

Job: Senior Community Link Worker (Part time 18 hours per week)
Location: West Kent & Swale
Reports to: Programme Manager

Who are we?

Shaw Trust is a progressive charity on an exciting journey to help five times more people over the next five years. For over 30 years we have supported disabled and disadvantaged people to make positive changes to their lives through training and employment, and our ambitious plans need the right people to help us transform many more lives, in many more ways.

What we do is exciting, fulfilling and diverse and it's about to get even better. As well as employment services, we work with kids in schools, help offenders in prisons, and empower people to take part in activities that many of us would take for granted.

Working with us gives you far more benefits than a standard package; it gives you the chance to help turn someone's life around.

Our Live well Kent & Medway service is part of our Community Mental health and Wellbeing directorate and is committed to improving the lives of residents across Medway & Swale. Our Senior Community Link Workers are key to this servicing ensuring people's wellbeing is enhanced.

What we need?

Issues related to an individuals housing or living circumstances can have a major impact on their Mental Health and wellbeing and we are therefore recruiting a Senior Community Link Worker to manage a team of Community Link Workers who will specifically focus on working alongside District and Borough housing teams.

Community Link Workers help individuals access the right help at the right time. Our Link Workers understand their communities and the wide range of services available within them. They are passionate about getting it right, able communicators and focused on using their experience to connect people with the help they need in their own communities.

Working daily with clients, district & borough councils, housing associations, health professionals and service providers; Link Workers are focused on making sure a person's journey to better living circumstances and wellbeing is as easy as possible. Brokering existing service and helping to develop new local provision, liaising with primary and secondary health care professionals, checking in on progress and making sure we can evidence the outcomes of the service are all important facets of the job – a job that makes a real difference in the lives of people.

This role is perfect for individuals with experience of managing staff and working within a community mental health and or wellbeing setting; using a case management approach. A practical understanding of primary and secondary care with the ability to champion and embrace change would be useful. The successful candidate will have a solution focussed approach, be highly organised and be able to deliver to agreed service specifications and outcomes.

Are you right for the job?

- Do you have experience within a Housing, community mental health and wellbeing setting?
- Do you have experience managing staff with the ability to motivate and drive a team staying focused under pressure?
- Are you a self-starter who can come in motivated and enthusiastic to pick up an existing caseload and a new staff team?
- Do you have the ability to turn around the lives of people through engagement and inclusion?
- Do you have a strong track record of achieving positive outcomes?
- Do you motivate people, work well in a team and stay focused under pressure?
- Do you feel passionate about reducing the impact of stigma on people’s lives and opportunities
- Do you want to work co-located within District and Borough councils Housing teams

Person Specification

Job Title: Senior Community Link Worker

(E = Essential D = Desirable)

Competencies

- Embraces change and drives continuous improvement **(E)**
- People centred in a commercial framework, takes accountability for results **(E)**
- Demonstrates a passion to further the charitable aims of the organisation and acts with integrity **(E)**
- Collaborates and unites with others behind the organisations mission **(E)**
- Provides a best in class service to all customers internal and external **(E)**

Technical competency (qualifications and training)

- Minimum of 5 GCSEs (A to C) or equivalent qualifications **(E)**
- Relevant additional training in the health and social care field including safeguarding, motivational interviewing, mental health awareness **(D)**
- Health or social care recognised qualification. **(D)**

Experience, Knowledge and Skills

- Experience of delivering mental health and wellbeing interventions in a case management approach. **(E)**
- Previous experience managing staff and co-ordinating services **(E)**
- Experience of working with primary and secondary care services **(E)**
- Experience of facilitating and supporting clients with complex and/or multiple barriers to success in health and social care settings. **(E)**

- Able to demonstrate being highly organised, have good planning skills and be able to deliver to agreed targets. **(E)**
- Experience of brokerage and procurement of services for individuals. **(D)**
- Understanding of the 6 Ways to Wellbeing and it's practical application **(E)**
- Understanding of inclusion, mental health and anti-stigma. **(E)**
- Knowledge of Housing and health and social care system and the application of wellbeing and prevention.**(E)**
- Ability to facilitate, engage, motivate and support clients and their carers where appropriate. **(E)**
- A motivational, flexible and problem solving approach.**(E)**
- Positive attitude to mental health, community connectivity and a strengths and assets based focus to engaging with individuals. **(E)**
- Ability to work on own initiative, as well as in consultation and negotiation with managers and other stakeholders as required. **(E)**
- Excellent interpersonal, communication and presentation skills demonstrating the ability to convey complex messages clearly. **(E)**
- Flexibility to cope with the varying demands of the role, managing time effectively to achieve the desired results and willing to travel with possible overnight stays. **(E)**

