

**The Forward Trust Job Description**

**Position Title:** Band 6 Hospital Liaison Nurse
**Reports to:** Clinical Lead Nurse
**Location:** Southend STARS
**Salary Band: upto £44,962.00 depending on experience.**

**Contract Type:** Full-time / Permanent

**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.

**Role Overview**

As a Band 6 Hospital Liaison Nurse, you will play a key clinical role within the Southend STARS service. Based primarily within Hospitals in Essex and STARs, you will assess, support, and coordinate care for individuals admitted with drug- or alcohol-related presentations. This role ensures the effective transition from hospital to community services while supporting hospital teams with specialist advice.

You will also lead on Hepatitis C screening and referrals, acting as the key link between substance misuse services and hepatology departments. This position supports both the clinical care of complex patients and the wider public health goals of reducing liver-related harm.

**Key Responsibilities**

**Clinical and Patient Care**

* Complete thorough clinical assessments and risk evaluations for inpatients with substance misuse issues.
* Provide or facilitate safe and appropriate alcohol or opioid withdrawal management in collaboration with medical staff.
* Identify patients requiring **Hepatitis C screening** and ensure timely testing (venous or DBST) and onward referral to hepatology teams for treatment.
* Promote liver health by supporting referrals for **FibroScan** assessments where clinically indicated.
* Deliver harm reduction interventions, including alcohol advice, naloxone distribution, and BBV awareness.
* Develop discharge plans in partnership with patients, hospital teams, and community services to support continuity of care.
* Refer individuals to inpatient or community detoxification and structured psychosocial support as appropriate while working collaboratively with their Recovery work to develop referral pathways for service users with specialist services
* **Partnership Working**
* Act as the liaison between Forward Trust and hospital-based professionals, including safeguarding leads, discharge coordinators, and hepatology teams.
* Coordinate with hepatology/liver nurses to ensure patients testing positive for HCV are engaged in treatment pathways.
* Identify frequent hospital attenders and develop strategies to improve engagement and reduce readmissions.
* Attend and contribute to multi-agency meetings relating to discharge planning, safeguarding, and care coordination.

**Governance, Documentation & Professional Practice**

* Maintain high-quality documentation in line with Forward Trust policies and clinical standard. Ensure that procedures are constantly reviewed to promote best practice and evidenced based practice in accordance with UK Guidelines on Clinical Management, NICE guidance, and Forward Trust clinical protocols and procedures.
* Ensure patient information is recorded securely and updated in the designated electronic care management system.
* Support internal audits and contribute to service improvement initiatives focused on patient safety, care quality, and treatment outcomes.
* Participate in clinical supervision, training, and continuous professional development activities. Work closely and proactively with the management and staff team to ensure adherence to all relevant Health & Safety Polices and ensure that risk is managed appropriately within the service

**Person Specification**

| **Criteria** | **Essential** | **Desirable** | **Assessment Method** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Registered Nurse with valid NMC PIN | ✅ |  | Application |
| Experience in substance misuse or related health/social care field | ✅ |  | Application & Interview |
| Clinical assessment, care planning, and risk management experience | ✅ |  | Interview |
| Knowledge of Hepatitis C pathways and BBV management | ✅ |  | Interview |
| Strong partnership working and interagency coordination skills | ✅ |  | Interview |
| Phlebotomy or DBST trained (or willingness to train) | ✅ |  | Application |
| Experience working in or alongside hospital services | ✅ |  | Interview |
| Non-Medical Prescribing qualification |  | ✅ | Application |
| Motivational interviewing and brief intervention skills | ✅ |  | Interview |
| Knowledge of liver disease risk factors and FibroScan referral criteria | ✅ |  | Interview |

**General Expectations**

* Work flexibly, including occasional evenings or weekends, to meet service needs.
* Maintain professional registration and undertake mandatory and specialist training.
* Adhere to Forward Trust clinical governance, safeguarding, health and safety, and infection control policies.
* Participate in regular supervision and contribute to a culture of continuous improvement.
* This post is subject to an Enhanced DBS check.