

The Forward Trust Job Description

Position Title	Drug and Alcohol Practitioner (Programmes)	Reports to	Team Leader
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Introducing Forward Trust

We are Forward, the social enterprise that empowers people to break the cycle of crime or addiction to move forward with their lives. For more than 25 years we have been working with people to build positive and productive lives, whatever their past. We believe that anyone is capable of lasting change. Our services have supported thousands of people to make positive changes and build productive lives with a job, family, friends and a sense of community.

Role/Team Overview

Working within an integrated healthcare framework to provide support to drug and alcohol users aged 18 and over (dependent on service). Services are designed to deliver Psychosocial Drug and Alcohol Interventions and Accredited Treatment Programmes for offenders coming into prison that are identified as having an Alcohol or drug problem.

Services will deliver client centred treatment using both harm reduction and abstinence based treatment approaches depending on the requirements of the individual client. You will be required to manage a caseload, provide appropriate harm reduction advice and guidance, assess, care plan; deliver structured 1:1 and group-work sessions including structured treatment programmes if relevant to the unit you are working in. Through care and integration with other services such as Transitional, Housing, Employment, Gym, Healthcare, Probation and external Drugs Intervention Teams are an essential element of the work to prepare for release.

You will be responsible for contributing to the targets set by Forward and the local commissioners. One of the key targets will be measuring outcomes, so co-operative working relationships with other partner agencies is vital to this role. In order to compliment clinical provision you may be required to complete second signatory and oral swab testing. Flexibility will be required in this role, this may include some evening/weekend shift and with reasonable notice to travel to other projects in your cluster to deliver services, enabling continuity of care for the client group.

Accountabilities

Strategy

- Take an active role in the implementation and achievement of team objectives
- Build strong relationships with, and makes full use of the support offered by, Line Management and Head Office functions.

Service Delivery

- Carry out assessments risk/initial/comprehensive to inform treatment journeys.
- Carry out interventions relevant to individual client needs including 1:1 sessions and group work/programme facilitation.
- Develop and contribute to the through care needs of service users, supporting them in the development of release plans which are appropriate to their needs.

Performance Management

- Ensure groups and programmes are facilitated and co-facilitated to the standard required by Forward and in accordance with any relevant manuals.
- Meet required KPI's to corresponding deadlines, as set out by the Service Manager.
- Plan and manage your caseload effectively, making sure that clients are prioritised appropriately and seen in a timely manner.
- Review ongoing care and treatment liaising closely with healthcare and other agencies.

Departmental Management

- Proactively approach integrated ways of working support and adopt a multi-disciplinary approach.
- Meet targets and deadlines in accordance with contractual standards.
- Contribute to the overall smooth running of the service by being proactive and solution focused.

Quality and Safety

- Engage with regular service audits ensuring that any issues are escalated and addressed in a timely manner and good practice is effectively shared throughout the service to ensure continuous improvement.
- Alert the Senior Practitioner to any significant risks or problems arising in the course of managing and monitoring the services.
- Abide by all Forward's policies and procedures and encourage others to do the same.
- Work with the highest regard to health, safety and security in the workplace highlighting any risks (potential or actual) to the Service Manager and (where appropriate) the Head of Governance, in accordance with Forward's risk management protocols.
- Ensure that information, including statistical data, for audit, research and reporting purposes, is effectively and efficiently collected, recorded and collated in the assigned area.
- Effectively manage information, particularly confidential information, within statutory duties and in accordance with best practice
- Promote and ensure departmental compliance with all relevant legal, regulatory, and ethical responsibilities.
- Carry out the second signatory process and oral swab testing in services where this is required.
- Keep up to date technically on all relevant matters and strive for continuous professional development
- Use IT efficiently to support your role.

- Ensure you have agreed working protocols set between multi-disciplinary agencies and share information appropriately.
- Make full use of the information systems available to you such as P-Nomis, System-one, Intranet, email.

Administration

- Ensure case management documentation is maintained to the expected audit standards.
- Ensure data capture forms are submitted in a timely manner in order to reflect outcomes on NDTMS.
- Complete and maintain care plans and assessments to the required standards.
- Provide reports on outcomes to the service.

Other

- Take on other reasonable tasks and responsibilities as deemed appropriate by Line Management.

Person Specification

Below is a list of the qualities that we are looking for in applicants to this post. Please address each of these points in your application.

