



Approved Mental Health Professional (AMHP) and Best Interests Assessor

Salary: Band 12 - £50,787 - £54,999 per annum plus 7.5% shift enhancement.

37 hours per week

Portsmouth City Council is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of 'adults at risk' children, and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

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.

The Service

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.

The AMHP service is a stand-alone team that provides a robust, professional and high quality 24 hour service to meet the Council's statutory duty. As well as providing triage and assessment under the Mental Health Act (1983 amended 2007) we provide assessment as Best Interests Assessors (BIA) in response to request for Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards. The team also provide support to other teams in Adult social care in areas of mental health and Mental Capacity Act issues.

As a service we take pride in our work by valuing others, focusing on what's important so that we make a real and positive difference. Our values are outlined in our Ways of Working and if they reflect how, you are and how you work then this could be the role that meets your expectations.

What is the role?

You will be part of a busy but dedicated AMHP service meeting the needs of Portsmouth residents across a 24/7 rota. Your time will be shared between being a duty AMHP and undertaking Best Interests Assessments in response to requests under Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards. You will assess need and in, partnership with individuals, care homes and hospitals, identify less restrictive ways of meeting those needs. You will not have your own caseload to ensure that you have flexibility to respond to AMHP and BIA work, both in and out of hours. You will support and advise colleagues on Mental Health and Mental Capacity Act issues in both Adult and Children Services.

We currently operate a 9-week shift pattern across 24/7 including days, evenings, night shifts and bank holidays. Weekends and Bank Holidays are worked as compulsory standby, in addition to contractual hours. The rota pattern is subject to periodic review and may change over time. You will have the flexibility in your daytime duties to take TOIL to compensate for any hours worked on Standby. You will receive a standby payment per shift when working weekends and bank holidays.

Currently there will be a duty AMHP expected to cover the following shifts:

Day shifts 8.30am - 5.00pm

Late shifts 11.00am - 7.00pm

Nights 6.00pm - 2.00am followed by standby shift 2:00am - 8:00am.

There is a requirement for the stand-alone team to cover bank holiday shifts which are shared amongst the team. These are worked on standby. Weekends are worked on standby in addition to the working week with the support of a small bank team. There are 3 x 8 hour shifts on each weekend day.

Who is the person?

You need to be/have:

1. A qualification in social work i.e., Dip SW, Msc, CQSW and CSS and current registration with Social Work England or be a qualified nurse (or other Allied Health Professional) and hold the AMHP qualification.
2. Experience as / or a Newly Qualified Approved Mental Health Professional (AMHP) with the ability to evidence competency to practice in this role to be warranted by Portsmouth City Council.
3. A practicing Best Interest Assessor (BIA) with the ability to evidence qualifications and refresher training in line with the Mental Capacity Act Requirements.
4. Ability to demonstrate continual professional development especially regarding the law.
5. Specialist knowledge/experience of managing high risk, complex situations at short notice in the community. You will be responsible for dynamically managing that risk and coordinating the support of community services, the police and ambulance services.
6. Ability to problem solve and advise on complex situations relating to the Mental Health Act (1983 amended 2007), the Mental Capacity Act (2005) and the AMHP function.
7. Ability to interpret the legislation guidance and the Professional codes of conduct, acting independently from the local authority in making the decision about whether or not to make application under the Mental Health Act.
8. Excellent assessment skills and an understanding of the Care Act.
9. Up to date knowledge of social work practice and commitment to the application of the Government's agenda on personalisation.
10. Ability to undertake Best Interest Assessments.
11. Ability to adapt to changing working environments.
12. Ability to demonstrate that you are able to communicate effectively both verbally and in writing. The ability to converse at ease with customers and provide advice in accurate spoken English is essential for the post.
13. Ability to maintain confidentiality in relation to the service user in line with local authority guidelines and be able to make decisions about when that confidentiality needs to be breached in relation to the welfare of the service user or others.
14. An excellent record keeper with competent ICT skills.
15. Supportive team player and be willing to work flexibly to respond to the needs of the service.
16. Be confident to work using your own initiative and prioritise work and make decisions outside of normal working hours.
17. Driving would be desirable, or the ability to travel, as you may be travelling to other locations outside the City which could be outside of normal working hours.
18. Understand safeguarding policy and its application for both children and adults.
19. Understand and take account of service users diverse needs in terms of ethnicity, gender, age, disability, sexuality, spiritual needs and status of social inclusion.



How to apply: Please click on the job profile and ensure you fully read and follow the guidance so you fully demonstrate how you meet the points on the job profile.

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

As part of any recruitment process, Portsmouth City Council collects and processes personal data relating to job applicants. Portsmouth City Council is committed to being transparent about how it collects and uses that data and to meeting its data protection obligations under the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

Completing and sending an application in for a vacancy is your consent for us to process your data for the purpose of recruitment. Your data is not used in any other way and you can withdraw your consent at any point in the recruitment process and we will destroy or delete your information.

For more detailed information on what we collect, how we use, store, delete data and your rights you can access a privacy statement on our Job board.

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