

Safeguarding Practitioner

Grade 9

Our Vision

A county where big ambitions, great connections and greener living give everyone the opportunity to prosper, be healthy and happy

Our Outcomes

Everyone in Staffordshire will:

- Have access to more good jobs and share the benefit of economic growth
- Be healthier and more independent for longer
- Feel safer, happier and more supported in their community

Our Values

Our People Strategy sets out what we all need to do to make Staffordshire County Council a great place to work, where people are supported to develop, the Strategy to ensure that the focus is on what is important to the organisation and the people it serves:

- Ambitious – We are ambitious for our communities and citizens
- Courageous – We recognise our challenges and are prepared to make courageous decisions
- Empowering – We empower and support our people by giving them the opportunity to do their jobs well.

About the Service

Safeguarding Statement

Pertinent to all Job Descriptions

- To work in accordance with The Care Act and its principles;
- To ensure that any suspected abuse of an adult with care and support needs is reported in accordance with the Adult Safeguarding Policy and Procedure;

- To promote awareness of the Adult Safeguarding Policy and the Mental Capacity Act;
- To Safeguard adults with care and support needs by promoting their health and wellbeing;
- To promote the prevention of abuse of adults with care and support needs;
- To ensure any provider service deficiencies are reported to the relevant Commissioner

The role of the safeguarding practitioner is to respond primarily to complex and high risk adult safeguarding enquiries with a view to ensuring that the principles of the Care Act and specifically Making Safeguarding Personal are adhered to. The safeguarding practitioner will undertake a range of activities which support the development of safeguarding plans to ensure that wherever possible the individuals' desired outcomes are met and reviewed.

Reporting Relationships

Responsible to: **Safeguarding Practice Lead**

Responsible for: **N/A**

Key Accountabilities:

1. Conducting section 42 enquires for adults with care and support needs, including interviews that comply with Police standards, liaising with other agencies, preparing reports and providing information to formal meetings in line with Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Adult Safeguarding Enquiry Procedures.
2. Working with other professionals from a range of agencies to ensure their information is appropriately represented in enquiry reports which will demonstrate the activity and outcomes of enquiries undertaken and will identify how abuse could be prevented in the future.
3. Adopting a proportionate response to Section 42 enquiries and where appropriate responding quickly to urgent high risk cases.
4. Contributing to multi-agency safeguarding planning in order to respond to identified risks of abuse through thorough risk appraisal and a range of protective interventions.

5. Offering advice, consultation and support to other workers and partners to promote best practice and to reinforce skills and knowledge in relation to adult safeguarding.
6. Championing safeguarding in particular Making Safeguarding personal, the Mental Capacity Act and the development of enquiry skills to improve and consolidate practice across Staffordshire.
7. Producing witness statements for cases going to court.
8. Advising team members and partners on policies and procedures around risk appraisal and safeguarding.
9. Ensuring that information is effectively recorded and shared where necessary in accordance with legal requirements.
10. Contributing to and cooperating with any multi-agency audits and Safeguarding Adult Reviews required by the local Safeguarding Partnerships.

Professional Accountabilities:

The post holder is required to contribute to the achievement of the Council objectives through:

| Area | Description |
|---------------------------|---|
| Legislation | Care Act 2014 Mental Capacity Act 2005 Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Mental Health Act 2007 Data Protection Act |
| Partners/key stakeholders | Customers and carers Internal and external providers MASH Legal Services (Internal) |

Financial Management

Personal accountability for delivering services efficiently, effectively, within budget and to implement any approved savings and investment allocated to the service.

People Management

Engaging with People Management policies and processes

Equalities

Ensuring that all work is completed with a commitment to equality and anti-discriminatory practice, as a minimum to standards required by legislation.

Climate Change

Delivering energy conservation practices in line with the Council's climate change strategy.

Health and Safety

Ensuring a work environment that protects people's health and safety and that promotes welfare, and which is in accordance with the Council's Health & Safety policy.




Safeguarding

Commitment to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of vulnerable groups.

The content of this Job Description and Person Specification will be reviewed on a regular basis.

Person Specification

A = Assessed at Application
I = Assessed at Interview
T = Assessed through Test

| Minimum Criteria for Disability Confident Scheme * | Criteria | Measured by |
|---|--|---|
|  | <p>Qualifications/Professional membership</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Professional social work or equivalent qualification e.g. occupational therapy, nursing/therapy etc. Registration with relevant governing body. | <p style="text-align: center;">A</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A</p> |
|  | <p>Knowledge and Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Up to date knowledge of the issues facing adult social care and demonstrable commitment to customer satisfaction. Proven knowledge and application of person centred approaches when working with people with care and support needs Proven experience in relation to working as a practitioner within a safeguarding setting. Understanding the importance of advocacy and user involvement within safeguarding enquiries, and being able to apply appropriately. Person centred approaches in relation to working with adults with care and support needs and their carers / families. Experience of complex case work. | <p style="text-align: center;">A/I</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A/I</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A/I</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A/I</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A/I</p> |
|  | <p>Skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proven analytical and critical thinking skills Proven skills in relation to undertaking enquiries Evidence of sound judgment in providing solutions on complex case work including risk appraisal. Effective communication skills with a range of people including customers and key stakeholders. An ability to write safeguarding enquiry reports Evidence of ability to establish effective working relationships with the customers and partners | <p style="text-align: center;">A/I/T</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A/I/T</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A/I/T</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A/I/T</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A/I/T</p> <p style="text-align: center;">A/I/T</p> |



If a disabled person meets the criteria indicated by the Disability Confident scheme symbol and provides evidence of this on their application form, they will be guaranteed an interview.

We are proud to display the Disability Confidence Symbol, which is a recognition given by Job centre plus to employers who agree to meet specific requirements regarding the recruitment, employment, retention, and career development of disabled people.

If you need a copy of this information in large print, Braille, another language, on cassette or disc, please ask us by contacting **Talent and Resourcing team on 01785 278300**