

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title:	Senior Mental Health Clinician – Custodial Forensic Youth Mental Health Service
Service:	Parkville Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing Service (PYMHWS)
Location:	Parkville / Cherry Creek / Malmsbury
Reports To:	FYMHS Stream Leader; Custodial FYMHS Team Lead
Enterprise Agreement:	Victorian Public Mental Health Services Enterprise Agreement 2024–2028 / Victorian Public Health Sector (Medical Scientists, Pharmacists and Psychologists) Single Interest Enterprise Agreement 2021 - 2025
Classification:	Occupational Therapist Grade 4 (HR9 – HR12) / Social Worker Grade 4 (HR25 - HR28) / Registered Psychiatric Nurse Grade 4 (NP75 - NP77) / Psychologist Grade 3 (PL1 - PL4)
Immunisation Risk Category:	Category A
Date of Review:	June 2027

About the Parkville Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing Service (PYMHWS)

Parkville Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing Service (PYMHWS) is Victoria's first standalone public mental health service designed specifically for young people aged 12 to 25. Operational from July 2025, PYMHWS is leading a bold transformation in how youth mental health is accessed, experienced, and governed across Melbourne's north and west.

We deliver specialist, community, and inpatient services to young people experiencing, or at risk of mental ill-health. Our multidisciplinary teams are based at Parkville, Footscray, Spotswood, Sunshine, Wyndham, Cherry Creek and Malmsbury, working closely with families, carers, supporters and kin to provide developmentally appropriate, evidence-based, trauma-informed, inclusive care, grounded in lived experience.

At PYMHWS, every decision - from the front desk to the boardroom - centres on what young people need to live the lives they want to lead.

We partner with Orygen, bringing their world-leading research and knowledge translation expertise into care delivery. Together, we are building an integrated service model that connects Orygen-operated headspace centres with PYMHWS clinical services, creating a unified care experience.

As we grow, we're building a service with - and for - young people. One that reflects the diversity of our communities, embraces continuous learning and the generation of new knowledge, and strengthens the mental health system around it.

At PYMHWS, we:

- Foster a safe, supportive and inclusive workplace - where the health, safety and wellbeing of young people, families, colleagues and visitors are actively protected.
- Speak up for safety and equity - raising concerns and escalating issues when needed, to ensure high standards of care and conduct.
- Deliver Safe, Timely, Effective, Efficient, Equitable, Person-centred Care (STEEEP) in alignment with our clinical governance framework and our youth-first approach.
- Promote diversity, inclusion and equal opportunity - creating a workplace free from discrimination, harassment or bias, and reflecting the communities we serve.
- Comply with all relevant policies, procedures, professional standards and legislation - including those related to clinical care, health and safety, risk, privacy, and equal opportunity.

Department Description

The Forensic Youth Mental Health Service (FYMHS) is a statewide specialist service within the Parkville Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing Service (PYMHWS), providing expert forensic mental health assessment, consultation, treatment and care coordination for young people aged 10–25 years who are involved in, or at risk of involvement in, the youth justice system.

FYMHS comprises two integrated service streams: Custodial FYMHS and Community FYMHS. Custodial FYMHS provides specialist forensic mental health services within Victoria's three Youth Justice Precincts: Parkville Youth Justice Precinct (PYJP), Cherry Creek Youth Justice Precinct (CCYJP) and Malmsbury Youth Justice Precinct (MYJP). Services include multidisciplinary assessment, treatment, consultation, care coordination and specialist mental health support for young people in custody. Custodial FYMHS also works within the River Unit, a voluntary mental health unit located within CCYJP, which provides intensive, recovery-oriented, trauma-informed assessment and treatment within a least restrictive, young person-centred model of care.

Community FYMHS delivers specialist forensic mental health consultation, assessment and intervention through three statewide programs: the Youth Justice Mental Health Clinician (YJMHC) Program, which provides mental health consultation and support to Youth Justice services; the Children's Court Mental Health Advice and Response Service (CCMHARS), which provides specialist mental health consultation to the Children's Court of Victoria (CCV); and the Youth Forensic Assessment Consultation & Treatment Service (YFACTS), a statewide specialist consultation service supporting young people presenting with complex behaviours of concern, including violence, problematic sexual behaviour, stalking, animal cruelty and fire-setting.

Working in partnership with Youth Justice, Justice Health, public mental health services, the Court and community agencies, FYMHS aims to improve mental health outcomes, reduce reoffending, strengthen system responses and support young people to achieve meaningful recovery, rehabilitation and community reintegration.

Position Summary

Embedded within a multidisciplinary team as part of Custodial FYMHS, the Senior Mental Health Clinician will provide responsive, supportive, and timely clinical mental health assessments, formulation, and evidence-based treatment to young people in youth justice custody. The Senior Mental Health Clinician plays an essential role in providing collaborative, person-centred, and

recovery-orientated consultation and liaison to the young person's care team and other key stakeholders.

