

Senior Practitioner – Child Exploitation

Grade 10

Our Vision

We have a clear vision for Staffordshire - an innovative, ambitious and sustainable county, where everyone has the opportunity to prosper, be healthy and happy

Our Outcomes

We want everyone in Staffordshire to:

- Have access to more good jobs and share the benefit of economic growth
- Live in thriving and sustainable communities
- Be healthier and more independent for longer

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, flourish and contribute to our ambitious plans. Our values are at the heart of 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

Insight has evidenced that Staffordshire is a great place to live. Most families are happy, safe and have loving homes, however there are some families who face challenges that mean they cannot thrive in the way they want to. We are committed to developing a system and a way of working that will enable Staffordshire's children to thrive within their own families and communities by

addressing the root causes of difficulties for the whole family at the earliest point.

We aim to:

- a. Maximise the achievement of better outcomes for families in Staffordshire using all available resources, effectively and efficiently.
- b. Support safer, healthier, thriving children whose needs are met within their families and communities where it is safe to do so, reducing the need for higher cost, complex interventions.
- c. Provide high quality statutory Children's Service (Staffordshire County Council's children's services are currently rated as "Good" by Ofsted) that only works with those children and families who require this specialist level of intervention.

Our commissioning is focused upon reducing demand. We recognise that our commissioning must be evidenced based and future focused. Whilst the service within the cusp of statutory care is dealing with the issues that are presenting today we expect to commission services, relationships and practice smartly to prevent those issues presenting in the future.

Futures Matter

Within Families & Communities, Futures Matter is an integral part of the Early Help & Specialist Safeguarding Delivery Service, with the Head of Service reporting directly to the Assistant Director, Children's Social Care, who provides management oversight.

Our aim is to create an environment where families are supported to stay together safely and live well in their communities by building on their strengths.

We will continue to build a strengths-based approach which will promote a culture of inclusion and support to enable children to achieve their best outcomes.

Futures Matters encompasses the Youth offending Service, Child Exploitation Team, and Edge of Care provision within Staffordshire.

Reporting Relationships

Responsible to: Team Manager

About the role:

To support the Child Exploitation Team Manager in the supervision, advice, guidance and personal development of Futures Matter Support Workers.

Provide advice, guidance and support to District and Central Leads, Team Managers, and social work colleagues in relation to individual children who are at risk of being exploited.

To support Deputy District Leads with MACE Panels and provide expert advice in relation to contextualised safeguarding to assist practitioners to implement strategies to mitigate against associated risks.

Key Accountabilities:

1. Support the Team Manager in the supervision, advice, guidance and personal development of Futures Matter Support Workers as necessary.
2. Provide advice, support, and guidance to practitioners in the districts regarding contextualized safeguarding, especially for complex issues and investigations.
3. Work collaboratively across the districts and with other partner agencies to ensure the safeguarding of children who are being exploited or are at risk of being exploited.
4. Responsibility for the ongoing awareness raising of practitioners across the Children's System in relation to early identification and warning signs of child exploitation including grooming, criminal activity, gang associations, unhealthy relationships and the correlation between this and children who go missing or are absent from education, home or care.
5. Support Deputy District Leads with the co-ordination of MACE panels and contribute to the ongoing review and future development of the panels.
6. Attend the West Midlands Co-ordinator meetings on a bi-monthly basis to share best practice and lessons learned and ensure that this learning informs Staffordshire's practice going forward.
7. Deliver training and briefings across the Children's System to support practitioner development and understanding of contextualised safeguarding and support the development of strategies to mitigate associated risks.

8. Represent the Local Authority at meetings/forums as deemed appropriate by the line manager.
9. Identify and utilise national, regional, and local research to inform evidence-based practice to share with practitioners across the Children's System.
10. Ensure that work contributes to the achievement of all agreed performance targets at an individual, team, and service level.
11. Participate in the formulation of new initiatives and policy across the system as appropriate.
12. Attend and contribute to training courses as agreed by the line manager and to ensure personal development is maintained in accordance with the requirements of Social Work England.
13. Develop good working relationships with other agencies including other Local Authorities and colleagues across the Children and Families System.
14. Undertake any other reasonable duties commensurate with the grade and nature of the post.

Professional Accountabilities:

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

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.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to work as part of a team and to contribute to the development of services through a team approach • Skills in direct work with children and adults • Good communication skills at all levels • Ability to prioritise work and manage competing demands • Good recording and report writing skills • High standard of ICT literacy and skills • Car driver (suitable adjustments made in line with Disability Discrimination Act 1995) • Ability to work in partnership with other agencies supporting children in achieving their identified outcomes <p>Other</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This post is designated as an essential car user • Commitment to equal opportunities and anti-discriminatory practice • A flexible approach to undertaking the social work task • Commitment to high quality services for children and families • Commitment to personal growth and development 	<p>A/I</p> <p>A/I</p> <p>A/I</p> <p>A/I</p> <p>A/I</p> <p>A/I</p> <p>A/I</p> <p>A/I</p> <p>A/I</p> <p>A/I</p>
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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.

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