

Job Description

Job Title: Emergency Duty Team Advanced Practitioner

Salary Grade: Grade 9

SCP: 43 - 47

Job Family: People Care

Job Profile: PC 5, plus working conditions

Directorate: Children's Services

Job Ref No: To be determined

Work Environment: Emergency Duty Team

Reports to: EDT Manager

Number of Reports: Permanent Variable Hours EDT Advanced Practitioners

Purpose:

To manage and supervise others in the delivery of services to ensure the safeguarding and independence of clients and the community.

Key Responsibilities:

To oversee EDT (Children's) Permanent Variable Hours EDT Advanced Practitioners, plus trainee or student Social Workers and Newly Qualified Social Workers, as agreed by Team Manager.

To undertake assessments and interventions with the most complex children and families out of office hours.

To work semi-autonomously out of hours, where necessary with the support of the Reserve Shift Social Worker & under the direction of the EDT On-Call Manager when this is required.

To develop and promote best practice, supporting the Triage Team Manager and the EDT On-Call Manager with operational management tasks and overseeing and supporting the work of less experienced colleagues.

Sign off statutory assessments and reports as agreed by Manager within the Scheme of Delegation

Provide oversight and delegated decision making functions, supporting the Team Manager in aspects of the management task

To act as a role model in terms of best practice

To formally mentor/supervise Sessional & Reserve Shift Social Workers

To deputise for the Team Manager when appropriate

To sign off reports and plans as agreed by the Team Manager.

To Chair Interim Strategy Discussions and initiate Safeguarding investigations outside office hours.

Working within the multi-agency framework, to fulfil Sunderland City Council's statutory Social Work functions during allocated Shifts outside regular office hours.

Undertake timely, procedurally compliant assessments, and S47 enquiries which clearly identify level of risk, and/or need, in relation to children, and which lead to clear plans and interventions that address identified risks and need/s until day time services can resume responsibility.

Role model competent social work practice, with increased autonomy linked to level of skill, experience and knowledge of the post holder (Professional Capabilities Framework – Advanced Level).

Take ownership of casework issues including the focus of assessments, nature and type of work to be undertaken, reporting case work issues where appropriate to both the EDT Manager On-Call and/or the Team Manager.

To mentor, direct, guide, and assist EDT Sessional Practitioners, EDT Reserve Social Workers and others seeking advice out of hours about Social Work Services available for children and families.

To be a nominated 'Practice Champion' and be part of the Practice Champion Network in Sunderland, led by the Chief Social Worker, in order to promote, and disseminate information and embed any practice changes at a locality level leading to the development and promotion of consistent good practice.

To ensure own continuous professional development in terms of emerging research, case law and other relevant policy or procedural changes.

To act as a consultant within the team in the area of good practice, emerging research, case law and relevant policy changes with a focus on other staff acquiring skills and knowledge, promoting a consistent good practice approach.

To manage and supervise Social Workers, Child and Family Workers, and trainee and student Social Workers as appropriate.

To promote employee development through adherence to policies and procedures.

To provide support to the Team Manager by:-

- Contributing to the development and delivery of the Team Plan
- Overseeing and determining the allocation of work
- Providing a quality assurance and decision making role related to casework across the team
- Ensuring that practice is critically evaluated and reviewed, feeding back to individual and identifying any themes or trends that my need to be addressed through learning and development
- Ensuring timely responses, appropriate to the level of need/risk identified
- Making sure that assessments are safe, proportionate and have well evidenced conclusions
- Having the delegated authority to sign of assessments, plans and reports, as agreed by the Team Manager

To chair meetings in relation to children at risk or in need (e.g. strategy, core group, Child in Need and planning meetings) where appropriate, ensuring effective information sharing, planning and review.

To contribute to meaningful engagement with partner agencies locally and across the City, including case discussion, problem solving, managing dispute, training and participation in multi-agency forums.

To contribute to strategic and operational developments related to the establishment and promotion of excellent practice across Sunderland.

Additional Information/Other Requirements

To be able to meet the travelling requirements of the post.

To be able to work flexible hours as required by the post. Working hours are primarily outside normal working hours.

Statutory requirements

In line with the Council's Statutory Requirements, all employees of the Council should:

Comply with the principles and requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998 in relation to the management of Council records and information, and respect the privacy of personal information held by the Council;

Comply with the principles and requirements of the Freedom in Information Act 2000; Comply with the Council's information security standards, and requirements for the management and handling of information;

Use Council information only for authorised purposes.

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