

**Counsellor (Part-Time, Home-based)**

**Role Description**

**£33,000 FTE** (pro ratafor **10 hours per week**)

BAS offers **short-term counselling** to people who have had a stroke to help them adjust to what has happened and their **life after stroke**.

You will **report to** and work closely with the **Lead Counsellor** (who manages the counselling service and the wider emotional support offer). Your **hours** will need to **overlap** with theirs – theywork **Tues**, **Wed**, **Thurs** from 9am to 5pm.

**Location**

You will be **home-based** and travel within the Bristol and South Glos areas to undertake **counselling in** **people’s homes.** A **car driver is required** for this post. You may also need to travel to some meetings.

**Purpose of Role**

1. To provide 1:1 **counselling** (mainly in clients homes, sometimes online)
2. To **support** the **Lead Counsellor** in the day-to-day running of the service.

**Main Responsibilities** - essential

* undertake **assessments** and provide one-to-one **counselling**
* **keep records** in line with BAS requirements and professional guidance
* undertake **clinical** **supervision** (up to 1 hour per month within BAS time)
* maintain **confidentiality** within the context of team working at BAS
* **attend** **training** and associated updates relevant to the role
* **contribute** to the continuous improvement of the **counselling service**.

**Additional Responsibilities** - on occasion, the post holder will…

* co-facilitate the **‘ACTion After Stroke’** course
* facilitate short online **Mindfulness** sessions
* **deputise** for the Lead Counsellor in their absence
* any other duties that may be reasonably requested.

**Qualification & Experience**

**Essential**

1. A strong person-centred element of core training or a separate person-centred qualification, alongside an alignment to the humanistic approach
2. BACP, UKCP accredited (or equivalent status with another professional body) or at least 450 hours’ counselling over a minimum of 3 years’ post-qualifying experience and on the PSA (Public Standards Authority) Register
3. Competence to deliver online counselling (phone or video), if requested
4. Commitment to and evidence of personal and professional development
5. Experience of working in a short-term way, for example 6-8 sessions
6. Knowledge and experience of safeguarding in a counselling context

**Desirable**

1. Experience in an agency with awareness of GDPR and confidentiality
2. Work experience with stroke-affected people or acquired brain injury
3. Qualified or experienced in the use of creative methods in therapy
4. Knowledge of or personal/professional experience in mindfulness
5. Awareness of the stroke pathway and services

**Skills & Abilities**

1. Ability to assess suitability for counselling and identify associated risks
2. Ability to navigate complex ethical decisions within an agency setting
3. Good interpersonal skills and ability to build therapeutic relationships
4. Good standard of written and verbal communication skills
5. Good time-management and diary management skills
6. Basic proficiency with IT and video (Zoom and MS Teams)

**Personal Qualities**

1. Patience to deal with distressed people
2. Emotional resilience to meet people’s trauma stories
3. Flexible and adaptable approach to work and own caseload
4. Openness to working collaboratively with staff and volunteers
5. Innovative and enthusiastic, bringing fresh ideas to the service

**Other Essentials**

Access to a personal **computer** and your own **transport.** You will be asked to complete an **enhanced DBS** disclosureand provide two references (one of which should be from your current or latest clinical supervisor).