

## Job Description

# Youth Wellbeing Worker, Lotus Community

**Part time – 16 -21 hours per week**

**Fixed for 1 year in the first instance**

**This is a new post.**

For over 50 years, Cyrenians has tackled the causes and consequences of homelessness.

We understand that there are many routes into homelessness, and that there is no 'one size fits all' approach to supporting people towards more positive and stable futures. That's why all our work is values-led and relationships-based. We meet people where they are, and support them towards where they want to be.

Our Vision is an inclusive society in which we all have the opportunities to live valued and fulfilled lives.

Our way of working is built on our four core values, which are at the heart of all our work and decisions:

**Compassion | Respect | Integrity | Innovation**

[Read more about us and our values](#)

[Read about our strategic aims](#)

---

## 1 Background

---

### **About Lotus Community**

Working alongside City of Edinburgh Council and other partners, the Lotus Community houses up to 14 unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) aged 16+ across 2 adjacent properties in the North of Edinburgh. These young people have been referred by the UASC Accommodation Panel and are engaged in education at local colleges and/ or employment.

The Lotus Community is a step towards independent living. Many of the residents have already gained basic living skills such as cooking, cleaning and budgeting. Support is now required to help them gain confidence and knowledge of the local area to enable them to take further steps towards independence and integration in the local community, with a view to moving on to accommodation that better suits their needs including, in some cases, their own single tenancies.

A small part-time staff team provide visiting support to the Lotus Community residents, with further assistance from the Communities residential volunteers. The staff role is to assess the residents, provide structured guidance to them, uphold the rules and community

agreements, supervise volunteers, and have overall responsibility for the project.

Two volunteers live alongside the residents for a minimum of six months. Volunteers are aged 18-30 and study or work part-time alongside their volunteering.

### **About the Wellbeing Project**

We have introduced a new Wellbeing Community space (Hub) for the young people living within the Lotus Community. We have secured funding to run a youth wellbeing service within this space.

The post holder will work with the young people in the Hub to create and deliver a timetable of events and activities, including wellbeing group work session to include: confidence building, healthy eating, stress management, time management to name a few.

Our Wellbeing Worker will also liaise with internal and external partners to arrange information sessions, to further support our young people to build on their knowledge of the local area, engagement with local resources and further services available to allow them to continue to build on their independent living skills in order for them to be ready to live independently.

The post holder will provide some ad-hoc practical support on a 1-2-1 basis with our young people at Lotus Community - and also other young independent young people referred into the service.

---

## **2 Main Aims**

---

### **Wellbeing activities**

- Create and lead on a trauma-informed and youth-led programme of activities in the wellbeing Hub at Lotus.
- Organise and facilitate outreach and wellbeing activities with Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking young people throughout Edinburgh.
- Provide well-being support to residents who have recently moved out of Lotus, to enable a safe and supported new flat set up.
- Source and provide activities aimed at combatting stress and social isolation, looking to improve mental and physical wellbeing, as well as building confidence and a sense of belonging.
- Together with the Senior Keyworker, build a network of peer organisations and explore collaborations where possible.

### **Volunteers**

- Supervise the two residential volunteers, to ensure they feel confident and able to support the young people towards independent living.
- Work with the volunteers to organise and participate in the group and 1-2-1 activities.

## Supporting People

- Work together with partnership organisation SOHTIS, [www.sohtis.org](http://www.sohtis.org) to effectively support survivors of human trafficking.
- Provide, through good conversations, a professional service to our young people. Building non-dependant relationships with them.
- Support our young people to identify personal goals and priorities to improve their health and wellbeing as well as implementing pathways towards independent living.
- Develop and maintain a knowledge of other local and national service providers to share ideas and innovations with.

## Monitoring

- Collect data on all attendance in the wellbeing hub as part of the post.
- Record data in written and electronic form to suit the needs of the service and its users.
- Comply with organisational and legislative requirements in relation to the protection of vulnerable groups, such as Child Protection and Public Protection.

## Training and Development

- Participate in all communities training provided in relation to the role, with a particular focus on and Mental health and wellbeing, and Human Trafficking.
- Contribute to and, where appropriate, attend partnership meetings.
- Attend and participate in practice and Cyrenians team meetings and Cyrenians staff forums.
- Participate in regular support and supervision and annual review of performance and service.
- Additional support tasks for our young people as and when required. identified by the service manager/line manager as appropriate.

---

## 3. Person Specification

---

Knowledge and Experience	
Knowledge of issues that lead to or affect homelessness and asylum-seeking status.	Essential
Experience of being part of the set-up/ establishment of a new service	Essential
At least 2 years of experience working with vulnerable young people	Essential
Group work skills including facilitation, team building and personal development activities	Essential
Following policies and procedures to implement best practice	Essential
Use of organisational systems to monitor progress and demonstrate impact	Essential
Commitment to quality assurance and high standards in service delivery	Essential

Knowledge and experience of supporting Asylum seeking young people	Desirable
<b>Skills</b>	
Excellent IT skills	Essential
Excellent Interpersonal skills	Essential
Excellent organisational skills	Essential
Liaising with referring organisations and other professional networks	Essential
Good written communication skills	Essential
<b>Qualifications and training</b>	
SVQ level 3 or above, or an equivalent qualification. We will consider applicants currently working towards (or willing to) achieve this qualification.	Essential
Counselling, facilitation, mediation or coaching qualification	Desirable
First Aid training	Desirable
<b>Values and attributes</b>	
Passionate about enabling vulnerable people to overcome problems and reach their potential	Essential
Calm, strong and positive in dealing with difficult situations including crisis and conflict	Essential
A motivating and encouraging influence on those around you	Essential
Energy, drive and enthusiasm to ensure the service and all those involved in it thrive	Essential
A positive, pragmatic team member	Essential
Committed to learning and training	Essential
Interest in social rights and justice	Essential
Committed to service excellence and continuous improvement	Essential
A facilitative approach to handling situations	Essential

---

## 5 Terms & Conditions

---

<u>Employer:</u>	Cyrenians
<u>Line Manager:</u>	Senior Key Worker, Lotus Community
<u>Liaison with:</u>	Service Manager
<u>Reporting:</u>	Report against work plan at regular support and supervision meetings
<u>Workplace:</u>	Edinburgh based
<u>Working Hours:</u>	Part time (16 to 21 hours/week – to be agreed with successful candidate)
<u>Annual Leave</u>	25 days plus 10 public holidays pro rata
<u>Salary:</u>	£27,653 pro rata (scale point 25). This equates to £11,958 per annum for 16 hours/week; or £14,948 for 21 hours/week
<u>Pension:</u>	Auto-enrolment into Qualifying Workplace Pension Scheme (QWPS) which is a Group Stakeholder Pension Scheme – current

contributions being 5% employee and 3% employer. Option of enhanced Employer contributions to the same QWPS of 6% initially, rising to 9% after 2 years and 12% after 5 years (subject to employee contributions of 6%)

Disclosure:

PVG membership required

Funding

Initially funded until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024

---

## **6 Application deadline and Interview dates**

---

Closing date:

12 noon on Monday 15th May 2023

Interview date:

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

Second stage:

TBC

Please refer to the Recruitment Information leaflet for further information on completing and submitting your application form.