



Rehabilitation Officer(s) for Visually Impaired People

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for your interest in the Rehabilitation Officer posts. We recognise that a job description cannot give you all of the information you may wish to know and so this document aims to give you some background information about Sight Support Derbyshire and about the Rehabilitation Service that we offer.

About Sight Support Derbyshire (SSD)

Sight Support Derbyshire is the only Derbyshire based sight loss charity, providing a range of services to visually impaired people. As well as our own services we provide services on contract to Derbyshire Clinical Commissioning Group and to the County Council. Our skilled and experienced staff and volunteers pride themselves on the high quality services that we have provided for over 100 years throughout Derbyshire. Over this time, we have learned a lot about the needs of people living with sight loss and how services help in reducing isolation and promoting independence.

SSD is a Registered Charity and we rely on fundraising for around half of our total income. We have a dedicated fundraising team and work with individuals as well as local and national groups to raise our money. We have a Board of Trustees who govern the charity and we are committed to ensuring that people living with sight loss are represented on our Board.

We are a small and dedicated team of staff working from our main office in Derby, our sub-office in Chesterfield, and Eye Clinic Liaison Officers based in the two main Derbyshire hospitals. We also work with a group of 80 volunteers, helping us to deliver a wide range of direct delivery and fundraising services. We are a friendly team, welcoming to new members, and always happy to share ideas and look at ways to improve our services. Staff like working at SSD and tend to stay with us for a while!

We work in close partnership with other agencies locally and nationally to provide a comprehensive service to people living with sight loss, their families and carers.

About our Rehabilitation Service

SSD deliver the rehabilitation service to visually impaired people across Derbyshire as part of a wider contract - '*Rehabilitation and Advice Services for blind and visually impaired people in Derbyshire*'. The service includes rehabilitation from qualified Rehabilitation Officers, low level rehabilitation from our Rehabilitation Support Workers, information and advice by telephone and at our information and support days.

We have held the contract for delivering rehabilitation services with the Council for over thirteen years. Each year we have met or exceeded the contract targets and delivered a high quality service. Feedback from people who have used the service, other professionals and partner organisations is overwhelmingly positive.

Before you came I didn't know what support was available and as you provided me with all kinds of support I now realise how useful it has been...I now know where I can get help from when I need it'.

Tom, Service User, Jan 2022

I'm writing just to say a massive thank you to you for all the help that you've given my step father, Tom. Your weekly meetings with him, showing him new ways and new skills, to make his everyday life easier, have given him the confidence to do more for himself on a day-to-day basis. Not only has that helped myself and my siblings in knowing that he's ok but we can see a marked improvement in his mental wellbeing and his general confidence to do more for himself. We cannot thank you or the service enough for what you have done for him. He feels like he has a new lease of life!!!

Thank you again for this fantastic service and the kindness that you've shown him on your visits. It's very much appreciated.

Tom's daughter in a thank you note, Jan 2022

You would be joining a high performing team, but that said, we never stop looking for ways that we can improve and better our services. Fresh ideas and innovation are always welcome!

Other Sight Support Derbyshire Services

As well as services under the County Council contract, we provide a number of other services:

- Eye Clinic Liaison Officers at the major hospitals in Derbyshire
- Low vision assessments and equipment
- Social, sports and leisure opportunities around the county
- Children and young people's services
- A 'Living Well' project for people with sight loss and additional health conditions
- Newsletters, information and advice
- Eye health promotion

Our services 'knit together' well and we are always looking for new ideas and service development opportunities.

What next?

If you wish to discuss this post, or any aspect of the role or organisation before applying, please do get in touch.

If you're still reading and are still interested, then have a look at the full job description and person specification and then complete the application form and get it back to us by the closing date. We'd love to hear from you.

Kind regards

Sight Support Derbyshire