The Senior Mental Health Clinician's role focuses on providing high-level consultation, leadership, and advice on complex clinical matters. The clinician is expected to have advanced knowledge and experience in the mental health sector. Knowledge and experience working in a forensic setting is desirable.

In this position, you will be required to work at the Cherry Creek and/or Parkville Youth Justice Custodial Precincts and/or wider PYMHWS service locations. When required to travel to other site locations (within Youth Justice or PYMHWS), a workplace vehicle will be provided for travel to the workplace destination within working hours.

The main elements of the Senior Mental Health Clinician – Custodial FYMHS position include:

- Provide leadership and support to a multi-disciplinary team as required.
- Mental Health assessment & the provision of evidence-based and age-appropriate treatment for young people who present with mental illness and wellbeing difficulties.
- Support and build the capacity of primary health service staff and Youth Justice custodial staff in identifying and working with young people experiencing mental illness via training and secondary consultation as required.
- Provide continuity of care through collaborative care team consultations and effective referral pathways to community services as young people transition out of custody.

Key Accountabilities

Clinical Care & Service Delivery

- Undertake and/or contribute to mental health and risk assessment, formulation, psychological treatment, crisis intervention, family work, systems containment and systems support for young people, families/carers and wider systems.
- Provide continuity of care through effective referral pathways to community services as young people transition out of custody and coordinate age-appropriate mental health care plans with other health and custodial services.
- Transition support may also include providing direct client services whilst the young person transitions between the custodial and community environment.
- Ensure high standards of clinical care that are congruent with PYMHWS aims – client focused, accessible, responsive and consistent with best practice.
- Ensure that FYMHS service delivery is guided by evidence-based, culturally safe and trauma-informed principles incorporating the diverse needs of all young people and families, including those from LGBTQI+, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander and multicultural/multifaith diverse populations.
- In coordination with other health and custodial services operating within the precinct develop, implement, monitor, and review age and development appropriate mental health treatment and care plans.
- Manage clinical risk and actively work toward implementing risk reduction strategies.
- Attendance and/or leadership of clinical review meetings and care team meetings (as required).
- Work alongside other case managers, in partnership with consumers, clients, patients and support their family/carer systems.
- It is expected that the incumbent will work in a culturally safe and sensitive manner with all Aboriginal children, young people and their families under the Youth Justice "Strategic Plan

(2020 – 2030)”, the “Aboriginal Youth Justice Strategy (Wirkara Kulpa)” and the “Aboriginal Justice Agreement (Burra Lotjpa Dunguludja)”.

Documentation, Compliance & Governance

- Ensure and demonstrate timely completion of outcome measures, documentation of client’s progress in client files (Electronic Medical Record), discharge summaries and contacts.
- Accept accountability to ensure that all clinical information is documented and stored in compliance with the Victorian Health Records Act 2001.
- Compliance with clinical governance policy/procedures, legislative and documentation requirements (e.g., Clinical Review discussions, completion of documentation compliant with the Mental Health and Wellbeing Act 2022).
- Operate within the legal frameworks (e.g. Mental Health and Wellbeing Act 2022 and Privacy Act).
- Achievement of service portfolio-specific KPI targets as they apply to your area.
- Compliance with Health Service and Divisional specific Regulations, PYMHWS Policy & Procedures, Code of Conduct, bylaws, and ethical standards of the profession.
- Acceptance of accountability for all reasonable care to provide a safe working environment and ensure compliance with legislative requirements concerning Occupational Health and Safety, anti-discrimination, and equal opportunity.
- Support and participate in Health Services Occupational Health & Safety (OH&S) Policies and Procedures and implement at unit/service area level, including reporting incidents of unsafe work practices, sites/areas or equipment.
- Speak up for safety and participate in regular reviews of the Child Safe Standards (Commission for Children and Young People).
- Comply with Safety & Service improvement/quality management policies and procedures.

Stakeholder Engagement & Advocacy

- Provide support, supervision, primary and secondary consultations to members of the multidisciplinary teams regarding evidence-based mental health practice principles and approaches.
- Participate in secondary consultation and case conferences with Youth Justice and other key stakeholders as required.
- Support primary health service staff and Youth Justice custodial staff in identifying and working with young people experiencing mental illness.
- Represent, promote and advocate for the development of FYMHS and integrated care within PYMHWS.
- Establish and maintain effective interfaces and partnerships with key agencies and community groups through consultation, liaison, education and collaborative projects (including AOD services, Youth Justice and primary care providers).
- Provide updates to the Youth Parole Board and courts upon request.
- Promote youth and family/carer lived experience by participation in service design, planning, implementation and evaluation.

