A Chance for life

Liz Atkinson

Associate Case Manager & Occupational Therapist Barrow-in-Furness



Profile

Liz is an innovative, enthusiastic and dedicated clinical professional, with nearly 30 years' experience as an Occupational Therapist.

She has worked within the NHS, the private sector, Adult Social Care and the charity sector and has developed an excellent understanding of how these different sectors operate and intersect.

Liz has 5 years' past experience as a case manager at A Chance for Life, and, after a brief hiatus, returned to the team in 2020 as an associate, initially providing occupational therapy services. We are delighted that she is now also available for case management referrals.

Liz is comfortable working in the community and acute setting and always uses a clientcentred approach when working with both children and adults. She has a keen interest in neuro rehabilitation and enjoys working with people and their families to achieve their goals.

Liz has experience working with people with a wide range of complex neurological and physical conditions, including 5 years in a specialist role working with people with cerebral palsy, where she developed expertise in supporting children and their families and working with schools.

Liz also has specialist expertise in stroke rehabilitation.

Areas of expertise

Adults & Children
Neurorehabilitation
Complex cognitive and physical impairment
Stroke
Cerebral Palsy
Managing rehabilitation programmes
Working with support teams
Vocational rehabilitation
Specialist aids and equipment
Housing needs and adaptations
Moving and handling
Specialist cognitive assessment

Qualifications

Bachelor of Health Science Degree in Occupational Therapy

- University of Ripon & York St John, 1994

Memberships & registrations

British Association of Occupational Therapists (BAOT)

Health & Care Professions Council (HCPC)

Career history

2023 - present	Associate Case Manager, A Chance for Life Ltd
2020 – present	Associate Occupational Therapist, A Chance for Life Ltd
2020 – present	Locum Occupational Therapist, Randstad Recruitment Agency Also working for Cumbria Adult Social Care covering Barrow in Furness and South Lakes, in the short-term team. Responsibilities include moving and handling assessments, equipment provision and house adaptations.
2017 - 2020	Specialist Occupational Therapist, Stroke Rehabilitation, Furness General Hospital Working as part of a multi-disciplinary team, setting goals and treatment plans. Duties included carrying out specialist cognitive assessments, instigating and developing group work for patients to work on specific cognitive and physical goals, coordinating RVS volunteers to assist with group activities, liaising with external charities and agencies, conducting home visits and equipment assessments to plan for discharge and supporting patients in the community, post-discharge.
2012 - 2017	Case Manager & Occupational Therapist, A Chance for Life Ltd Managing a caseload of pre and post litigation clients. Working with adults and children, often with very complex conditions and needs. Assessing and preparing case management and occupational therapy plans with costs. Assessing and managing risks whilst supporting clients to achieve their goals. Recruiting and managing support workers, including 24-hour packages. Liaising with families, solicitors, financial deputies, statutory and private service providers, schools and other involved parties.
2003 - 2012	Senior Occupational Therapist, Social Services, Barrow-in-Furness
1998 - 2003	Cumbria Cerebral Palsy Supporting people who had cerebral palsy and their families in South Cumbria. Visiting people in their own homes, working with them to ensure they had the support that they were entitled to.
1995 - 1998	Senior Occupational Therapist, Wheelchair Service, Whitehaven

Liz's recent training record is available on request.