Job Description

JOB TITLE
Vision Rehabilitation Specialist
Location: Based from Midleton House, RG1 5LR (with frequent travel across Reading Borough)

Purpose of the job

To undertake specialist visual impairment assessments with adults (18 years+) who have a visual impairment to identify their needs and aspirations; to provide rehabilitation to promote independent living; to carry out reviews and to determine whether the person's outcomes have been met through the rehabilitation programme.

Description of activities
Key areas of responsibility

Assessment
To undertake specialist visual impairment assessments with Adults (18 years+) who have a visual impairment to identify their needs and aspirations and to promote independent living.

Rehabilitation and service provision
To plan, implement and evaluate a programme of rehabilitation as per the preventative duties in the Care Act 2014 with the visually impaired person and in line with the person's stated outcomes, aimed at maximising and maintaining independence, safety, dignity and choice.

Rehabilitation may include, but not be restricted to:
Daily Living Skills – this includes the teaching of new skills or adapted practice for all aspects of daily living, home management, employment and leisure.

Mobility Training
To develop planned programmes of training to develop independence in indoor and outdoor mobility environments, including training in: guiding skills, pre-cane, long cane, orientation (including specialist equipment) and route planning techniques including public transport.

To undertake lighting assessments withing the home to maximise safety when carrying out tasks/daily living activities.

To provide communication training; to include all forms of access to communication including but not limited to print, Braille, audio description, ICT and telephones.

To work within a safeguarding framework to identify risk or harm and promote safety, following and promoting Berkshire Vision's safeguarding policy.

To signpost and/or refer individuals internally and externally including but not limited to, Adult Social Care, Health, employment services, voluntary sector and other community services.

To support visually impaired people to represent their culture, needs, views and circumstances, where appropriate.

To follow and implement the requirements of the Care Act 2014

To develop and maintain links with primary and secondary care and public health services, particularly: Ophthalmology, Optometry practices, and GP practices.

Review
To review the individual's rehabilitation programme against their outcomes

Colleagues
To line manage and/or train any junior staff, volunteers or placements as required e.g. trainee VRS's on placements

To provide training and supervision to relevant staff supporting visually impaired service users e.g. Assistant ROVI/VRS's, Sight Loss Support Officers.

To play an active role within the charity, supporting colleagues and charity events where required.

Other

- Be responsible for own continuing professional development, keeping up-to-date with best practice, policies and procedures.
- Deal with all issues in a professional manner keeping confidences where appropriate and always being mindful of data protection implications.
- Be an effective representative for the charity and act at all times in a professional manner conducive to promoting a positive image of Berkshire Vision.

Working Environment

- Work under office conditions with extensive use of a display screen.
- Occasionally work evenings and weekends as required (time off in lieu will be given)
- Travel extensively across Reading Borough to meet with members and/or partners
- Occasional travel to other parts of Berkshire or out of area

The above is a general description of the work to be carried out and not an exhaustive list. The role holder is also required to perform all reasonably assigned duties.

	Essential	Desirable
Qualifications	• Honours Degree or Dip. H. E./Foundation Degree in Rehabilitation Studies (Visual Impairment) or equivalent • Current registration with Rehabilitation Workers Professional Network . • Full driving licence (business insurance	

	required) or eligibility for access to work for transport	
Experience	• A minimum of two years' post qualification experience working with visual impairment • Understanding of visual impairment and specialist strategies and support. • Experience with assistive technology and accessibility features	• Experience of carrying out risk assessments. • Experience of supervising others (volunteers, placement students or staff)
Skills and Abilities	• Strong communication and problem solving skills and the ability to adapt strategies to meet individual need. • Creativity and innovative service delivery when providing assessment and training. • Knowledge of assistive technology and accessible features • Evidence of continued professional development • Fluent in spoken and written English. • Competent in MS Office (Word, Excel, Teams, Outlook)	• Knowledge of safeguarding adults and child protection.
Personal Qualities	• Highly organised and able to work under own initiative • Strong communication skills and emotional intelligence.	

	• Approachable • Strong customer focus • Self-motivated • Good team player • Integrity and sensitivity to disability issues • Open minded and willing to challenge the norm • Able to liaise effectively with third parties and build professional relationships	
Other	• Flexible approach to working hours • Full enhanced DBS required	