

Head of Sensory Services (HOSS) – background information

VisionPK is a small charity based in Perth, offering services to people living in Perth and Kinross who are blind, partially sighted, Deaf and hard of hearing.

Our aim is to support the empowerment of people with a sensory impairment to take a full and fulfilling role in society and help them achieve the personal outcomes they aspire to.

We do this by providing and continuously developing a wide range of services for people with a visual and / or hearing impairment, in partnership with appropriate statutory, voluntary and business sector organisations.

Our values are: trust; respect; empathy; being inclusive; encouraging independence, offering choice and promoting quality. Our strategic aims are:

* To have happy, satisfied and committed staff and volunteers, whose work and approach reflects our values.
* To promote independence for people with sensory impairments
* To increase awareness of VisionPK across Perth and Kinross.
* To improve VisionPK’s financial sustainability
* To put into place systematic, evidence-based processes to monitor and evaluate our work and impact
* To ensure VPK’s infrastructure, systems and processes are robust and up to date.
* To optimise our property portfolio and management
* To develop new services for people with sensory impairments

Our services and supports include:

* Rehabilitation services for visually impaired adults
* Habilitation for children and young people
* Hearing support for people who are Deaf, profoundly deaf and hard of hearing
* Equipment provision
* Information and advice
* Social activities for people with sensory impairments
* Group work and outreach

Our current manager is sadly leaving after nine years and we are looking for someone to continue her great work leading and supporting a team of 3 Rehab Workers (2.2 FTE), plus a Hearing Loss Support Worker and a part time Admin Worker. You will also oversee our new Lottery funded groupwork project, Vision Re-connect, developing groups for visually impaired people across Perth and Kinross.

In this role, you will receive and allocate referrals, taking on a small caseload where needed. You will manage and develop the team, monitoring delivery of our PKC funded sensory contract. You will be outcomes focused, with reference to the national See Hear framework, with a focus on evidencing impact and satisfaction.

Your will be joining us at a busy time – we plan to relocate to a new Sensory Hub during the next 6 months, subject to concluding the sale of our current premises. Our vision is to offer information, support and services in a busy, vibrant location, increasing awareness of what we can offer and helping more people. We want to involve volunteers with sensory impairments in all areas of our work. The HOSS will play a key role in promoting our work to commercial, voluntary and public sector partners, supporting the team to continue delivering excellent services.

We have a new, three year sensory services contract and have just taken on responsibility for the hearing loss element of our contract, previously delivered by RNID.

Given the current situation -re Covid, risk assessment / health and safety will be an ongoing part of your role and you will be expected to support your team and colleagues to work safely, keeping them updated. As the service lead, you will also be expected to develop / update new service-related policies and promote a policy-led working environment.

As a senior manager, you will also be part of a small management team, with the opportunity to contribute to VisionPK’s future growth and development, learning and growing / developing your professional knowledge, skills and development in parallel.

You will engage widely with partners, increasing awareness of our work and representing VisionPK on a range of local groups, such as the Physical Disability Strategy group.

This is an opportunity to make a positive impact on the lives of people with sensory impairments, as well as on VisionPK.