

# Suicide Bereavement Practitioner

Job Description and Person Specification



# Suicide Bereavement Practitioner

<b>Hours</b>	Part time 22.5 hours per week
<b>Salary Scale</b>	Grade 3
<b>Salary</b>	£28,164 per annum pro rata
<b>Contract</b>	Until September 2025, possible extension subject to further funding
<b>Location</b>	Based across Leeds and West Yorkshire, with travel between various locations
<b>Annual Leave</b>	28 days a year plus 8 Statutory holidays, rising to 31 days after 3 years
<b>Pension</b>	3% employer contribution, 5% employee contribution, enhanced by salary exchange
<b>Probationary Period</b>	6 months
<b>Reporting to</b>	Senior Postvention Practitioner
<b>DBS Check Level</b>	Enhanced DBS

## Introduction

Leeds Mind is the city's leading mental health charity. We have faith and optimism in our clients and so the services we deliver are built around their needs. We support the people of Leeds and West Yorkshire to discover their own resources to 'recover' from periods of poor mental health, and to live life independently with their mental health condition.

Our values of Being Open, Supportive, Brave, Connected and Resourceful are pivotal to the work we do.

## Purpose of the role

West Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (WY ICB) and Public Health in Leeds commission the delivery of 'Postvention' services to support people bereaved by suicide across West Yorkshire. The services support people in the immediate aftermath of a suicide as well as

historical losses. Postvention is an internationally evidenced way of reducing risk of suicide in people who have been affected in this manner. Interventions offered within this service include peer led support for individuals, within groups and for families with children, and memorial events.

The Suicide Bereavement Service covers the following areas; Bradford, Keighly & Craven, Calderdale, Kirklees, Leeds and Wakefield and the post holder will cover specific locations.

The post holder will be employed by Leeds Mind and part of the regional team, based at different locations offering a range of interventions to people who have been bereaved by suicide. These include:

1. **Assessment of need** to identify the appropriate intervention to meet their needs
2. **1.1 support** for up to 6 sessions including practical, advocacy and emotional support
3. **Group support** including skills course and peer support groups

You will carry a caseload of people referred to the service and will need access to a vehicle to carry out this role. Your main focus will be to offer a service across either Bradford and Leeds, Wakefield, Kirklees or Calderdale.

## Main Tasks and Responsibilities

### Service Delivery

1. Undertake assessment of need with people who have referred into the service.
2. To feedback assessment information at weekly team meetings, for allocation of people to the most appropriate part of the service.
3. Deliver appropriate support interventions to caseload of users accessing the service including 1.1, group, children, young people and family support.
4. To liaise with other organisations on behalf of the people you are supporting – (e.g. the coroner, police, housing provider, employer, benefits agency).
5. To make referrals or signpost to other services on behalf of people you are supporting.
6. To facilitate a range of peer support groups.
7. To ensure volunteer support group facilitators are well supported and feel valued in their role.
8. To encourage people you are supporting to complete questionnaires and reviews to ensure the project is compassionate, respectful and effective.
9. Travel across the region to deliver a high quality Postvention support service.

## Promotion, Outreach and Liaison

10. Develop and maintain links with potential referrers and to promote the service.
11. To attend national conferences, steering group meetings and networking events as requested.
12. To contribute to the development of publicity and promotion materials.

## Organisation

- Participate in 1:1s, performance and development, including Leeds Mind compulsory training programme
- Undertake any staff development and training which is required, to enable the job to be performed in the best possible way
- Attend and participate in service/team meetings
- Work within the framework of Leeds Mind's policies and procedures
- Promote the values, behaviours and ethos of Leeds Mind and West Yorkshire Health & Care Partnership
- Promote the possibilities for empowerment of service users
- Demonstrate a commitment to personal development
- Be involved with wider organisation activities
- Undertake any other reasonable duties as and when required

This job description cannot cover every issue or task that may arise within the post at various times and the post-holder will be expected to carry out other duties from time to time which are broadly consistent with those in this document. This job description does not form part of the contract of employment.

It is Leeds Mind's policy to make reasonable adjustments to enable workers with a disability/ disability to undertake the above, including the interview process.

## Person Specification

	Essential	Desirable
<b>Knowledge/ Qualifications</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The impact of being bereaved by suicide</li> <li>• Theories of grief</li> <li>• The principles, philosophy and practical applications of the Peer Support and the Person-Centred Approach</li> <li>• Knowledge and awareness of your own support needs when sharing your own lived experience of being affected by suicide.</li> <li>• Knowledge of services in Kirklees and Wakefield</li> </ul>	
<b>Skills/Ability</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Excellent organisational, time management and administration skills</li> <li>• Able to use a wide range of IT skills effectively</li> <li>• Able to work effectively with people who have experienced traumatic grief</li> <li>• Able to work calmly with people who have suicidal thoughts and feelings and to sensitively assess risk</li> <li>• Able to provide person centred one to one support to people in acute distress.</li> <li>• Able to refer to appropriate services and liaise effectively with professionals</li> <li>• Able to support volunteer facilitators</li> <li>• Able to reflect on your own attitudes towards mental health and your own practice</li> <li>• Able to mediate and negotiate both internally and externally</li> <li>• Able to work as part of a team and to provide support to colleagues</li> <li>• Able facilitate and deliver peer support groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Car Driver with access to a vehicle and the means to travel across the region</li> </ul>
<b>Experience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Personal experience of being affected by a suicide and in a place where using this experience daily is manageable and non-detrimental to yourself.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Promotion of services, including use of social media and websites</li> <li>• Supporting people by advocating for their needs</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experience of supporting people who have experienced trauma/emotional distress, including children, young people and families</li> <li>• Experience of facilitation of peer led groups</li> </ul>	
<b>Behavioural</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Understanding of and commitment to the values and work of Leeds Mind and West Yorkshire Health Care Partnership</li> <li>• Lives our Leeds Mind values every day – Kindness, Hope, Empowerment, Respect, Inclusion, Support.</li> <li>• Commitment to continuous improvement</li> <li>• Open to change and able to work flexibly in line with the needs of the service/organisation.</li> <li>• Commitment to working in partnership with clients, management and staff.</li> <li>• Understanding of the challenges faced by people experiencing mental health difficulties</li> <li>• Demonstrate a commitment to equality and diversity in the workplace</li> <li>• Commitment to safeguarding clients and others you may meet as part of your role</li> <li>• Commitment to solution focussed working</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lived experience of mental health difficulties.</li> </ul>