



## **Substance Misuse Practitioner (tier 3)**

**Salary:** Band 7, £32,061 to £36,363 per annum, pro rata

**Hours:** 30 hours per week

**Contract :** Permanent

**Portsmouth Local Authority is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of 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 is exempt from the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974**

### **Who we are?**

DASS is the Drug and Alcohol Support Service in Portsmouth. DASS provides harm reduction, education and safety advice for young people up to 25yrs. We do this through providing 1-1 substance use interventions with young people supporting them to make positive changes and better choices.

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.

### **What is the role?**

As a Substance Use Practitioner with DASS (Drug & Alcohol Support Service) this role will be providing substance misuse interventions for young people at a Drug & Alcohol Tier 2/3 level.

Work will range from:

- 1:1 assessments and interventions with young people experiencing substance use/misuse concerns
- You will contribute to key multi-agency meetings e.g. Child in Need/Child protection
- Contribute to networks to support health improvement and local community development
- Targeted session delivery and education
- Supporting/co-ordinating campaigns and events to ensure young people receive information, advice and guidance through both outreach and promotional work

The interventions extend to emotional wellbeing and working towards the county lines agenda. You will therefore engage young people in a range of interventions and relevant referral pathways (such as early help assessments), utilising a young person-centred approach, empowering them to reduce risk and associated harm, increase resilience and lead a safe, happy and healthy life.

The person may also be required to work some evenings due to the nature of the role within youth settings and to support young people who may be working.

The person will be able to maintain accurate, timely records and documentation by using case management systems while maintaining confidentiality and data protection in line with council policies and of those from NDTMS (national drug treatment monitoring system).



The person will provide screening, assessment, psychosocial interventions, care and risk planning and support to young people in relation to substance use and will support young people to engage with mainstream activities and to help build self-esteem, resilience and confidence.

The person will be expected to participate in relevant safeguarding meetings e.g. child protection, and multi-agency meetings and to signpost and refer to relevant agencies as appropriate when needs are identified during their work with a young person

Furthermore, this role will involve keeping up to date with relevant continuing professional development activity related to substance use and wider wellbeing guidance for young people.

The person will operate within the Council's policies in relation to equal opportunities and equality.

## **Who is the person?**

### **Essential:**

1. Have a nationally recognised qualification (equivalent to NVQ level 3 or higher) in the Health, Youth, Community, Social Care or Education field.
2. Substantial experience of working with young people in a range of settings.
3. Experience of identifying and responding effectively to potential safeguarding issues.
4. Experience of working within clear boundaries and behaviours.
5. Experience of assessing and working with Gillick Competency (in line with Fraser guidelines) for young people.
6. Excellent communication skills at all levels and ability to plan, deliver, and evaluate activity, whilst building a clear evidence base for this role.
7. Ability to engage vulnerable young people within your work and/or refer on when necessary.
8. Excellent partnership / team working skills.
9. Good organisational skills, ability to plan own work for targeted sessions and campaigns.
10. Enthusiasm and drive for positive outcomes for young people.
11. Be Self-motivated and committed to their role.
12. Be able to provide advice, advocacy and support to young people experiencing problems in relation to substance use.
13. Have an understanding of evidence-based interventions and behaviour change with young people.
14. Have experience of using Word and Excel.
15. Be responsible for self-development and commitment to continuing professional development.



16. To work flexibly to undertake such other reasonable activities or duties across DASS/Youth service and any location within reasonable travel distance from your main place of work.

### **Desirable:**

1. Sound understanding of the principles underpinning effective health improvement practice, particularly around substance misuse.
2. Experience of delivering evidence-based interventions to young people experiencing problems in relation to substance use.
3. Experience of behaviour change work with young people.
4. Have an understanding of substances and their effect including knowledge of issues of social exclusion with young people and their families.
5. Experience of motivating young people whom are often difficult to engage.
6. Experience of using PowerPoint and publisher.
7. Experience of carrying out holistic assessments with young people to determine need and risk in relation to substance use.
8. To have an understanding of a variety of techniques to help build resilience, self-esteem and confidence.
9. To have experience of delivering substance use training to a variety of professionals.

The outline of duties indicated above are in order to give an idea of the level of responsibility entailed in this role.

