



South Tyneside Council

CHILDREN, ADULTS AND HEALTH

JOB DESCRIPTION

POST TITLE:	Social Worker - Integrated Safeguarding and Intervention Team
GRADE:	Band 6/7 CG
RESPONSIBLE TO:	Team Manager - Integrated Safeguarding and Intervention Team
RESPONSIBLE FOR:	Undertaking initial enquiries and decision making in response to contacts and referrals to Children's Social Care

The team operates as the front door to Children's Social Care and as such is responsible for receiving, considering, prioritising and responding to all contacts and referrals. As a social worker you will be responsible for undertaking enquiries in order for decisions to be made in relation to outcomes of contacts and referrals. Responsibility for cases will transfer to another part of the service following the establishment of the plan and as such the team's involvement with any individual case will be short term.

As a social worker you will have responsibility for making enquiries including speaking to service users and professionals. You will part of a multi agency team so will have excellent communications skills and the ability to work well as part of a team. You will contribute to daily multi-agency meetings in relation to decision making. You will be able to analyse information in a timely manner to ensure that children and young people are safeguarded.

The role will support the service achieve its goals of providing early support to children and families and ensuring children can safely remain within their own families and communities where ever this is in the child's best interests. As a practitioner you will be expected to establish effective relationships with children, young people and families, employ evidence based and outcome focussed interventions that are designed to ensure a positive journey through intervention and support for the child and family.

Overall Objectives of the Post:

1. To support the team / service deliver an appropriate, effective and timely response to all contacts and referral to Children's Social Care via a proportionate evidence based assessment and support package.
2. To help the team / service ensure that children, young people and their families receive support at the earliest opportunity that is based on an assessment of risk and resilience factors.
3. To develop and embed partnership working with children, young people and their families/carers and ensure that they understand the purpose of the intervention and that their views are valued and used to inform assessments and interventions.
4. To develop and embed multi-agency and multi-disciplinary approaches so that children, young people, their families receive holistic interventions that promote a positive journey though intervention and support.
5. To promote the safety, health and wellbeing of children and young people within their families and communities through the delivery of intensive support and interventions.
6. To ensure that a customer and user focus results in professional judgements that promote and are respectful of culture, language, ethnic origin, faith, gender, sexual orientation and disability, so that rights and responsibilities are respected.

Key Tasks of the Post:

1. To provide advice, guidance and prompt, high quality responses to all enquires.
2. To demonstrate a clear understanding and application of the threshold criteria and safeguarding risks as defined in legislation and local policy.
3. To gather and record highly sensitive and confidential data on the social care recording system, collating key information relating to Children's Social Care and Safeguarding.
4. To use knowledge, skills and initiative to elicit comprehensive details from the referrers and pursue key lines of inquiry to gather relevant information at the first point of contact.
5. To take ownership of all enquires and provide feedback on the progress and outcomes to partner agencies, professional organisations and members of the public as appropriate and in line with policy.
6. To prioritise and progress appropriate contacts quickly and effectively ensuring a professional decision is made in conjunction with the relevant social workers within the set time scale.
7. To have face to face and telephone discussions with members of the public.
8. To work in partnership with other team members and professionals to ensure that interventions are delivered holistically using Team around the Child/Family and Think Family approaches and deliver a positive journey for children / young people and families through intervention and support.
9. To ensure that record keeping and report writing is timely and accurate and fully compliant with the Council's ITC and recording systems and evidences the voice of the child / young person and their journey.
10. To take responsibility for ensuring individual practice is subject to continuous improvement and meets with local and national professional standards, including attending training and professional development events and activities relevant to the role and necessary for registration with Social Work England.
11. To participate in such activities as directed by the team manager that contribute to ongoing review and improvement of practice and service standards within a culture of learning and continuous improvement.
12. To work within the Councils scheme of delegation and authorisation and ensuring that all recommendations and decisions are brought to the attention of the designated manager.
13. To manage time and resources in accordance with the Councils flexible working arrangements, undertaking interventions where appropriate outside of office hours.
14. To prepare for and attend supervision with the team manager and participate in an annual appraisal and PDP.

South Tyneside Council is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Successful applicants will be required to produce an Enhanced Certificate of Disclosure from the Disclosure and Barring Service.

All employees have a responsibility to undertake training and development as required. They also have a responsibility to help, where appropriate and necessary, with the training and development of fellow colleagues.

All employees have a responsibility of care for their own and others health and safety.

The above list is not exhaustive and other duties may be attached to the post from time to time. Variation may also occur to the duties and responsibilities without changing the general character of the post.

Reference: SS/CL

Date: 4.09.20