health/Substance Misuse and working alongside Housing. | Relevant post qualifying experience in mental health field or related settings.  Experience of working in a multi-disciplinary or multi-agency environment.  Commissioning services i.e. identifying need, assessing, negotiating packages of care, monitoring and reviewing |
| Skills & Knowledge | Ability to form relationships with users and carers.  Assessment and care planning.  Planning, monitoring and reviewing work. Report writing.  Specific therapeutic skills.  Organising work.  Deciding priorities.  Ability to work under pressure.  Ability to work as a member of a team  Access to a car or access to a means of mobility support to meet demands for domiciliary visits( if driving must have a current valid driving licence and appropriate insurance)  Knowledge of the organisation and structures within NHS and Social Care & Health and recent or impending changes.  Of the needs of the specific client group serviced by the Team.  Understanding of Housing Dept needs social care and health.  Clear understanding of social care and health structures within County Durham.  Ability to work between services | Negotiations with providers.  Liaison and networking.  Liaison with housing.  Care management practices.  Assessment processes in meeting individual need. Of the Mental Health Act 1983 and other relevant legislation. |
| Personal Qualities | User and carer oriented.  Self-motivating  Systematic approach  Commitment to equal opportunities  Openness to new ideas and ways of working  Ability to work as a member of a team.  Flexibility to gain engagement with services. | To increase therapeutic skills in line with needs of the team. |