

Mental Health and Addictions Services
Forensic Mental Health –
Community Service
Tier 3

September 2024

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1. Status

These service specifications may be amended to meet local agreement needs.

MANDATORY RECOMMENDED

2. Review History

Review History	Date
First Published on NSFL	June 2010
Amended: Review of unapproved Purchase Units, MHFK80F, MHFK80A. Minor editing changes for consistency.	February 2011
Amended: clarified reporting requirements	February 2013
Amended: added MHF80S purchase unit code, removed standard provider monitoring reporting tables.	April 2017
Consideration for next Service Specification Review	Within five years
Moved to Health NZ template. Updated links for PUDD and NSFL only. Amended DHB to become District/Region where appropriate. Updated Sector Operations reporting email address. No other changes to content made.	September 2024

Note: In September 2024 a small programme of work moved all Service Specifications to Health New Zealand branded templates. No amendments were made to the body text or content of the Service Specification, so references to DHB, Ministry of Health or other pre-2022 reforms vocabulary will still exist. A larger programme of work to review and revise all Service Specifications is planned for late 2024 to early 2025.

Note: Contact the NSF Team, Te Whatu Ora | Health New Zealand to discuss proposed amendments to the service specifications and guidance in developing new or updating and revising existing service specifications. NSF@tewhatauora.govt.nz

Nationwide Service Framework Library web site [here](#)

3. Introduction

<p style="text-align: center;">FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES - COMMUNITY SERVICE MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES TIER THREE SERVICE SPECIFICATION MHF80A, MHF80B, MHF80C, MHF80D, MHF80E, MHF80F, MHF80S</p>

This tier three service specification for Forensic Mental Health Services - Community Service (the Service) must be used in conjunction with tier one Mental Health and Addiction Services and tier two Forensic Mental Health Services service specifications. In addition, it is linked to a range of tier three Forensic Mental Health Services service specifications.

The service specification defines Forensic Mental Health Services - Community Service and its objectives in the delivery of the Service.

4. Service Definition

The Service will be fully integrated with other mental health services and will engage the Service User and their family and whānau and carers. They will include but will not be limited to:

- specialist assessment
- provision of medication (including such new agents as are approved for use, in accordance with funding and safety protocols) and other treatment in accordance with a documented comprehensive recovery plan with identified desired outcomes
- ongoing monitoring of symptoms and social situations that may trigger an episode and regular review of progress and treatment at specified intervals
- provision of evidence-based therapies and psychotherapeutic interventions
- provision of evidence-based risk assessment / formulation / management plans
- provision of access to cultural services in accordance with Service Users' needs
- attention to matters in relation to early intervention, maintenance of health, relapse prevention, problem prevention and promotion of good mental health
- support to general mental health services or Department of Corrections for transitional planning, follow up, ongoing care and crisis response to Service Users who are on long leave or discharged from the inpatient forensic mental health units
- liaison with courts, probation service and prisons.

5. Service Objectives

5.1 General

The objective of the Service is to provide a recovery-oriented community-based forensic mental health assessment, treatment and therapy service for people with severe mental health problems / disorders who are offenders.

5.2 Māori Health

Refer to tier one Mental Health and Addiction Services service specification.

6. Service Users

The Service Users will be people that meet the assessment criteria for Forensic Mental Health. Young people should be transitioning to adult services up to their 18th birthday and until their 20th birthday if developmentally appropriate.

7. Access

Refer to the tier two Forensic Mental Health Services service specification.

8. Service Components

8.1 Processes

Refer to the tier two Forensic Mental Health Services service specification.

8.2 Settings

The Service is provided in community, court, prison and Forensic hospital based settings.

8.3 Key Inputs

Refer to the tier two Forensic Mental Health Services service specification.

9. Service Linkages

Refer to the tier two Forensic Mental Health Services service specification.

10. Purchase Units and Reporting Requirements

10.1 Purchase Units

Purchase Units (PU) Codes are defined in Health New Zealand's Nationwide Service Framework Purchase Unit Data Dictionary. The following codes apply to the Service.

PU Code	PU Description	PU Definition	Unit of Measure
MHF80 A	Forensic Mental Health Community Service – Senior medical staff	Service to provide a recovery-oriented community-based forensic mental health assessment, treatment and therapy service for people with severe mental health problems/disorders who are known to the Justice system. The service is provided by senior medical staff, a component of the multidisciplinary team	FTE
MHF80 B	Forensic Mental Health Community Service – Junior medical staff	Service to provide a recovery-oriented community-based forensic mental health assessment, treatment and therapy service for people with severe mental health problems/disorders who are known to the Justice system. The service is provided by junior medical staff, a component of a multidisciplinary team.	FTE
MHF80 C	Forensic Mental Health Community Service – Nurses & allied health staff	Service to provide a recovery-oriented community-based forensic mental health assessment, treatment and therapy service for people with severe mental health problems/disorders who are known to the Justice system. The service is provided by nurses and allied health staff, a component of a multidisciplinary team.	FTE
MHF80 D	Forensic Mental Health Community Service – Non-clinical staff	Service to provide a recovery-oriented community-based forensic mental health assessment, treatment and therapy service for people with severe mental health problems/disorders who are known to the Justice system. The service is provided by non-clinical staff, a component of a multidisciplinary team.	FTE
MHF80 E	Forensic Mental Health Community Service – Cultural staff	Service to provide a recovery-oriented community-based forensic mental health assessment, treatment and therapy service for people with severe mental health problems/disorders who are known to the Justice system. The service is provided by cultural staff, a component of a multidisciplinary team.	FTE
MHF80 S	Forensic Mental Health Community Service	Service to provide a recovery-oriented community-based forensic mental health assessment, treatment and therapy service for people with severe mental health problems/disorders who are known to the Justice system. The service is provided by a multidisciplinary team.	Service

Unit of Measure	Unit of Measure Definition
FTE	Full-time equivalent staff member (clinical or non-clinical) involved in direct delivery of services to consumers. Exclude time that is formally devoted to administrative or management functions e.g. half-time coordination of a community team.
Service	Service purchased in a block arrangement uniquely agreed between the parties to the agreement

10.2 Reporting

The Provider must comply with the requirements of national data collections: PRIMHD.

Additional information to be reported and the frequency of collection are specified by the Funder in the Provider Specific Terms and Conditions as agreed with the Service Provider.

The information required by the Funder will be sent to:

Email: performance_reporting@health.govt.nz

The Performance Monitoring Reporting tables for the Mental Health and Addiction Service Specifications¹ may be used for performance monitoring if specified as agreed with the Funder.

¹ Performance Monitoring Reporting cluster tables for Mental Health and Addiction Services are published on the Nationwide Service Framework Library, Mental Health and Addiction Service specifications page, Downloads section <https://www.tewhaturora.govt.nz/health-services-and-programmes/nationwide-service-framework-library/about-nationwide-service-specifications/mental-health-and-addiction-service-specifications>