



Stockton-on-Tees
BOROUGH COUNCIL



Job Description

Lawyer: Adult's & Litigation

Job details

Grade:	K-N
Directorate:	Corporate Services
Reporting to:	Lead Solicitor (Adult's & Litigation)
Location:	Dunedin House (agile)
Work Environment:	Hybrid
Contract:	Flexible (up to 37 hours) permanent

Job Summary:

As a Lawyer/Solicitor (Adults and Litigation), you will play a key role in delivering high-quality legal advice and representation that helps the Council deliver safe, lawful and effective services for our communities. Working within a supportive team and under the guidance of the Lead Solicitor, you'll handle a varied and meaningful caseload, spanning litigation, licensing, prosecutions, SEN, employment, and adult social care.

You will be the person our services turn to for trusted legal guidance, ensuring decisions are informed, robust and compliant with legislation. This role offers opportunities to develop your expertise, contribute to corporate priorities, and make a tangible difference for residents.

Your day to day:

- Provide clear, timely legal advice to officers and elected members across a broad range of litigation and regulatory matters.
- Conduct independent casework (with appropriate supervision) and manage your own caseload.
- Attend and advise Licensing Committees and other Council meetings.
- Represent the Council at Courts, Tribunals, Appeals and Inquiries.
- Support key corporate projects, service priorities and policy development.
- Interpret legislative changes and advise on their implications for Council services.
- Maintain up-to-date knowledge of law, policy and best practice.
- Contribute positively to the Legal Services team and wider Council objectives.
- Participate in annual business planning and undertake ongoing professional development.

Additional information:

- Ability to travel across the borough (full driving licence and vehicle access essential).



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Personal Specification

Essential criteria

Qualifications

- Solicitor, Barrister or FCILEX fully qualified to practise in England & Wales (Grade L and above).
- Part-qualified / working towards qualification as Solicitor, Barrister or FCILEX (Grade K).

Experience

- Recent experience of **legal practice**.
- Experience delivering litigation advice in at least one of the following:
 - Licensing
 - Prosecutions
 - Special Educational Needs (SEN)
 - Employment
 - Adult Social Care

Knowledge and skills

- Political awareness and sensitivity.
- Strong negotiation and communication skills.
- Ability to prioritise workloads and determine appropriate levels of delegation.
- Ability to foster and promote a corporate approach across services.
- Knowledge of local government services and the legal frameworks affecting them.

Behaviours

- Strong commitment to public service and high standards of integrity.
- Calm, sensitive and professional in challenging situations.
- Politically astute with sound judgement.
- Strong interpersonal and partnership-working style.
- Collaborative and corporate in approach.
- Highly motivated with a focus on outcomes and achievement.
- Committed to equality, inclusion and continuous improvement.



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Personal Specification

Desirable criteria

- Degree
- Practising certificate
- Experience working in local government legal service
- Advocacy experience at Courts or Tribunals
- Experience presenting in public settings, including Committees
- Individuals with an interest in prosecutions, housing enforcement, or county court litigation

General (for all Council colleagues)

- **Job Evaluation:** This job description supports grading under the NJC Job Evaluation scheme adopted by Stockton Council.
- **Flexibility:** Duties listed are not exhaustive; additional tasks may be required within the scope of the role.
- **Values & Conduct:** Act in line with Council Values, Behaviours, Code of Conduct, professional standards, and promote equality and diversity.
- **Corporate Parenting:** Share the Council's ambition for children in care and care-experienced young people to thrive and be protected from harm.
- **Personal Development:** Take responsibility for your own learning and growth, as outlined in the Council's Culture Statement.
- **Customer Service:** Deliver consistently high-quality service to all internal and external customers.
- **Policies & Procedures:** Comply with all Council policies and procedures.
- **Health & Safety:** Maintain personal safety and follow Council health and safety requirements.
- **Safeguarding:** Be alert to potential abuse of children and vulnerable adults and act in accordance with the Council's Safeguarding Policy.



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