The job description is not exhaustive, and job duties may occasionally change without changing the fundamental nature of the job and responsibilities

### **Our commitment to you:**

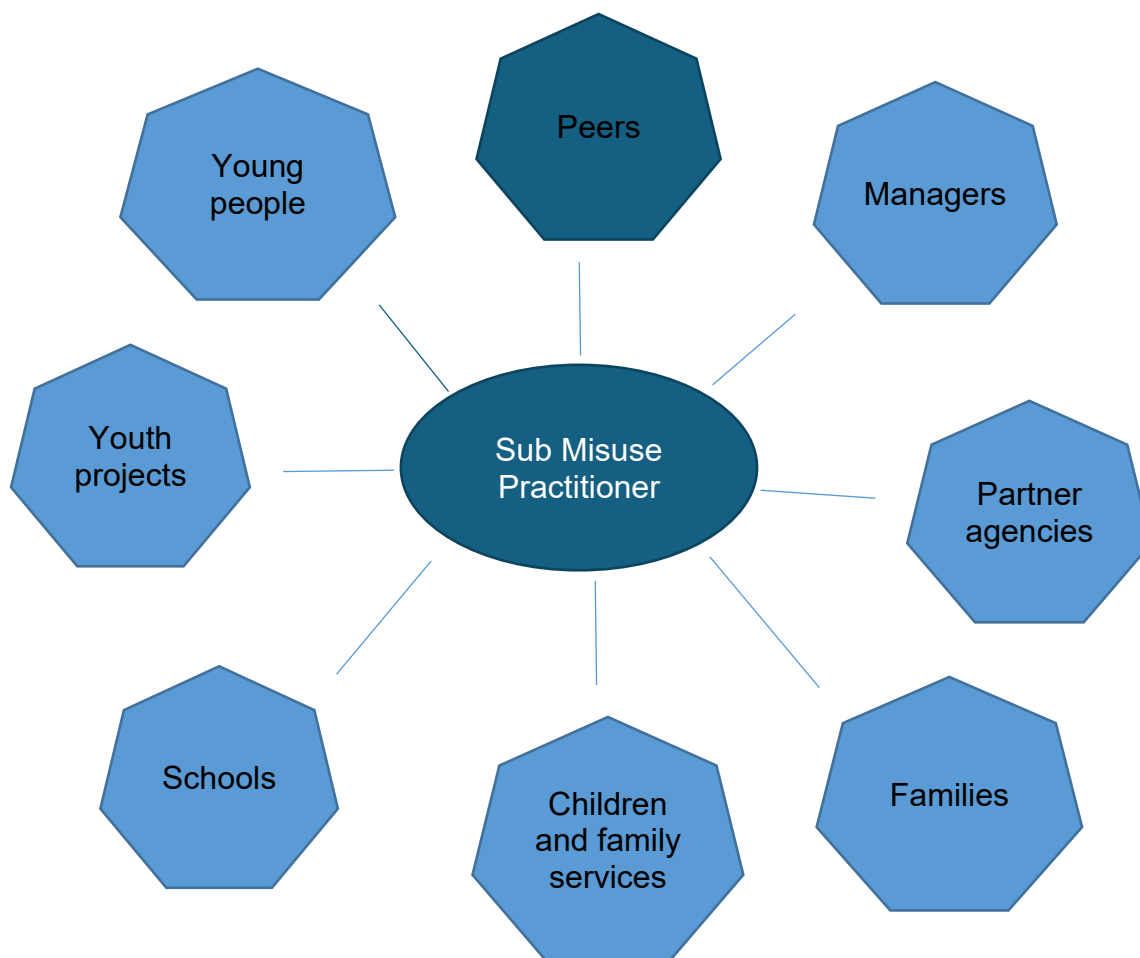
Equal opportunities: Portsmouth city council are committed to being an inclusive environment and to anti-discriminatory practice which we expect all staff to promote and adhere to.

Safeguarding: we are committed to ensuring the safeguarding and wellbeing of children and adults at risk and all applicants will be required to demonstrate an understanding and commitment to best safeguarding practice.

Training and development; we are committed to continuing professional and personal development. Staff will receive mandatory training to ensure an understanding of policies but staff will also have the opportunity, when possible, to engage in other training activities that may enhance their practice and for development of their role.

### **Line management**

The worker will report directly to the DASS Team Lead for line management.



### **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.

This role is eligible for a DBS check and the DBS have published a privacy notice to ensure individuals are fully informed of the use of their personal data; their rights and that Portsmouth City Council are meeting the necessary requirements when submitting DBS checks. It is important that you read and understand this privacy policy before any application is submitted to the DBS.

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