Education, Training & Capability Building

- Help to develop the capabilities of staff (Youth Justice staff; primary health staff) working with young people experiencing mental illness in the Youth Justice precincts by providing training and support, including secondary consultation as required.
- Collaboratively design, develop and support the delivery of forensic youth mental health training packages across primary and tertiary care services.
- Attending training courses as agreed.

- Commitment and regular participation in clinical supervision and operational support (line management).
- Acceptance of responsibility for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) of self aligned with the practice domains endorsed by NWMH, and actively keep a CPD portfolio as required by the standards of your profession.
- Successful completion of required mandatory training activities, including training related to the National Standards.
- Ensure all direct reporting staff receive and engage in regular feedback and annual discussions, ongoing professional development, and that training needs are identified and undertaken.
- Engage in regular clinical supervision and operational support as recommended.

Quality Improvement & Performance

- Participate in ongoing service improvement, quality management, accreditation and professional development initiatives and activities.
- Disseminate evidence-based practice and relevant research outcomes.
- Facilitate and support participation in research and evaluation expanding the evidence base regarding forensic youth mental health, including innovative trials and program evaluation.
- Contribute to a culture of caring, teamwork, continuous improvement, constructive performance review, quality work standards and client service.
- Contribute to the development and improvement of administrative processes and application of new technology as required.

PYMHWS Core Cultural, Leadership & Safety Responsibilities

These responsibilities apply to all roles at PYMHWS and form the foundation of our culture. They reflect our commitment to safety, inclusion, wellbeing and transformational leadership - at every level of the organisation. Aligned with PYMHWS's strategic goals and operational priorities, these behaviours ensure we are here for youth, together - and focused on delivering outcomes that matter.

Psychological safety & inclusion

- Create and maintain a psychologically safe team environment where all voices are heard and respected.
- Model inclusive behaviours and actively challenge stigma, bias and discrimination.
- Speak up for safety, wellbeing and alignment with PYMHWS values - including cultural safety for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

Leadership at every level

- Demonstrate leadership in your area of work, regardless of role title, by taking ownership, influencing positive change, and modelling integrity.
- Mentor others where appropriate, share knowledge generously, and contribute to a learning culture.
- Engage in honest, constructive feedback - giving and receiving with a growth mindset.

Alignment with strategic vision, outcomes & priorities

- Contribute to the achievement of our strategic and operational priorities, including youth-first care, workforce wellbeing, system transformation and strong partnerships.
- Be accountable for delivering measurable outcomes - for young people, families and colleagues.

- Make decisions that align with our purpose: reimagining how youth mental health is accessed, experienced and delivered.

Wellbeing & safe practice

- Prioritise your own wellbeing and that of your colleagues, in line with our whole-of-service wellbeing approach.
- Work to your full scope of practice and escalate when support is needed.
- Participate actively in safety initiatives, risk management and quality improvement.

Continuous learning & improvement

- Commit to ongoing professional learning, cultural development and reflective practice.
- Support innovation, research translation and systems thinking to improve outcomes for young people.
- Seek feedback on your work including participation in formal performance and annual discussion review processes.

Key Relationships

Internal Stakeholders

- FYMHS Leadership; Clinical Stream Lead and Medical Lead
- Custodial FYMHS team
- Community FYMHS team
- Continuing Care Team Region Coordinators
- Inpatient Unit Team (ICA East)
- PYMHWS Leadership
- PYMHWS Administration staff
- PYMHWS Service/Unit/Team managers, clinicians and subject matter experts
- PYMHWS workforce

External Stakeholders

- Western Health
- Royal Melbourne Hospital
- Orygen
- Department of Health, Victoria
- External Vendors
- Custodial Primary Health & Primary Mental Health Service Providers
- Custodial & Community Youth Offending Program provider
- Youth Parole Board (YPB)
- Forensicare
- Justice Health (JH), Department of Justice and Community Safety (DJCS)
- Children's Court of Victoria
- National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)
- Key stakeholders as required (Child Protection, AOD services, Housing and Legal)
- Other Tertiary Mental Health Providers (AMHS/CAMHS/CYMHS)
- Other Youth Mental Health Services (headspace centres) and private providers.

Key Selection Criteria

Formal Qualifications:

Occupational Therapists:

- Registration under the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act (2009) with the Occupational Therapy Board of Australia.
- An approved Degree from a recognised school of Occupational Therapy or other qualifications approved for eligibility for membership of the Australian Association of Occupational Therapy (Vic.).

Social Workers:

- An approved degree in Social Work and eligibility for membership of the Australian Association of Social Workers.

Registered Psychiatric Nurses:

- Registration as a registered nurse under the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act (2009) with the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia.
- Bachelor Degree in Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing or equivalent, or Bachelor Degree in Nursing plus a Postgraduate qualification in Psychiatric/Mental Health Nursing.

