

Social Prescriber - Job Description

Responsible to: Senior social Prescriber

Brief overview of the role: The Social Prescriber will work within the Primary Care Network (PCN) community team or GP practice, supporting health professionals to deliver personalised care for patients at risk of loss of independence, social isolation, and hospital readmission. This role involves working collaboratively with patients, their families, and voluntary and community organisations to develop person-centred solutions, supporting patients to improve their independence, health, and wellbeing.

Main duties:

Service Delivery:

- Attend and participate in MDT or PAC meetings within the assigned PCN community team or GP practice, helping health professionals identify personalised approaches to support patients and prevent unnecessary hospital admissions.
- Contribute to the development of contingency and self-management plans.
- Collaborate with GPs, Primary Care Coordinators, Proactive Care teams, voluntary sector networks, and hospital discharge support teams to identify people at risk and create personalised solutions that enable them to remain independent in the community.
- Accept referrals from a range of sources and engage with patients to discuss their needs, based on referrer guidance, and identify options to improve their independence and wellbeing.
- Provide basic information on potential benefit entitlements and refer on for further advice as needed.
- Encourage patients to take an active role in managing their care and social needs, promoting self-care and independence.
- Signpost patients to appropriate services or activities that support independence and enhance health and wellbeing.
- Work alongside a small team of volunteers to extend the reach and capacity of the role.
- Adhere to policies and procedures related to working with and supporting volunteers.
- Where appropriate, introduce patients to volunteers for additional support in accessing identified solutions.
- Understand the barriers and opportunities for self-management of long-term conditions in the community.
- Develop knowledge of local services using AUKWSBH resources and work closely with partners across the voluntary sector, health, and social care to identify relevant activities, services, and approaches.
- Maintain accurate and up-to-date records on health and social care systems within the PCN.
- Gather, record, and collate data, including case studies, in a prescribed format to demonstrate the service's impact. This includes supporting the Head of Localities in producing quarterly reports for commissioners to monitor and evaluate service delivery.

Staff and/or Volunteer Management:

- Recruit volunteers as required to support the development and delivery of the service.
- Be familiar with and adhere to policies and procedures for working with and supporting volunteers.
- Promote a culture of coaching and collaboration across the organisation.

Financial management:

- Work with Head of Localities and Senior Social Prescriber to ensure services remains within budget.

Governance

- To comply with all organisational policies and procedures and relevant legislation including Health and Safety, Safeguarding and General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).
- To attend relevant and mandatory training as required.
- To undertake any other duties appropriate within the role as may reasonably be required by AUKWSBH.

Key contacts and relationships

- The Social Prescriber will be expected to contribute towards the development of the service, attending meetings and giving presentations as requested by their line manager.
- External relationships are key to the success of this role. This will include GP practice staff, multi-disciplinary teams (MDTs), local services and organisations for referring patients to.
- Within AUKWSBH you will work closely with the Senior Social Prescriber and Head of Localities to remain up to date on all other services provided to ensure all social prescribers are well informed.

Equality, diversity and inclusion

Age UK West Sussex Brighton and Hove is committed to anti-discriminatory policies and practices. It is essential that the post holder makes a positive contribution to their promotion and implementation.

Scope of job description

This job description reflects the immediate requirements and responsibilities of the post. It is not an exhaustive list of duties but gives a general indication of work undertaken which may vary in the light of changing demands and priorities. Substantial changes will be carried out in consultation with the postholder.

Person Specification – Social Prescriber

Experience	Essential	Desirable
Excellent communication and leadership skills:- ability motivate people towards achieving defined outcomes, engaging and effective in driving progress	✓	
Have a good understanding of information governance and consent process	✓	
An understanding of, and interest in people, their situations and the opportunities they may want and/or need	✓	
Be able to maintain accurate records and produce appropriate monitoring data as required	✓	
Experience of updating in house databases		
Ability to provide and assimilate information to people with diverse support needs.	✓	
Effective problem solving skills that supports a “can do approach” within the service and when supporting people with care and social support needs	✓	
Understands the adult social care environment and how we can best add value	✓	
Have experience of working with or supporting vulnerable people		✓
Have experience of working with or supporting volunteers.		✓
Knowledge/qualifications		
Knowledge of social prescribing models and practice and person-centred support planning		✓
Knowledge and experience of West Sussex Voluntary and other sectors providing care and social support	✓	
Have experience of community based work in various settings/locations.		✓
Experience of home visiting and best practice for lone working		✓
Skills		
Experience of risk assessment training/awareness		✓
Highly developed interpersonal skills with experienced development and entrepreneurial skills.	✓	
Effective organisational skills including information, resources and time management including planning and prioritising workload.	✓	
High level of Competency in administrative ability and IT skills including using main Microsoft packages as well as experience with project frameworks and systems	✓	
Ability to promote and market new initiatives within clinical settings		✓
Have a flexible approach to work encompassing some unsociable hours to accommodate relevant events	✓	
Other requirements		
Experience of Partnership working		✓
Be able to travel locally to incorporate working and visiting GP surgeries and undertake home visits as well as being able to attend other networking events locally	✓	
This is an essential car users post. Proof of appropriate insurance cover, including business use, will be requested	✓	