

Tasmania Prison Service

Senior Psychologist, Specialist Services – Statement of Duties

Objective

In accordance with Agency policy and direction, legal requirements and professional competencies, undertake the delivery of a quality service to inmates, based on best practice principles and within a collaborative and multidisciplinary framework.

To coordinate the delivery of Specialist Therapeutic Services for the Tasmanian Prison Service – Disability Services and Alcohol and Drug Services. This includes the clinical supervision of staff, provision of staff training and provide advice to the Prison Service in relation to these specialist areas.

Duties

- To provide leadership in the coordination and administration of the Specialist Services within the Therapeutic Services Unit and oversight of disability and alcohol and drug services for the Tasmania Prison Service.
- Provide clinical supervision of Therapeutic Services staff and other Interventions and Reintegration staff as required.
- Research, develop and conduct assessments with prisoners which identify disability support needs and alcohol and drug needs to assess suitability and triaging of inmates for specialist support.
- Develop an appropriate model of assessment, care and intervention for these specialist services.
- Train and assist prisoner support staff, including correctional officers to understand assessment and need in these specialist areas and specifically how to work with prisoners who may be living with a disability.
- Facilitate positive and effective working relationships with other areas of the prison, the Correctional Primary Health Service and other relevant Government and non-Government agencies.
- As a member of the Prisoner Services Team, use professional expertise to contribute to the development of policies and procedures.
- Prepare for and participate in regular supervision and relevant staff development and maintain knowledge of relevant contemporary issues, theory and practice.
- Participate, as required, in the supervision and learning programs for tertiary students on placements.
- Undertake special projects as required.

Level of responsibility

- The work of the Senior Psychologist, Specialist Services contributes to the formulation of Corrective Services policies and requires an understanding of the wider policy and strategic context. Responsible for determining how to achieve end results within the limits of available resources.
- Responsible for providing professional leadership to staff including those not under their direct line authority, and for establishing and maintaining effective relationships with key internal and external stakeholders.
- Exercises a high degree of independent professional judgement in the resolution of more complex and critical problems or issues. Responsible for own time management, prioritisation of work in consultation with the Assistant Director, Interventions and Reintegration Services providing authoritative professional or policy advice which draws on in-depth knowledge of the field.
- Ensure efficient and effective management of work health, wellbeing and safety for the areas of responsibility in accordance with the WHS requirements in the WHS Act.
- Provide adequate instruction, information, supervision and training for your team members, depending on the nature of their work.
- Our values are we act with Integrity, Respect and Accountability and our workplaces are Inclusive and Collaborative. You are responsible for contributing to our values based workplace culture, leading your team in a values based manner, ensuring your team uphold the values and role modelling the values.

Direction and supervision received

- Works under broad policy control and direction and receives limited direction from the Assistant Director, Interventions and Reintegration Services.
- External professional supervision on matters related to professional ethics and practice can be negotiated.

Selection criteria

The following specific selection criteria must be addressed by candidates by describing their relevant personal and professional skills and abilities; qualifications, training and competencies; past achievements; and potential for development. The position objective and duties can also be used to assist in addressing the selection criteria.

1. Extensive professional expertise in a range of psychological assessment and treatment options, including a significant professional knowledge of working with people who may require support around drug and alcohol use or who are incarcerated and living with a disability
2. Ability to provide clinical supervision to psychologists and other multidisciplinary team members.
3. Ability to coach and train staff to enable them to implement behaviour management programs and to work with prisoners who may be vulnerable or at risk.

4. Demonstrated ability to organise and manage workload, set priorities and work without close supervision in an environment subject to pressure and change.
5. Well-developed written and verbal skills, in particular, strong interpersonal skills and conflict resolution skills.
6. Ability to formulate policies and strategic goals and work within the wider policy and strategic context of the Corrective Services Division.
7. Capacity to work in a prison environment and proven ability to exercise discretion, sensitivity, initiative, flexibility and confidentiality and to work enthusiastically and effectively both individually and as a member of a team.
8. Be able to understand and apply the requirements of the relevant WHS legislation in your areas of responsibility.

Essential requirements

- Person to be registered by the Psychology Board of Australia under the Health Practitioner Regulation National Law (Tasmania).

Desirable requirements

- At least two years practical experience in psychological work or a Master's Degree in Clinical Psychology from a tertiary institution approved by the Australian Psychological Society.

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:

1. 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.

Position Summary

Title	Senior Psychologist, Specialist Services (AOD and Disability)
Number	355540
Award	Allied Health Professionals
Classification	AHP04B
Division	Corrections & Justice
Full Time Equivalent	1:0
Output Group	Tasmania Prison Service
Branch	Integrated Offender Management
Supervisor	Assistant Director, Intervention and Reintegration Services
Direct Reports	8
Location	Risdon Prison
Position category and funding	A052