**Job Description**

**Job Title:**  **Magistrates court practitioner**

**Accountable to: Head of Service**  
Practice Plus Group’s mission is **Unlock Access to Excellence**. Our core values are;

* we treat patients and each other as they would like to be treated,
* we act with integrity
* we embrace diversity
* We strive to do things better together.

Patients can only access excellence if we commit to living our values in everything we do when we’re at work.



We believe in putting the patient first, regardless of the environment or their history. The health and justice population are one of the most vulnerable and challenged service user groups in society and the delivery of their health care is conducted within often difficult and demanding environments.

**The role**

We are looking for an experienced practitioner to complete assessment and support plans for individuals attending the local Magistrates Court. The assessment will focus on the needs of the service user from a health and social perspective, focusing on an all-vulnerability model.

The aim of the Liaison and Diversion service is to reduce reoffending behaviour by means of addressing the health and social needs of those in need, ensuring the welfare of the service users, promoting social inclusion and encouraging positive change. This will include supporting vulnerable service users to access mainstream services and voluntary groups to improve their health outcomes, making onward referrals to appropriate local services and encouraging engagement.

The role of the practitioner is to support the service user through the Magistrates Court process, providing advice and use the information from assessment to provide a report to the courts to support onward decision making of those working within the court system, communicating any reasonable adjustments and providing options to the court staff as appropriate.

You are required to undertake assessments of vulnerable people who have been detained in police or Court custody and share relevant information to assist and inform the Police, Court and Crown Prosecution Service decision making with regards to charge and sentence and to share information about vulnerable people with other agencies to ensure risk is managed effectively and vulnerable people are safeguarded.

A good working knowledge of the Mental Health Act 1983 (amended 2007) is desirable, especially Part III. (Part III of the 1983 Mental Health Act (amended 2007) covers patients concerned with criminal proceedings), along with a good working knowledge of PACE (Police and Criminal Evidence Act 1984) and other community sentence treatments and support services available within the local area. You will model a culture of compassion, care, courage, commitment, communication and competence.

As the Magistrates Court practitioner, you will help to develop and deliver workshops to develop the team’s learning in various areas such as court processes, documentation & stakeholder processes.

As the Magistrates Court practitioner, you are required to demonstrate knowledge and skills within a defined area of expertise, to critically appraise, evaluate and apply knowledge of theoretical frameworks and applying evidence-based practice as appropriate. You will work closely with partners and stakeholders to maintain a robust, high-quality service for service users.

You will be required to provide support to junior team members from a clinical and non-clinical background and aid their ongoing development. You will be required to support and contribute to undertaking audits in accordance with your role and contribute to service development for the site.

You will contribute to our healthcare strategy and vision to:

**Provide** outstanding evidence-based care to our patients, seeking out, listening to and acting on their feedback, so that care is personalised and informed by what matters to them.

**Deliver** non-judgemental care that makes a real difference, as defined throughout our bespoke Health in Justice Competency framework.

**Inspire** excellence by forging strong links with our partners and stakeholders and providing a service that people can trust, feel safe within, and feel proud of.

**Promote** best practice, clinical supervision, evidence based care and continuous quality improvement, embedding a culture of shared learning.

**Share** knowledge, skills and expertise to ensure safe care, building strong multi-disciplinary teams and supporting each other to do a great job. Encourage a shared learning approach to teaching.

**About you**

* Evidence of working with service users with vulnerabilities, such as mental health, substance misuse, criminal justice

* Evidence of Continued Professional Development
* Be a registered mental health nurse or social worker
* Understanding of the complexities of multi-disciplinary and multi-agency working
* A non-judgmental and compassionate approach
* Excellent communication skills
* Existing line management experience and student nurse mentorship
* Understanding of clinical governance, health and safety, EBP and national standards
* Good IT skills and IT literacy
* Awareness and knowledge of PACE and the Criminal procedures Act
* Knowledge of healthcare policies and best practice
* Proactive problem-solving skills
* Flexible attitude to working arrangements
* Motivated as an individual and when working in a team
* Able to work within a busy environment
* Willing to learn and develop being committed to self-development
* Patient centred values



**Additional information**

**Disclosure and Barring Service -** a Disclosure and Barring Service disclosure at the enhanced level is required for this role. A risk assessment will be undertaken if necessary.

**Education and Training -** continuing professional development is encouraged and an annual appraisal system is in place to discuss ongoing objectives and support revalidation.