

# Job specification



**Job title:** Rehabilitation Officer Visual Impairment

**Service:** Early Intervention

**Grade:** G8

**Reporting to:** Advanced Practitioner Occupational Therapist

## Your job

As a Rehabilitation Officer in the Sensory team, you will work within Early Intervention Integrated services, including Reablement, Equipment and Adaptations and Assistive Technology. You will work with service users who are experiencing difficulties with their ability to complete activities of daily living and experiencing reduced levels of independence due to their sight loss. You will work across the Borough as part of Early Intervention Sensory Service. As part of Adult Social Care, we work closely with our colleagues across the health and social care economy, including public health, community and acute health care services and housing, all providing an integrated approach to promoting and maintaining the health, wellbeing and independence of the people we support.

You will ensure the delivery of high quality and effective services to adults, families and carers using a personalised and asset based approach that promotes health and wellbeing. You will support people to optimise their engagement in the local community and support them to develop outcome-based recommendations. The Early intervention service are committed to integrated working, offering a streamlined health and social care services to the people we support. Along with our health colleagues, we aim to support people to remain independent in their own homes and reduce the need for inpatient hospital services.

The Council is committed to complying with the European General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) and meeting the requirements of the Information Commissioner's office (regulating data protection compliance in the UK). It is your responsibility to ensure that the work you undertake is compliant with the General Data Protection Regulations.

## In this job you will

On an ongoing basis you will:

- Identify, deliver and evaluate professional rehabilitation interventions to visually impaired people to enhance their skills and confidence to maximise their independence.
- Assess and provide support to help people at risk from harm or becoming dependent on others due to their sight loss.
- Act as an advocate for visually impaired and people experiencing a dual sensory loss and to the organisation to help promote accessible services; equality; social integration and understanding of the impact of sight loss.
- Undertake specialist visual impairment assessments with the visually impaired person to identify their needs and aspirations to promote independent living.
- To plan, implement, evaluate and review rehabilitative services to the visually impaired person aimed at maximising and maintaining independence, safety, dignity and choice. Rehabilitation may include, but not be restricted to:
  - To provide Daily Living Skills training; to include the teaching of new skills or adapted practice for all aspects of daily living, home management, employment and leisure.

- To provide communication training; to include all forms of access to communication including but not limited to print, Braille, Moon, audio description, ICT, telephones, Deafblind manual and block alphabet.
- To develop planned programmes of training to develop independence in indoor and outdoor mobility environments, including training in guiding skills, pre-cane, long cane, orientation (including specialist equipment) and route planning techniques.
- To provide low vision training/therapy in coordination with local NHS low vision services that helps individuals make the best use of functional vision, magnifiers, lighting and other low vision aids.
- To work with visually impaired people who have additional complex needs such as dual sensory loss, learning, physical and mental health disabilities in recognition of the cumulative effect of additional disabilities. To liaise with other specialist workers as necessary.
- To assess and recommend minor works of adaptation as highlighted in the specialist visual impairment assessment and liaise with all relevant parties in line with employer's budget and policies.
- To work within a safeguarding framework to identify, manage and where possible reduce risk to visually impaired people, family, carers, communities, self and colleagues.
- To understand the psychological aspects of sight loss and provide emotional support as part of the rehabilitation process to the individual, their family and carers.
- To signpost and or refer individuals to partners in local authority, health service, education service, welfare and employment services, voluntary sector and other community services.
- To support visually impaired people to represent their culture, needs, views and circumstances where appropriate.
- To have an up to date knowledge of legislation in connection with sight impairment registers and to provide support and advice to social care colleagues to support this process.

### **In this job you will need**

You must be able to demonstrate the following essential requirements:-

- Honours Degree or Dip. H. E/Foundation Degree in Rehabilitation Studies (Visual Impairment).
- To be a registered member with Rehabilitation Workers Professional Network (RWPN)
- Experience of rehabilitation work with people with vision impairment in an organisation providing care/health services.
- Experience of working independently in the delivery of person centred outcome focused rehabilitation training programmes.
- Experience of assessing for specialist vision impairment equipment and assistive technologies
- Experience of working with people with a dual sensory loss.
- Experience of working with people who have vision impairment and additional needs
- The ability to prioritise and effectively manage a caseload
- Current knowledge of eye conditions and diseases and their management

- Ability to keep accurate and timely records
- Up to date knowledge of social care policy and legislation both in relation to broad social care practice and in relation to the specific issues about vision impairment.
- Ability to work both in a team and under own initiative, as required.
- Excellent communication skills.
- Good IT skills.
- A willingness to undergo further training as required.

## Our culture

For us, it's not just about all we achieve as an organisation, but how we do it. Therefore, all employees are expected to display our **Team Wigan** behaviours.

**Be Positive... take pride in all that you do**

**Be Accountable... be responsible for making things better**

**Be Courageous... be open to doing things differently**


**Be Kind... be helpful, generous and thoughtful towards yourself and others**


**#TeamWiganDeal**


## Together we will


Deliver Deal 2030, working alongside our communities to make Wigan Borough an amazing and inclusive place to live and work, building a better future.

### We will


 Genuinely care for you and your wellbeing.

 Champion a culture that inspires you to thrive.


 Listen and engage with you to bring your ideas to life.


 Celebrate your contribution and support you to reach your goals and aspirations.

### I will

 Look after my wellbeing and be kind to myself and others.

 Work with others across #TeamWigan to be courageous, innovative and embrace technology.

 Share my ideas and be accountable for making things happen.

 Own my development and let my passion and positivity shine through.