

Kent County Council

Job Description: Peripatetic Countywide Safeguarding Senior Practitioner

Directorate:	Adult Social Care and Health
Unit/Section:	Operations Division/Strategic Safeguarding
Grade:	KSI
Responsible to:	Peripatetic Countywide Safeguarding Lead

Purpose of the Job:

Lead and oversee safeguarding enquiries providing oversight, guidance and advice on activity within the team. Ensure that a strength-based approach is undertaken to inform care and support planning and the reduction of future risk of harm, abuse and neglect. Ensure people are enabled and supported to achieve their desired outcomes, identified needs and maintain wellbeing through MSP. Support in situations that require a higher level of professional intervention, ensuring effective support for people with care and support needs.

Collaborate closely with Adult Social Care Connect Hubs, Adult Social Care Community Teams, the Market Support Team, Commissioning and Care Providers to enhance the quality and consistency of care delivery. Lead and oversee safeguarding enquiries assessed as presenting substantial or critical risk, where multiple concerns have arisen concurrently or within a short timeframe.

Primarily work with—though not limited to—residential care providers, and lead other enquiries as required, in response to evolving service demands. Provide oversight, guidance and advice on safeguarding activity within the Peripatetic Countywide Safeguarding Team.

Ensure proactive engagement with providers and internal teams to promote best practices in the prevention of abuse and neglect, in alignment with the Principles of Safeguarding as outlined in the Care Act 2014.

Support the development of practice, skills and knowledge with the registered practitioners and social care officers within the team. Provide supervision, direction and guidance to practitioners and social care officers within the Kent County Council (KCC) Adult Social Care directorate. Provide professional expertise, skills and advice to enable the provision of an effective, high quality social care service that meets existing and new KCC and multi-agency policies, procedures and practices.

Main duties and responsibilities:

- Support the day-to-day management and professional practice of registered practitioners and social care officers to ensure the delivery of high-quality service that identifies what is important to the people we support, and how they can live a life they want to live whilst delivering effective, safe and high-quality practice.

- Work in partnership with a range of teams, partner organisations and other parties to offer a broad range of options to the people we support, their carers and their families.
- Support Peripatetic Countywide Safeguarding Lead in delivering high standards of practice in line with the Practice Framework. Promote best practice in relation to strength-based approaches and making safeguarding personal and support practitioners to ensure effective action is taken to manage and reduce risk for people with care and support needs and their carers.
- Support Peripatetic Countywide Safeguarding Lead in improving performance, quality assurance and innovation for the team in line with national and departmental targets and objectives. Support with embedding improvement actions through the Quality Assurance Framework.
- Oversee staff building and developing relationships with wider partners to conduct person-centered reviews, including annual statutory reviews, of clients' care and support plans, and work together to enable people to achieve their personal outcomes.
- Work closely with other teams to identify, monitor, review and improve service delivery and ensure quality and outcome improvements are made where required. Contribute to the continuous improvement of practices, procedures, and initiatives to support high quality service delivery. Lead and contribute to a range of service-related projects as they arise, including the development of new initiatives through representation of working/multi-agency groups. Actively contribute to a learning culture and the delivery of high-quality, person-centered care and support.
- Ensure all staff adhere to Departmental policies, procedures and capability frameworks including Safeguarding, Mental Capacity Assessment and Best Interest requirements in assessing the needs of the people we support. Ensure all staff have working knowledge of service provider regulatory and contractual frameworks.
- Support the Peripatetic Countywide Safeguarding Lead with the induction of new staff and in managing the development of the team's knowledge base and expertise as well as supporting the day-to-day management of the team to ensure services are delivered and meet the standards required.
- Be flexible and adaptable in supporting people, their families and carers by using skills and expertise/training to undertake specialist work (including Best Interest Assessor, Practice Educator, Approved Mental Health Professional, Safeguarding and Social Supervision), by working with people in another locality if required and by working with managers and colleagues to provide access to the service during its operating hours in order to contribute to the delivery of an effective, accessible and resilient social care service.

