

## **Vision: 'Working to Improve Lives'**

### **Freedom to Act:**

#### ***A Senior Occupational Therapy Assistant may not:***

- Carry out any procedure in which he/she has not been instructed.
- Undertake initial assessment.
- Initiate discharge.
- Modify treatment plans without discussion with qualified member of staff.

#### ***A Senior Occupational Therapy Assistant may:***

- Work single-handed occasionally.
- Work in the community occasionally.
- Undertake home visits occasionally, either to support qualified Occupational Therapist or as follow-up.

### **Physical effort:**

- Frequent light effort for short periods of time, moving equipment or carrying treatment materials.
- Regular participation in light to moderate physical activity as required by the treatment modalities used, i.e. sports groups, gardening.
- Occasional pushing of wheelchairs for short periods of time.

### **Mental effort:**

Following risk assessment by a qualified member of staff and under guidance of qualified Occupational Therapist.

- Frequently working with clients who have complex problems/diagnoses.
- Regularly working with clients whose behaviour can be unpredictable.
- Occasionally working with clients who are suicidal.
- Regularly working with clients who pose a considerable risk of neglect, self-harm or aggression.
- Long periods of concentration in order to attentively listen and observe clients responses during group and individual interventions.

**Emotional effort:**

- Regular exposure to distressing circumstances.
- Working with clients with complex emotional and behavioural needs.
- Occasional working with difficult behaviour.
- Frequently having to deal with others lack of understanding of the Occupational Therapy role.

**Environment:**

- Occasional verbal aggression.
- Occasional lone working with clients on a limited and specific intervention under the direction of a Mental Health professional
- Dealing with urine and faeces in clients with continence problems.