

Job Description

Job Title:	Independent Reviewing Officer
Salary Grade:	Grade 9
SCP:	37 – 41
Job Family:	People Care
Job Profile:	PC 5
Directorate:	Corporate and Commercial
Job Ref No:	
Work Environment:	Agile
Reports to:	Independent Review Manager
Number of Reports:	None

Your normal place of work will be at the Lambton House, but you may be required to work at any Company recognised workplace.

This position requires an Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Check.

Purpose:

Monitor the performance of the Together for Children-Sunderland (TFC) and partner agencies of their functions in relation to a child's case, chair the child's review and monitor the case on an on-going basis, including identifying whether any safeguarding issues arise. Carry out related duties under the Care Planning, Placement and Case Review Regulations 2010.

To assist the Independent Reviewing Service within Sunderland in delivering an effective service for children and their families that provides scrutiny of a child's plan, to deliver timely outcomes for children.

To provide assistance, in the absence of the LADO, to fulfil the statutory requirements required to investigate allegations against staff who work with children.

Key Responsibilities:

To ensure that statutory, policy and procedural requirements are being met in keeping with national and local arrangements for children/young people and their families at Child Protection Conferences and Reviews.

To ensure that statutory, policy and procedural requirements for children/young people are being met in keeping with childcare legislation and the IRO Handbook 2010, for children/young people who are looked after.

To be responsible for organising, chairing and the follow-up of Child Protection Conferences/Reviews, in accordance with Sunderland Safeguarding Board procedures (SSCB).

To provide appropriate scrutiny of multi-agency practice and plans to raise concerns on individual children/young people's cases, where practice has fallen short.

To take appropriate action to improve outcomes for children/young people when safeguarding issues are identified, using the appropriate escalation procedures.

To be responsible for organising, chairing and the follow-up of Looked After Reviews for children/young people, in keeping with childcare legislation.

To ensure that children/young people's records are updated in accordance with IRO service practice standards, both in the area of child protection and looked after children.

To produce detailed Looked After Review records for individual children/young people, in keeping with childcare legislation.

To support and contribute to the development of services and their wider function, to raise standards and outcomes for children/young people.

To contribute to and support the on-going developing of working relationships with social care and multi-agency staff, to seek to improve practice, standards and outcomes for children/young people.

To provide cover, as and when required, in relation to the Foster Care Reviewing and Regulation Officer and the Designated Officer.

To be responsible for organising, chairing and the follow-up of children/young people's secure reviews, in accordance with procedures and childcare legislation.

To undertake the role of the IRO in accordance with the IRO Handbook, to prevent drift and delay for children/young people.

To contribute to the quality assurance role and function via the production of data and analysis, in accordance with the safeguarding agenda.

To support the IRO service relationship with partner agencies in the delivery and development of training for childcare staff.

To promote a positive and enabling culture both within the IRO service and via effective relationships with multi-agency partners.

To contribute to annual service reports and plans as required, and to share in the development of a vision for the service, as part of the IRO team.

To participate, support and comply with Council arrangements for responding to emergencies and or business interruptions.

The above list is not exhaustive and the post holder will be expected to undertake any duties which may reasonably fall within the level of responsibility and the competence of the post.

Statutory Requirements

In line with the Together for Children's Statutory Requirements, all employees should:

Comply with the principles and requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) in relation to the management of Together for Children Sunderland's records and information, and respect the privacy of personal information held by Together for Children Sunderland.

Comply with the principles and requirements of the Freedom in Information Act 2000;

Comply with the Together for Children Sunderland's information security standards, and requirements for the management and handling of information;

Undertake the duties of the post in accordance with the Company's Equal Opportunities Policy, Health and Safety Policy and legislative requirements and all other Company policies.

This position is a politically restricted post as identified by Together for Children and in accordance with The Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (LGHA).

Author Gavin Taylor / Kim Roberts

Date 22/12/20