Footnote: This job description is provided to assist the job holder to know what their main duties are. It may be amended from time to time without change to the level of responsibility appropriate to the grade of post.

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Person Specification: *Peripatetic Countywide Safeguarding Senior Practitioner*

The following outlines the criteria for this post. Applicants who have a disability and who meet the criteria will be shortlisted.

Applicants should describe in their application how they meet these criteria.

	CRITERIA
QUALIFICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Degree or Diploma level qualification in a relevant field (or equivalent). Registered practitioner in Social Work.• Relevant professional registration with Social Work England.• Competent to work at the Advanced Practitioner level of the Professional Capabilities Framework for Registered Practitioners.• Relevant Safeguarding training in line with the KCC Statutory Competency Framework or equivalent
EXPERIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Significant post-qualification experience in Social Services, Health related agencies or related private or voluntary organisations• Expertise in managing and reducing risk and experience completing safeguarding enquiries.• Experience of multi-agency/partnership working• Experience of working with the people we support spanning a range of complexity.• Expertise in the supervision and development of staff, including performance management.• Experience of chairing large complex safeguarding meetings

SKILLS AND ABILITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to communicate effectively with the people we support, carers, colleagues and partner agencies through written and verbal communications. • Ability to build and develop effective working relationships across a wide range of internal and external partners. • Ability to prioritise, forward plan and work effectively on own initiative as well as part of a team. • Supervision, management, mediation and negotiation skills • Ability and commitment to support the Directorate's Equality and Diversity Policy Statement which is an
	<p>integral part of the Directorate's service delivery.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate understanding and application of proactively influencing and peer challenging service providers and health and social care partners. • Demonstrate ability to explore alternative services to meet eligible needs and a positive approach towards meeting outcomes and promoting independence. • Ability to act as a mentor and demonstrate teaching skills. • Ability to travel across the county in a timely and flexible manner to ensure the needs of the service are met. • Work towards getting appropriate skills (including social supervision) to your grade to suit the needs of the business. • Ability to work flexibly and react for business continuity, including cover for bank holidays, weekends and evenings • Ability to demonstrate sound decision making in areas of complexity. • A Full UK Driving License – The Council is committed to making reasonable adjustments so whilst this job requires the jobholder to drive your application will still be considered if you are unable to drive due to a disability
KNOWLEDGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An evidence-based high-level understanding and application of key policies, legislation and statutory guidance, and eligibility criteria relating to provision of support to the client group, including the Care Act, and service provider regulatory and contractual frameworks. • Good understanding of joint working with partner agencies

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close familiarity with relevant recent research and governmental and corporate initiatives • Working knowledge of legislation relating to Equal Opportunities and awareness of KCC equality and diversity policies, procedures and legislation • Comprehensive knowledge and application of Safeguarding, Mental Capacity Act/ DoLS and understanding of Court of Protection policies and processes • Compliance with information governance, record retention, confidentiality issues and the General Data Protection Regulations • Working knowledge of financial procedures and financial regulations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ability to travel across the county in a timely and flexible manner to ensure the needs of the service are met. • Working knowledge of alternative service and community assets to ensure effective outcomes for individuals.
KENT VALUES AND CULTURAL ATTRIBUTES	<p>Kent Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are brave. We do the right thing, we accept and offer challenge • We are curious to innovate and improve • We are compassionate, understanding and respectful to all • We are strong together by sharing knowledge • We are all responsible for the difference we make <p>Our values enable us to build a culture that is:</p> <p>Flexible/agile - willing to take (calculated) risks and want people that are flexible and agile</p> <p>Curious - constantly learning and evolving</p> <p>Compassionate and Inclusive - compassionate, understanding and respectful to all</p> <p>Working Together - building and delivering for the best interests of Kent</p> <p>Empowering - Our people take accountability for their decisions and actions</p> <p>Externally Focused - Residents, families and communities at the heart of decision making</p>