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| **JOB DESCRIPTION** | | **Counsellor (SHIP) Self Harm Intervention Programme** |
| **RESPONSIBLE TO** | | Service Manager |
| **LOCATION** | | ASCERT Belfast Office. Operating across Belfast and Northern Health & Social Care Trust areas. |
| **LENGTH OF POST** | | This post is funded to October 2027 (with possible extension) |
| **HOURS** | | 35 hours per week |
| **SALARY** | | SCP Point 23 £32,076 plus 4% pension |
| **THIS POST IS FOR YOU IF:**  • You have a Diploma in Counselling and Level 5 CBT, and are accredited with an appropriate professional body.  • You enjoy a job which has a diverse range of responsibilities.  • You are passionate about supporting the mental health and wellbeing of young people and adults.  **OVERALL PURPOSE**  **As a counsellor within ASCERT’s SHIP service you will be part of a team that provides Tier 2 psychological interventions and support services to individuals that have self-harmed, ages 11+, including support for their family/carer or other support person(s).**  **The SHIP service is commissioned by the Public Health Agency and complements the provision of services by Health and Social Care (HSC) Trusts and primary care teams across the Belfast and Northern areas.**  ASCERT have grown to become one of the leading and best-known providers of community-based services for vulnerable young people and adults in Northern Ireland addressing a range of issues such as mental health, substance use, suicide prevention and trauma. We have developed an extensive experience of service planning and delivery across a range of disciplines and have successfully delivered substantial contracts on behalf of public bodies.  ASCERT provide a wide range of services across the region, and have offices in Lisburn, Omagh and Belfast. We are strongly linked to policy development and implementation of strategy at a regional and local level. We have strong partnerships with other services delivering treatment, training and community services to people that need support. We hold the Investors in People Gold Accreditation.  Summary of Role:   * Be an active member of the SHIP service intervention team. * Support young people and adults impacted by self-harm. * Provide information and support to family members and other support persons. * Ensure high quality practices are delivered in line with the service’s objectives, service specifications and KPI’s. * Share clinical advice and support to other team members. * Work collaboratively with referring HSC services.   Why join the ASCERT team?   * 28 Days Annual Leave plus 11 Bank/Public Holidays * Christmas Shopping Day * Time off for Mental Health Awareness * Health Cash Plan * Employee Assistance Programme * Time off in Lieu Policy * Hybrid Working Options * Competitive Pension contributions from ASCERT * Staff Wellbeing Programme * Investors in People Gold Employer | | |
| **Service Development** | ASCERT employees will work to the KPI’s that are set in line with service specification provided by funding bodies. | |
| ASCERT employees will have defined KPI’s as part of their annual service targets. | |
| Ensure a high-quality service is delivered in line with the service specification and KPI’s in line with service objectives. | |
| Contribute to the delivery of teaching and training programmes. | |
| Read and comply with instructions as set out within HOPE Service Operational Handbook (2024) | |
| Work collaboratively with colleagues to further develop ASCERT services. | |
| **Key Responsibilities** | Supporting individuals through psychological interventions and support porgrammes to prevent self harm behaviour or risk of suicide | |
| Responsive to needs, tailored and customised to specific circumstances, and that are reviewed on a regular basis to accommodate changes in the service user’s life. | |
| Conduct timely responses in offering support. | |
| Provide interventions and support in relation to specific needs and client motivation, that are based on a thorough assessment of need and circumstance. | |
| Participation in the on-going monitoring and evaluation of the ASCERT service. | |
| Provide regular reports to the Service Manager on the activities of the post. | |
| To work responsibly and professionally in partnership with other agencies in the delivery of ASCERT services. | |
| To work alongside the Service Manager in the formulation of Intervention or Prevention Pathways for the participants in ASCERT services. | |
| To carry out other responsibilities as commensurate with the post. | |
| To maintain personal Continuing Professional Development and encourage and support other staff in their development and training. | |
| To keep accurate and up to date written records of contact with service users. | |
| To attend staff meetings, and non-clinical supervision in house, and appropriate clinical supervision with an external agency as required. | |
| **Professional Development** | Maintain and develop personal expertise and knowledge by reading, networking and further training in order to develop professional competence and to contribute to the development of competence within the team. | |
| Help with the induction and orientation of new staff, volunteers and students. | |
| Ensure professional development by seeking regular supervision and annual appraisals. | |
| Be accountable and responsible for own professional practice, operating in line with professional code of conduct and within organisational policy and procedures. | |



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| **The following Criteria will be assessed at interview stage only** |
| **K:**  Excellent oral and written communication skills for the production of reports and the maintenance of caseload files. |
| **H:**  Sound planning and organisational skills to manage a demanding workload including caseload management, training sessions, and peer support. |
| **I:** Excellent IT skills across a number of different applications. |
| **J:** Ability to travel regionally to deliver services access to a car and a full UK driving license or guaranteed access to other appropriate form of private transport. |
| **K:** Effective team player. |
| **L:**  Empathy with ASCERT’s purpose and values including an interest and sensitivity to other cultures and a strong commitment to equal opportunities and diversity. |
| **M:** Willing and able to work unsocial hours including evenings and weekends (with notice) |