

Role Description



Job Title	SDS Officer
Service	Supported Discharge from Hospital Service (SDS)
Responsible to	Operational Co-ordinator
Reporting Roles	Not applicable
Purpose	To deliver the Supported Discharge from Hospital Service
Base	Bury St Edmunds
Starting Salary	£23,846 (pro rata)
Working Hours	Part time (15 hours per week) – working pattern to be agreed

Job Overview

The aim of the service is to provide people with support following an admission to Hospital or Accident and Emergency so that they can maximise their independence, self-manage their health and wellbeing and remain connected with their communities.

The role of the SDS Officer will be to be the first point of contact prior to a persons discharge from hospital and continue that support for a period of up to 6 weeks upon returning home. They will carry out an Initial Assessment and create a Discharge Support Plan, tailored to the needs of the individual with the aim to set goals to achieve independence, empower and reduce isolation.

Support will be carried out with the help of a Volunteer SDS Officer and could involve anything from household tasks to attending community events.

Responsibilities and Duties

- Carrying out an Initial Assessment and Risk Assessment prior to discharge and using this to create a Discharge Support Plan with the aim of achieving independence.
- Facilitating the safe transfer from hospital to the individual's home.
- Providing support for a time limited period of 4 – 6 weeks following discharge.
- Working with a Volunteer SDS Officer to allocate tasks and ensure agreed actions are completed.
- Providing flexible support using a strengths-based approach - this recognises the strengths of individuals and supports them to build upon these.
- Ensuring that support is delivered in a way that empowers individuals to take ownership of their lives.
- Liaising with relevant partner agencies in order to meet the needs of the individuals and increase the options available to them in achieving their Support Plan.
- Ensuring regular updates on the Support Plan are provided to all relevant parties.

Skills, qualifications, knowledge and understanding required

- Support planning
- Risk assessment and risk management
- An ability to work in a solution focused way
- Ability to empower and motivate
- Confidence to challenge other service providers where required
- To develop and maintain a good working knowledge of services across Suffolk
- Working to targets and deadlines
- Safeguarding Adults and Children

Additional requirements

- Must have a full driving license and access to own transport as travel around the county will be involved.