

Tasmania Prison Service

High Needs Support Counsellor – Statement of Duties

Objective

To provide psycho-social assessments and supportive counselling to offenders identified as having complex or high support needs within the Tasmania Prison Services.

Duties

- To provide crisis support counselling for offenders identified as at risk or suicide or self-harm or those with complex or high support needs within the Tasmanian Prison Service.
- Provide psycho-social assessment and treatment including the design, development, implementation and evaluation of individual treatment programs and management plans.
- Work within a multi-disciplinary team and participate in the case-management reviews to ensure continuity of care.
- Provide consultation to agencies within a corrections system in regard to psycho-social assessment including factors relating to risk of harm to self or others.
- Assist in sentence planning and other processes informed by assessment as required.
- Participate in supervision, peer review and continuing professional development and risk assessment management practices.
- Assist with and participate in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of quality improvement, risk management, ethical research activities and other strategies consistent with best practice as required.

Level of responsibility

- Discretion and choice in selecting the most appropriate method for completing tasks is expected and encouraged.
- The occupant is expected to exercise independent professional judgement in the management of cases, working in accordance with Tasmania Prison Service procedures and protocols.
- Conduct your work in a safe manner such that it does not put yourself or others at risk.
- Comply with any reasonable instruction contained in WHS policies, procedures and instructions and report hazards, near misses and incidents to your supervisors.
- You are responsible for upholding the values of Integrity, Respect, Accountability and actively contributing to make our workplaces Inclusive and Collaborative.

Direction and supervision received

- The incumbent is expected to work under the regular supervision of, and with professional accountability to, the Senior Psychologist, Therapeutic Services. Administrative direction is provided by the Manager Integrated Offender Management.

Selection criteria

1. Well-developed assessment, counselling, crisis intervention and case management skills, preferably within a corrections setting.
2. Demonstrated experience in the assessment, formation and implementation of plans relating to people with complex needs.
3. Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively within a multi-disciplinary setting.
4. Demonstrated ability to consult, liaise and negotiate with other service providers.
5. Demonstrated high level interpersonal, oral and written communication skills including the ability to provide reports.
6. Demonstrated knowledge of relevant Occupational Health and Safety legislation and codes of professional practice.

Essential requirements

- A degree of at least 3 years duration relevant to the professional duties to be undertaken is required, as provided by a recognised university.

Desirable requirements

- Nil

Pre-employment Checks

The Head of State Service has determined that the person nominated for this vacancy is to satisfy a pre-employment check before taking up the appointment, promotion or transfer.

The following checks are to be conducted:

I. Pre-employment checks

- Arson and fire setting
- Violent crimes and crimes against the person
- Sex-related offences
- Drug and alcohol related offences
- Crimes involving dishonesty
- Crimes involving deception
- Making false declarations
- Malicious damage and destruction to property
- Serious traffic offences
- Crimes against public order or relating to the Administration of Law and Justice

- Crimes against Executive or the Legislative Power
 - Crimes involving Conspiracy
2. Disciplinary action in previous employment.
 3. Identification check.

Applicants are required to undergo psychological and aptitude testing as part of the selection process.

Position Summary

Title	High Needs Support Counsellor
Number	Generic
Award	Tasmanian State Service Award
Classification	Professional Stream Band 2
Division	Corrections and Justice
Full Time Equivalent	1.0 FTE
Output Group	Tasmanian Prison Service
Branch	Integrated Offender Management
Supervisor	Senior Psychologist, Therapeutic Services
Direct Reports	Nil
Location	Risdon Prison
Position category and funding	A052