



DIRECT ACCESS SESSIONAL SUBSTANCE USE WORKER

Job Description

Direct Access Sessional Substance Use Worker



Job Role

Job Title:	Sessional Substance Use Worker
Reporting to:	Service Manger via Senior Practitioner / Team Leader
Hours of work:	Up to 18 hours per week
Post:	**
Place of work:	ADA, 7 Hadden Street, Aberdeen, AB11 6NU
Salary:	£14.77 - £16.35 per hour (dependent on experience)
Grade:	AP4
Term:	Permanent

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ADA's Vision

Wherever it operates Alcohol & Drugs Action will proactively work to reduce the harms, inequalities and stigma associated with substance related issues, thus enabling, and improving access to recovery by delivering a wide range of measurable, positive outcomes for individuals, families and communities most in need.

ADA's Mission

Alcohol & Drugs Action will provide a range of substance use related services, collaborating with its partners, including its service-users, volunteers, and local communities, to provide evidence-based interventions across the full spectrum of the 'recovery journey'. By providing harm reduction and tailored holistic support to the individual irrespective of their starting point within that journey, we ensure that our service provision is flexible, accessible, timely and person-centred.

Job Purpose

Our services are open 7 days per week and through a range of accessible gateways, you will work as part of a multi-disciplinary team to;

- Reduce the risk of harm from alcohol and drug use for individuals, families and communities
- Improve access to appropriate services for clients with substance use issues, their families and friends
- Assist in the delivery of an integrated service through the provision of assessment, action planning and appropriate referral
- Offer advice and information to enable people to make informed decisions to reduce the harms associated with alcohol and drug use
- Deliver early interventions, targeting hard to reach groups, to prevent escalation of substance use and related problems and to reduce any related harms
- Provide a range of interventions to reduce harm, help improve health and promote wellbeing
- Support individuals to engage effectively with treatment and other relevant services

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Key Duties and Responsibilities

- To provide information and advice on alcohol, other drugs and related issues to substance users, families and communities
- To deliver structured preparatory interventions to alcohol and other drug users to access treatment and support recovery
- To deliver Alcohol Brief Interventions (ABIs) as required
- To deliver targeted harm reduction interventions such as Naloxone, Dried Blood Spot Testing and other relevant actions to help reduce harms
- To be involved in delivery of injecting equipment provision (needle exchange) service and provision of appropriate advice on 'safer' drug use as required
- To be involved in delivery of immediate advice/information on alcohol, other drugs and related issues
- To deliver Helpline and/or Duty drop in advice/information/support on alcohol, other drugs and related issues
- To deliver services to targeted, hard to reach groups e.g. sex workers, minority ethnic groups, individuals in areas of social deprivation as appropriate
- To assess clients, carrying out triage and comprehensive assessment as required and making referrals to specialist services and agencies, where necessary
- To deliver structured 1-1 support to assist recovery as required
- To devise, monitor and review care plans in partnership with service users to ensure that client's needs are met
- To support individuals to access services to support their recovery and advocate, as necessary on their behalf
- To establish good working relationships with other services appropriate to the target group needs
- To keep and maintain records to enable good practice and inform monitoring systems. To record client statistics in accordance with ADA policies to ensure the integrity of information
- Maintain a high standard of knowledge in the subject area and continually update this knowledge
- To work within ADA's Policies & Procedures including participate in supervision sessions and appropriate meetings

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- Other tasks, as directed, that enhance the support available to the public

Method of Service Delivery

The post-holder will be expected to deliver services at the following locations;

- At the city-centre base
- At a range of easy to access community locations
- At Primary and Secondary care locations such as GP practices, Hospital settings
- On the street (this is specifically in relation to outreach services)
- At individuals home addresses
- Other locations as need of service users dictate/services develop

The post-holder will be expected to work in conjunction with other agencies where appropriate.

Certain Services are delivered seven days a week in accordance with identified need.

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Person Specification

JOB TITLE: Direct Access Sessional Substance Use Worker

Essential Requirement

- Availability to work regular evening and other unsocial hours as required by the service
- Direct experience of working with substance users and families
- Non-judgemental and empathic approach and the ability to work with others regardless of their ethnicity, social background, sexuality, gender, religious beliefs or substance use
- Have a clear understanding of drug and alcohol use, dependency and related issues
- Skills in assessment, care planning and risk management
- Knowledge and understanding of effective interventions which address diverse need
- Knowledge and understanding of responses to Child Protection and Vulnerable Adults
- Skills in brief interventions work
- Ability to communicate well with service users, other professionals and agencies
- Ability to work well as part of a team
- Experience of working in partnership with other organisations
- Good time management skills
- Good administration and IT skills

Desirable

- SVQ level 3 or equivalent, e.g. a qualification in Social Work, Nursing, Community work, Counselling or related field, Diploma in Drug & Alcohol Studies or extensive relevant experience
- Experience of working in a harm reduction setting & recovery based setting
- Holds a current driving licence

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- Group work experience & skills
- Skills in service development, monitoring and evaluation
- Experience in working within community settings
- Skills in motivational interviewing and motivational enhancement interventions
- Knowledge and understanding of effective interventions which promote and support recovery
- Knowledge of Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST); overdose prevention; cultural awareness; equal opportunities; sexual health; and BBVs

Date of Latest Review: 24 September 2021

Name of Reviewer: Simon Pringle