



The 1st HEIW / SCW virtual conference 'Informing the future of the **Mental Health Workforce** in Wales'

Case Study

Clinical Practice and Education role

What did you do and why?

In 2018 the Mental health occupational therapy service in ABUHB piloted managing their own budget, which gave us the opportunity to introduce a dedicated Clinical Practice and Education role within the mental health OT service. This role does not hold any line management responsibilities, giving the post-holder the time to focus purely on the quality of occupational therapy practice to improve outcomes for service users in mental health. We have been able to audit OT practice in different areas of mental health to ensure consistency of interventions being offered and helping to refocus OT practice back to its occupational roots. Furthermore the post holder has been able revisit the evidence base for the interventions being offered to ensure that best practice is being delivered across the service in line with current policies and drivers.

The post holder has worked with the OT staff groups and senior OT managers to develop priorities for the service, this includes supporting the roll-out of Recovery Through Activity programmes across the division and supporting to embed the Model of Human Occupation and its related outcome measurement tools to be used in practice, in order to evaluate OT interventions. The Clinical Practice and Education post has also supported to ensure that all staff have or are working towards a relevant qualification for their role including the occupational therapy support worker qualification.

The role helps to ensure that the right staff with the right skills are delivering occupationally focused, evidence based assessments and interventions to the service users they support.