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Susan Arblaster

### **Curriculum Vitae**

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### **CAREER SUMMARY**

A Vocational Assessment and Rehabilitation specialist working in the field since 1990

- Employed as a Vocational Evaluator within the NHS.
- Developed and managed a vocational assessment and rehabilitation centre for individuals with mental health problems.
- Provided training on mental health and work on behalf of Employment Services.
- Developed audit within a day services setting for clients with Learning Disabilities
- Extensive experience of vocational assessment and the preparation of reports highlighting strengths and weaknesses, and identifying goals to be achieved if work is to be a realistic option.
- Provided many expert witness reports in the field of personal injury since 1997. Prior to the Woolf Reforms, approximately 70% of my cases were on behalf of the Defendant, the remaining 30% being Claimant instructions. Since the Woolf reforms I have mainly received joint instructions (around 95%). These are initiated, on a roughly equal basis, by Claimant and Defendant Solicitors. I have given evidence in Court in the UK and South Africa
- Case management activities and the co-ordination of vocational rehabilitation programmes to help the injured individual maximise their potential and begin the return to work process.

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### **CAREER HISTORY**

September 2007 to date:	Self employment as a Rehabilitation Case Manager, providing reports for use in personal injury cases. I do both litigation and rehabilitation work. Based in South Yorkshire I work with individuals across the UK and have worked on international cases.
July 2006 – September 2007:	Rubicon Health – Rehabilitation Case Manager The provision of reports and case management in connection with personal injuries. I receive mainly joint instructions, with these being initiated approximately equally by Claimant and Defendant Solicitors
July 2000 – July 2006:	From March 2006 I was a Senior Case Manager with FirstAssist Rehabilitation Services. Prior to that I was a Vocational Rehabilitation Case Manager with the same

company. I was originally employed by Pro-Care, which is now part of FirstAssist Rehabilitation Services

June 1997 – July 2000: Crawford & Company	Vocational Rehabilitation Case Manager The provision of employment and rehabilitation reports in personal injury cases, covering a variety of disabilities. I have worked on behalf of both Defendant and Claimant Solicitors, but increasingly received joint instructions. This work included international research, local labour market research, monitoring progress, identifying suitable service providers etc.
August 1995 – June 1997: Bradford Community Health NHS Trust	Principal Vocational Assessor The provision of a vocational assessment service for adults with mental health problems. I also carried out assessments of Learning Disabilities clients, making recommendations for service provision, based on their assessed needs. My role also involved the use of Focus Groups with clients, the development of databases, setting up of audit tools for use in day care.
March 1994 – September 1995: Employment Services Manager Leeds MIND	Developing and managing an inner city employment service for people with mental health problems. This included all aspects of management.
August 1990 – March 1994: Bradford Community Health NHS Trust	Vocational Evaluator/Co-ordinator The development of a vocational assessment service for people with mental health problems. This entailed liaison with other professionals and agencies, carrying out psychometric assessment and working independently within a multi-disciplinary framework.

Prior to graduation, I worked as a Team Leader for the Keep Britain Tidy Group, a Playgroup Assistant and a Tax Officer.

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## QUALIFICATIONS

GCE "O" levels: 10 subjects

GCE "A" levels: English Literature, French

Certificate of Preparation for Higher Education: Pass with Distinction

1990: BSc (Hons) 2:1 in Psychology, University of Bradford

1996: Postgraduate Diploma in Social Research & Evaluation, University of Huddersfield

Other qualifications:

Basic Health & Safety Certificate

RSA Development of Counselling Skills

RSA Word Processing (Stage 1)

Certificate of Competence in Occupational Testing

I am a graduate member of the British Psychological Society.

Training:

Thomas Sands Courtroom Skills Training

Bond Solon Report Writing