

**The Forward Trust Job Description**

**Position Title:** Band 6 Community Substance Misuse Nurse
**Reports to:** Clinical Lead Nurse
**Location:** Southend-on-Sea, Essex
**Salary Band:** £44,962.00 depending on experience. (Agenda for Change, pro rata)

**Contract Type:** Permanent, 35 hours per week
**Organisation:** The Forward Trust

**Introducing Forward Trust**

We are The Forward Trust (formerly RAPt and Blue Sky), a social enterprise with charitable status that empowers people to break the often interlinked cycles of crime and addiction. For over 25 years, we have helped individuals build healthier, more stable lives through a combination of treatment, support, and opportunity.

**Job Summary**

We are seeking an experienced and compassionate Band 6 Community Substance Misuse Nurse to join our team in Southend-on-Sea, delivering frontline clinical support to individuals with drug and alcohol dependency. As part of The Forward Trust’s community-based treatment service, you will play a vital role in engaging and supporting service users throughout their recovery journey.

Working within a multidisciplinary team, you will assess, plan, and deliver a wide range of harm reduction, medically assisted treatment, and psychosocial interventions, contributing to long-term recovery outcomes and promoting safer health behaviours in the community.

**Main Duties and Responsibilities**

**Clinical Care**

* Conduct comprehensive health and substance use assessments, including risk assessments (e.g. suicide, self-harm, safeguarding, BBVs).
* Initiate and support the delivery of Opioid Substitution Therapy (OST), including buprenorphine and methadone, under clinical protocols.
* Support detoxification plans, including alcohol withdrawal management and Pabrinex administration.
* Provide harm reduction interventions including needle exchange, naloxone training and distribution, BBV screening, and vaccination.
* Perform and interpret urine drug screening and manage medication following clinical governance standards.

**Case Management and Recovery Planning**

* Hold a clinical caseload and act as a key worker, developing individualised, recovery-focused care plans in collaboration with service users.
* Monitor treatment progress, manage complex needs including dual diagnosis, and contribute to multi-agency care planning.
* Provide crisis support, relapse prevention, and safeguarding interventions.
* Maintain accurate clinical documentation using electronic systems

**Partnership and Outreach Work**

* Liaise with GPs, pharmacies, local authority teams, housing, and mental health services to deliver coordinated care.
* Attend multi-agency meetings (e.g. MARAC, safeguarding conferences).
* Engage in occasional outreach to support hard-to-reach individuals or those disengaging from services.

**Governance and Development**

* Engage in clinical supervision, case discussions, and reflective practice.
* Contribute to service audits, CQC compliance, and quality improvement initiatives.
* Maintain up-to-date knowledge of NICE guidelines, the Orange Book, and Forward Trust policies.
* Uphold NMC code of conduct and revalidation requirements.

**Person Specification**

**Essential**

* Registered Nurse (RMN / RGN / RNLD) with valid NMC registration.
* Experience working with clients affected by substance misuse, mental health, or complex needs.
* Knowledge of harm reduction strategies, OST, detoxification protocols, and safeguarding procedures.
* Strong risk assessment and case management skills.
* Excellent communication and documentation skills.
* Able to work both independently and as part of a team.

**Desirable**

* Independent/Supplementary Prescriber (V300) or working towards.
* Experience working in multi-agency environments or community outreach.
* Familiarity with Illy or other digital health systems.
* Knowledge of dual diagnosis and trauma-informed care approaches.

**Benefits of Working at The Forward Trust**

* NMC registration fees paid annually (worth £120 per year).
* 35-hour work week (pro rata full-time).
* 25 days annual leave + bank holidays, increasing with length of service.
* Enhanced maternity/paternity/adoption leave entitlements.
* Life assurance scheme (x2 salary).
* Workplace pension scheme.
* Revalidation and CPD support, including training and clinical supervision.
* Cycle to Work Scheme, Tech Scheme, and Blue Light Card eligibility.
* Opportunities for internal promotion and funded qualifications.