



Senior Social Worker - A2i Team

Salary: Band: 10 - £44,252 - £48,738 p.a.

37 hours per week

Location: The post is in the Assessment to Intervention team (a2i) adult mental health based at St Mary's Hospital.

Portsmouth City Council is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of 'adults at risk' and children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Every post is subject to PCC and Portsmouth Safeguarding Adults Board safer recruitment procedures.

DBS Disclosure at Enhanced level will be required prior to any offer of employment and this post is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974.

This post comes under the S75 agreement.

The Service

The Adult Mental Health Service is an integrated health and social care service, we work hard to ensure we deliver a high-quality service and that service users are at the heart of everything we do. Our staff are supported in their roles and encouraged to develop. Within this role you will receive regular supervision, reflective practice and will be involved in social work groups that support practice development.

We take pride in our work by valuing others, focusing on what's important so that we make a real and positive difference. If you share these values and this is how you work, this role could meet your expectations.

The A2i team is an established multi-disciplinary team offering routine holistic assessments for individuals within 4 weeks of the referral and interventions for up to 6 months dependant on identified need. The role requires previous mental health experience and an ability to work independently and as part of a team. Our teams work hard to ensure high quality, service user centered care is at the heart of everything we do, and our staff are supported in their roles and encouraged to develop.

What is the purpose of Adult Social care from a service user perspective?

Help me, when I need it, to live the life I want to live

What is the role?

- You will work in a person-centred way with individuals and their families to identify creative ways to meet their needs. You will promote independence, choice and wellbeing of service users and their carers in all aspects of their lives. You will be able to work collaboratively with others, maintaining a strength based and aspirational approach.

- You will ensure the maintenance of a high standard of care to working age adults with severe and enduring mental health difficulties and act as lead professional to an agreed number of cases.
- You will offer comprehensive needs assessment, care plan and Risk assessment, ensuring the implementation and review of appropriate care and treatment. Meeting the needs of Service Users and carers in an effective, efficient and recovery focussed approach.
- You will work in creative and personalised ways to provide support, completing the work directly of value to the service user.
- You will identify the best resource to deal with service user need, (where this is not yourself) and, if you need to call on other resources to support you to meet the client's needs.
- You will arrange, cost and purchase of social care within Portsmouth City Council financial framework and procedures.
- You will participate in additional functions of the team such as covering others caseloads, triaging referrals and supporting the duty function.
- You will be responsible for holding the local authority safeguarding responsibilities on a duty rota – this includes screening, triaging, being a lead enquiry officer, chairing S42 meetings and being the decision maker for closing the enquiry.
- You will be working autonomously and be responsible for managing your caseload and maintaining case records that demonstrate that your practice and actions are **Proportionate, Legal, Accountable and Necessary**.
- You will work as part of the wider multi-disciplinary team. You will receive supervision and support from the A2i team manager and be expected to attend weekly team meetings.
- You will be expected to supervise qualified and unqualified staff, as part of Portsmouth's commitment to support and nurture its staff.
- You will be responsible for leading social care practice within the A2i team, developing staff competencies and having oversight and sign off care act assessments.
- The safeguarding of adults and children is an important and integral area of your work as will be the implementation of the safeguarding policy and procedures.
- You will be fully conversant with statutory legislation and guidance and demonstrate that you implement this in your day-to-day practice. You will have completed post qualifying training and have substantial experience as a practitioner.
- You will contribute to service development and project management.
- As a higher-grade Social Worker, it is likely that you will be required to undertake the Best Interest Assessor and/or the Practice Based Supervisor training.
- You will maintain a portfolio of Continual Professional Development in line with Social Work England guidelines and attend CPD groups for our social care staff.

Who is the person?

You need to have:

1. A qualification in social work i.e. Dipsw, MSc, CQSW, and CSS.

2. You will have completed your ASYE and Developing Professional Specialist Practice.
3. Registration with Social Work England as a Social Worker.
4. Substantial experience as a qualified social worker. Preferably with experience of adult mental health services.
5. Knowledge of Adult Social Care eligibility criteria.
6. Excellent assessment skills.
7. Previous experience of working with individuals with mental health difficulties.
8. A thorough understanding of the legislation that governs the adult social care role, (Care Act; Mental Health Act; Mental Capacity Act) and a comprehensive awareness of practice to safeguard adults.
9. A full understanding of and commitment to embedding personalisation in all aspects of social care.
10. The role requires skills in flexibility and negotiation to ensure that actions agreed are for the benefit of the service user, irrespective of the internal organisation of services.
11. The ability to work with a caseload effectively and efficiently.
12. Good evidence-based recording skills, as your evidence maybe required to be used in court.
13. The skills of a good communicator with an ability to deal with conflict.
14. The ability to converse at ease with customers and provide advice in accurate spoken English is essential for the post.
15. The ability to work on your own initiative, organise your own workload and work under pressure in response to competing demands and changing priorities.
16. Experience of being in a supervisory role.
17. Demonstrable IT skills.

You will need to demonstrate that you have the Right to Work in the UK. No post will be offered without it.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

Portsmouth City Council is the Data Controller of any personal information you provide when applying for a job. It will only be used in connection with the recruitment process and will not be kept for longer than necessary. For more detailed information you can access the Data Protection Privacy Notice on our [careers portal](#).