



Prevention & Community Engagement - Clinical Behaviour Services

Job Title:	Veterinary Behaviourist (Clinical Behaviour Services)
Reporting to:	Head of Clinical Behaviour Services
Responsible for:	N/A
Dogs Trust Grade:	D
Location:	Home-based with travel to clients' homes, veterinary clinics and Rehoming Centres as required

Job Purpose

The Veterinary Behaviourist offers support in Veterinary Behavioural Medicine to the Behaviour, Community and Veterinary teams across Dogs Trust.

Overview of the Department/Team

Canine behaviour knowledge and practice is central to rehabilitating dogs within our rehoming centres, and for the provision of Dog School training and education classes. Science led behaviour knowledge also informs a range of other areas of Dogs Trust activity, including campaigns, international projects and the work of the education teams.

The Veterinary Behaviourist (Clinical Behaviour Services) will assist the Head of Clinical Behaviour Services in running the internal referral service for behavioural medicine, recommending treatment protocols, monitoring patient progress, and assisting with more complex cases as required. They will additionally undertake consultations in owners' homes or within clinical environments. As part of the role, the Veterinary Behaviourist will be expected to develop written and on-line support materials in veterinary behavioural medicine and deliver material to internal and external stakeholders. They will also assist with support for the care of dogs within rehoming centres as required.

Should the post holder not have a recognised accreditation in behaviour, they will be provided with support in order to gain the necessary knowledge and experience to apply for professional accreditation with CCAB Certification Ltd or ABTC for CAB standard.

Key areas of accountability

Develop and monitor a system for approving where psychoactive medication may be of value to optimise the welfare of dogs in clinical settings, as well as working with the Clinical Animal Behaviour teams to monitor dogs' response to treatment.

Support and advise staff across Dogs Trust on psychoactive medication and links between disease, physiology and behavioural signs, under the direction of the Head of Clinical Behaviour Services. Work with the Community Clinical Animal Behaviour and post-adoption teams in devising the optimal behaviour rehabilitation strategy for dogs in their care.

Liaise with external veterinary practices as required to support the work of clinical teams. Provide input into other assessment and decision-making processes as needed.
As required, work with the Veterinary Behaviourist (Rehoming) to support centre TBAs, Senior TBAs, Veterinary and Operations teams in devising the optimal behaviour rehabilitation strategy for dogs in Dogs Trust care.
Work with the Veterinary Director and colleagues to develop professional relationships with veterinary practices and stakeholders and provide behavioural CPD and individual case support as required.
Deliver CPD lectures and conference presentations to promote knowledge of Veterinary Behavioural Medicine to the wider profession and the public.
Carry out other duties as directed by the Head of Clinical Behaviour Services.

Person Specification

Essential skills, qualifications, experience, and attributes

RCVS registered veterinary surgeon
Have experience of working in general practice as well as with behaviour cases
Have good knowledge of dog behaviour, training and welfare
Be able to work well independently
Possess a good knowledge of psychopharmacology
Possess excellent written and verbal communication skills
Be computer literate with knowledge of MSWord, Excel, PowerPoint and able to use the internet

Desirable skills, qualifications, experience, and attributes

Possess a recognised accredited post-graduate qualification in behaviour or be willing to work towards one
Be confident at public speaking and have the ability to deliver CPD, lectures and conference presentations
Keep up to date with the latest thinking on canine behaviour through continuous education and professional development
Work effectively as a team member
Be passionate about enhancing the welfare of dogs and their owners

Additional information

Although this role will primarily be home-based there will be a requirement to travel.



