

**Mental Health and Addiction Services**  
**Forensic Mental Health -**  
**Prison Service**  
**Tier 3**

**November 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
Published on NSFL	June 2010
<b>Amended:</b> removal of unapproved Purchase Unit MHFK84, MHFK84A, MHFK84C, MHFK84E. Minor editing changes for consistency.	February 2011
<b>Amended:</b> clarified reporting requirements	February 2013
<b>Amended:</b> added MHF84S, 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. No other changes to content made.	November 2024

**Note:** In late 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@tewhatuora.govt.nz](mailto:NSF@tewhatuora.govt.nz)

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

### 3. Introduction

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>FORENSIC MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES – PRISON SERVICE MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTION SERVICES TIER THREE SERVICE SPECIFICATION MHF84A, MHF84B, MHF84C, MHF84D, MHF84E, MHF84S</b></p>
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This tier three service specification for Forensic Mental Health Services - Prison Service (the Service) must be used in conjunction with the tier one Mental Health and Addiction Specialist Services, and tier two Forensic Mental Health Services service specifications. In addition, it is linked to a range of tier three Forensic Mental Health service specifications.

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

### 4. Service Definition

This Service is a multidisciplinary service comprised of specialist clinical staff providing a specialised service to all prisons within the designated geographical area that includes but is not limited to the following:

- assessment and treatment for prisoners with serious mental illness (whether on remand or sentenced) who are identified or who may be suspected of suffering from serious mental illness, who require specialist level mental healthcare
- provision of care within the prison setting or alternatively within an inpatient psychiatric unit, having regard to identified needs and available resources
- facilitation of continuity of care for people in receipt of care who need to be engaged with Adult Mental Health Services, other health and social care agencies including NGOs, on release. This may include inter-agency coordination
- consultation, liaison and assistance with treatment planning provided to prison health care staff and other agencies such as the Probation Service regarding people with severe behavioural problems and no mental health problems.

### 5. Service Objectives

#### 5.1 General

The objective of this Service is to enable prisoners to access a level of mental healthcare reasonably equivalent to that available to the general population of New Zealand.

#### 5.2 Māori Health

Refer to the 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 services. Young people should be transitioning to adult services up to their 20<sup>th</sup> birthday if developmentally appropriate.

## 7. Access

The Service is accessed by referral from prison primary health care providers.

## 8. Service Components

### 8.1 Processes

The processes include but are not limited to the following: assessment, consultation, treatment, intervention, rehabilitation, liaison, advocacy and support, review process, and discharge.

### 8.2 Settings

The Service is provided in prison based settings.

### 8.3 Key Inputs

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

### 8.4 Pacific Health

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

## 9.6. Service Linkages

Linkages include, but are not limited to the following:

<b>Service Provider</b>	<b>Nature of Linkage</b>	<b>Accountabilities</b>
Other providers of Mental Health and addiction services and general health	Referral, liaison, consultation	Work with other relevant professionals and agencies in the care of the Service user.
Other providers of services to people under the Justice system	Referral, liaison,	Work collaboratively with other providers eg, Department of Corrections, Prisons, Courts

Service Provider	Nature of Linkage	Accountabilities
	networking, collaboration	

## 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
MHF84A	Forensic Mental Health – Prison Mental Health Service – Senior medical staff	Multidisciplinary service comprised of specialist clinical staff to enable prisoners to access a level of mental healthcare reasonably equivalent to that available to the general population of New Zealand. The service is provided by senior medical staff, a component of the multidisciplinary team.	FTE
MHF84B	Forensic Mental Health – Prison Mental Health Service – Junior medical staff	Multidisciplinary service comprised of specialist clinical staff to enable prisoners to access a level of mental healthcare reasonably equivalent to that available to the general population of New Zealand. The service is provided by junior medical staff, a component of the multidisciplinary team.	FTE
MHF84C	Forensic Mental Health – Prison Mental Health Service – Nurses & allied health	Multidisciplinary service comprised of specialist clinical staff to enable prisoners to access a level of mental healthcare reasonably equivalent to that available to the general population of New Zealand. The service is provided by nurses and allied health staff, a component of the multidisciplinary team.	FTE
MHF84D	Forensic Mental Health – Prison Mental Health Service – Non-clinical staff	Multidisciplinary service comprised of specialist clinical staff to enable prisoners to access a level of mental healthcare reasonably equivalent to that available to the general population of New Zealand. The service is provided by non-clinical staff, a component of the multidisciplinary team.	FTE
MHF84E	Forensic Mental Health Prison Mental Health Service – Cultural staff	Multidisciplinary service comprised of specialist clinical staff to enable prisoners to access a level of mental healthcare reasonably equivalent to that available to the general population of New Zealand. The service is provided by cultural staff, a component of the multidisciplinary team.	FTE
MHF84S	Forensic Mental Health Prison Mental Health Service	Multidisciplinary service comprised of specialist clinical staff to enable prisoners to access a level of mental healthcare reasonably equivalent to that available to the general population of New Zealand. 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](mailto:performance_reporting@health.govt.nz)

The Performance Monitoring Reporting tables for the Mental Health and Addiction Service Specifications<sup>1</sup> may be used for performance monitoring if specified as agreed with the Funder.

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<sup>1</sup> 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.tewhātuora.govt.nz/health-services-and-programmes/nationwide-service-framework-library/about-nationwide-service-specifications/mental-health-and-addiction-service-specifications>