Safeguarding

- Be able to display an awareness, understanding and commitment to the protection and safeguarding of young people and vulnerable adults. **(E)**
- This post requires a DBS enhanced disclosure with the additional barring checklist for vulnerable adults. **(E)**

Main Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Provide effective line management, coaching and mentoring to all team members to ensure that they are fully supported in all aspects of their role.
2. Undertaking monthly 1-2-1 sessions and caseload reviews with each team member to ensure all clients are progressing towards their desired goals in a timely manner. Agree remedial action as required and ensure the client journey is collated onto our Client Management System to quantify quality of work achieved
3. Liaising with Supply Chain Partners within the delivery network to support with referrals into the network
4. To build relationships and liaise regularly with local district & borough councils, Housing teams and Health & Social care teams aligned to caseloads and to work across the local housing network with all other stakeholders attending relevant meetings when required.
5. Procure personalised additional support within the constraints of the individual support budgets which will enable the client's achievement of their wellbeing goals
6. Ensure an ongoing focus on prevention of poor wellbeing through Making Every Contact Count (MECC) linking with public health prevention activity.

7. Undertake or participate in regular case conferences with partner organisations, support services and/or other team members to ensure a client journey is smooth and consistent.
8. Ensure team members are completing all tasks related to journey / case management function including maintaining effective and efficient administrative procedures producing appropriate records and reports, including the updating of client details on the relevant case management system.
9. Ensure team members are achieving against service delivery KPIs and outcomes, capturing management information from delivery and wider network and provide reports accordingly.
10. Provide a quality service that meets 6 Ways to Wellbeing, contractual requirements and related thinking within the mental health sector as well as organizational quality standards.
11. Ensure safe working practices are maintained as set out within Shaw Trust's policies/procedures as well as operating within service guidelines when clients require crisis support.
12. To encourage client feedback and user involvement as directed.
13. To develop and maintain an in-depth knowledge of the local provision, programme provision of relevant agencies and opportunities pertaining to wellbeing.

This job description is intended to provide a broad outline of the main duties and responsibilities only. The post holder will need to be flexible in developing the role in conjunction with the line manager. The post holder may be asked to carry out any other delegated duty or task that is in line with their post.

Other

1. To undertake any further training as identified in the Shaw Trust review procedures.
2. Ensure that safe working practices are followed in respect of COSHH and other Risk Assessment control measures.
3. Employees must comply with the provisions of 'The Health and Safety at Work Act 1974' and must take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and of other persons who may be affected by their acts of omissions whilst at work. Employees are also required to co-operate with their employer to enable them to perform or comply with any statutory provisions. The Trust's efforts to promote a safe and healthy working environment can only succeed with the full co-operation of its employees.

4. To understand, comply with and promote Shaw Trust's safeguarding policy and procedures. It is the responsibility of all employees to make the working environment safe and secure for all. Everyone must adhere to the 5 Rs in relation to possible abuse: Recognition, Response, Reporting, Recording and Referral. The Trust can only ensure its dedication to the protection of vulnerable people with the full cooperation of its employees.
5. The Trust has an Equality and Diversity Policy and it is the responsibility of all staff to comply with this. The key responsibilities for staff under this Policy are set out in the Trust Code of Conduct.
6. To maintain the confidentiality about clients, staff and other Trust business. The work is of a confidential nature and information gained must not be communicated to other persons except in the recognised course of duty. The post holder must meet the requirements of the Data Protection Act at all times.
7. To maintain awareness of risk and to take personal responsibility for ensuring that the Trust is not unnecessarily exposed to risk. To report any issues or concerns relating to risk and the effectiveness of the Trusts risk management arrangements.
8. Be aware of, promote and implement Shaw Trust's Risk, Quality and Information Security Management Systems.
9. To report to line manager, or other appropriate person, in the event of awareness of bad practice.
10. Recycle and manage energy within your environment.