Psychologists:

- Registration as a Psychologist under the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation National Law Act(2009) with practice endorsement as a Clinical, Forensic or Clinical Neuro Psychologist with the Psychology Board of Australia.
- Masters or Doctoral qualification in Clinical, Neuro or Forensic Psychology.
- Approved supervisor with the Psychology Board of Australia (AHPRA).

Essential:

- A minimum of 5 years' experience in the application of clinical practice in the mental health field specifically with young people experiencing mental health disorders.
- A thorough knowledge of current mental health approaches to working with mentally ill clients with behavioural and/or forensic complexity.
- Demonstrated experience at a senior clinician/clinical coordinator or clinical experience within an autonomous role.
- Demonstrated significant experience in the provision of mental health care with young people; including case management, risk assessment, mental state assessment, psychoeducation related to illness and medication, care coordination and partnering with young people and family/carers.
- Ability to work collaboratively and effectively with community service providers.
- Capacity to develop effective working relationships, collaborations and partnerships with a range of services within the broader community service system, including primary care, AOD agencies, employment and housing services, MHCSS, and other relevant agencies.
- A sound knowledge of the youth justice and/or criminal justice system and other relevant community based forensic services.
- Ability to work independently and effectively within a multidisciplinary team, with evidence of sound conflict resolution skills.
- Well-developed interpersonal and communication skills (written and verbal).
- Knowledge of the rationale and evidence for early intervention in mental illness.
- Ability to work collaboratively and effectively with young people and their families.

- Ability to participate in policy and service development within the program and in continuous quality improvement through ongoing evaluation of services delivered to clients.
- Understanding of the Child, Youth & Families Act (CYFA) 2005 which is the principal legislation for the youth justice service.
- Understanding of the Mental Health and Wellbeing Act 2022, Health Records Act 2001, Privacy Act (1998), Child Wellbeing and Safety Act (2005), Crimes (Mental Impairment and Unfitness to be Tried) Act 1997 and other Acts/ legislation relevant to working with young people in a mental health setting (i.e Sentencing Act, 1991).
- Understanding and acceptance of the Child Safe Standards (2022) and Reportable Conduct Scheme
- Knowledge of relevant guidelines, plans and strategies related to the mental health service system (e.g. Victorian Mental Health Reform Strategy, National Standards for Mental Health Services).
- Commitment to the development of integrated clinical research within the service
- Ability to develop, implement and evaluate integrated client-centred individual service plans, risk assessments and diagnostic formulations.
- A commitment to ongoing professional development through access to current literature, continuing education, supervision and attendance at seminars conferences.
- Comply with all legal requirements pertaining to the position including responsibility for maintaining current registration as required by your professional organisation or other applicable Acts.
- Willingness to work from a community-based site and across multiple sites if required.
- A current Victorian driver's licence.

Desirable:

- A working knowledge of community-based organisations and human services organisations.
- Clinical experience working within the Department of Justice, Forensic Psychiatry, or Youth Forensic Services.
- Nursing: Evidence of current Continuing Professional Development as outlined by ACMHN or RCNA. Evidence ACMHN Credentialed Mental Health Nurse (CMHN).
- Occupational Therapists: OT Australia Accredited Occupational Therapy status (AccOT).
- Social Workers: MAASW (Acc) or AASW Accredited Mental Health Social Worker status.
- According to professional qualifications: Demonstrated evidence of membership or Annual Continuing Professional Development as outlined by appropriate Professional Body (NBA, OTA, AASW, APS); MAASW (Acc) or AASW Accredited Mental Health Social Worker status or OT Australia Accredited Occupational Therapy status (AccOT).

Key Performance Indicators / Success Measures

Your performance will be measured through your successful:

- Demonstration of PYMHWS values - putting people first, leading with kindness and achieving excellence together
- Achievement of portfolio specific KPI targets
- Participation in and satisfactory feedback through the annual performance review process
- Ability to maintain a safe working environment and ensure compliance with legislative requirements

Conditions of Employment

PYMHWS is a child-safe organisation and is committed to promoting and protecting the safety and wellbeing of all young people and embedding safeguarding practices into all our programs and services.

All employment appointments are required to:

- hold a valid Working with Children Check
- Police Check
- Provide evidence of Immunisation history consistent with risk category defined for this role
- Availability to work across multiple locations within the Melbourne metropolitan area

Acceptance:

I acknowledge and accept that this position description represents the duties, responsibilities and accountabilities that are expected of me in my employment in the position. I understand that Parkville Youth Mental Health and Wellbeing Service (PYMHWS) reserves the right to modify position descriptions as required, however I will be consulted when this occurs.

Employee Signature

Employee Name (please print)

/ /

Date