Essential

Knowledge

- Knowledge of the criminal justice sector and issues Facing substance misusers
- Knowledge of 12 step fellowship meetings
- Knowledge of theory of counselling
- Guide clients in the development of skills and strategies for dealing with their problems.
- A thorough knowledge of and commitment to the 12-step process of recovery from addiction.

Skills and Experience

- Experience of working within the substance misuse services.
- Experience of carrying out assessments and the design and implementation of SMART care plans.
- Experience of delivering structured interventions to service users.
- Experience of facilitation of therapeutic groups.
- Experience of delivering practical counselling skills

Qualifications

- Possession of a recognised counselling qualification

Desirable

Knowledge, Skills and Experience

- Knowledge of accredited treatment programmes
- Experience of providing counselling services to prisoners/Criminal justice clients, or those with drug or alcohol problems
- Personal experience of addiction/imprisonment (Addicts in recovery should have at least 3 years clean time. Ex-prisoners should have been released at least 5 years ago).
- Previous experience of working within a prison setting.
- Previous experience of working in a 12 step primary care programme.
- Utilising clinical supervision.
- Knowledge of NHS health and wellbeing outcomes
- Strong IT skills

Qualifications

- Any qualification in substance misuse
- Nursing qualifications

Forward's Mission and Values

Our vision:

Is that anyone, whatever their history and circumstances, can find the help they need to turn away from a life of crime and/or addiction, to build a fulfilling and productive life with family, work and community, while inspiring and supporting others to follow the same path.

Our mission:

Is to bring lasting change to people's lives, away from addiction and/or crime by delivering services that inspire the belief in a better life, and provide clear steps to achieve this change-bringing benefits to our service users, their families and communities.

Our values:

Underpin all of our work. They are at the heart of Forward- who we are, what we do and how we do it.

Empowering: We pride ourselves on treating others with care, respect and dignity, whether our clients, colleagues, supporters or partners. We believe in nurturing self-belief and independence to empower people to achieve their goals. Through the inspiration of others and by being honest and approachable we aim to support people to build the trust and courage to be the best they can be.

Collaborative: We seek out opportunities to collaborate with others, identifying common goals and complementary expertise and abilities. Through a respect for the strengths and differences of others; effective and open communication; and a commitment to remaining flexible in our approach, we strive to achieve the best outcomes together.

Expert: We approach problems using insights and evidence to find a solution. Our approaches are proven to work and make a positive impact. We are trusted experts, consistently delivering quality whilst remaining adaptable and resilient in the face of change.

Courageous: We are deeply committed to our work and ambitious in what we can achieve. We are unafraid to challenge or speak up if it's needed to do the best work we can. We are courageous enough to not only embrace or generate change where it means we can make an even bigger difference, but also to take responsibility to play our part in delivering that change.

Innovative: We embrace creativity in all that we do. Whether seeking out new approaches, adapting and responding to changes around us, solving problems, engaging others or finding smart and cost effective ways of working, we actively look for innovative ideas and new solutions in our efforts to do our best.

Competencies

Self-Awareness/Management: Sets, maintains and reflects on appropriate professional/personal boundaries within the workplace. Has the self-awareness to state accurately her/his personal responsibility and skill level.

Relationship Building: Builds strong, professional and positive relationships with all. Establishes a reputation for modelling trust and collaboration across Forward.

Effective Communication: Provides timely and high quality information to the appropriate people. Delivers open and clear expression of ideas and opinions, both face-to-face and through written medium. Listens effectively and responds appropriately with others.

Honesty and Integrity: Interacts with others in a way that simulates trust and confidence; employs a set of behaviours based on a strong sense of fairness and discretion, honouring confidentiality and always acting in a manner consistent with the values of Forward.

Open to Change: Accepts that change will always be a feature of Forward: responds positively to new developments and adapts successfully to evolving circumstances and events.

Positive Attitude: Bases behaviour on a positive set of beliefs, demonstrating a “can do” mentality that seeks solutions and answers to situations; valued by others for her/his affirming and helpful working style.

Commitment and Accountability: Answerable for her/his own personal actions; understands the link between her/his own responsibilities and activities, as well as the broader organisational goals of Forward. Rises above personal circumstances and implements a plan of action when confronted by issues or problems.

Creativity and Innovation: Generates ideas about, and forms approaches to, the work s/he undertakes. Open-minded and considers how s/he can constantly refresh the way in which s/he carries out duties for Forward.