Kent County Council Job Description: Multi-Agency Child Protection Manager

Directorate:	Children, Young People and Education (CYPE)
Unit/Section:	Multi-Agency Child Protection Team (MACPT)
Grade:	KSK
Responsible to:	Multi Agency Child Protection Service Manager

Purpose of the Job:

To lead and manage the operational delivery of the Multi-Agency Child Protection Team (MACPT), ensuring timely, consistent, and defensible statutory child protection decision making and processes.

The postholder is responsible for providing professional management and supervision to Lead Child Protection Practitioners (LCPPs), coordinating effective operational multiagency working with police and health colleagues (who retain professional line management in their home agencies), and ensuring a seamless interface with Family Help so that families benefit from continuity of relationship-based support alongside robust safeguarding action.

Main duties and responsibilities:

- Provide operational leadership to the MACPT so that statutory child protection decision-making is timely, consistent and appropriate, including oversight of the end-to-end pathway from strategy discussions and section 47 activity through child protection conferencing, planning, review and closure, ensuring children's voices are heard and inform decision-making and planning throughout the child protection process
- Provide social work qualified line management, professional supervision, and performance oversight to LCPPs, ensuring reflective practice, safe decision making, consistent threshold application and high-quality recording and documentation.
- Manage demand, workflow, rotas, and capacity across the MACPT, including prioritisation and allocation of complex/high-risk activity, to maintain safe service delivery and continuity of chairing/decision-making where appropriate.
- Ensure effective multi-agency operational working within MACPT by coordinating partner participation (police and health colleagues) so that information is shared appropriately, analysis is multi-disciplinary, and decisions and actions are jointly owned; escalating where partner contribution, authority or timeliness creates safeguarding risk.
- Establish and maintain effective operational interfaces with Family Help and associated pathways (including consultation routes, escalation, and dispute resolution), reducing duplication and drift and supporting families to experience a coherent "one system" response.

- Lead local quality assurance and continuous improvement within the MACPT, applying the quality assurance framework, including routine review of decision quality and timeliness, learning from audits and case reviews, and translating learning into changes in practice, supervision, and workforce development.
- Represent the MACPT within relevant local operational governance, contributing safeguarding intelligence and patterns of harm from operational delivery, and ensuring that system blockages and risks are identified early and addressed through coordinated action.
- Effectively manage complaints and representations on behalf of the service in conjunction with Customer Care and reach resolution in a timely manner.

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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Kent County Council

Person Specification: *Multi-Agency Child Protection Manager*

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	• Social Work England recognised social work qualification. • Current registration with Social Work England. • Evidence of continuing professional development in safeguarding practice and leadership.
EXPERIENCE	• Substantial post-qualifying experience in statutory child protection, including leadership and oversight of complex, high-risk safeguarding decisions. • Experience of managing and supervising social work practitioners and leading improvement in quality of practice. • Experience of chairing and/or leading complex multiagency meetings and facilitating partner decision making. • Experience of multi-agency operational delivery within safeguarding frameworks, working effectively with police, health, and education.
SKILLS AND ABILITIES	• Highly developed analytical, risk assessment and decision-making skills in time-critical safeguarding contexts. • Strong leadership and management capability, including supervision, performance management, and workforce planning. • Excellent communication skills (written and verbal), including ensuring clear, appropriate child protection records and reports suitable for statutory and legal contexts. • Ability to build and sustain effective multi-agency operational relationships, provide constructive challenge and resolve dispute/escalation issues. • Commitment to equality, anti-discriminatory practice, and a child-centred approach, with professional curiosity and resilience.

	A Full UK Driving Licence – 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	• In-depth working knowledge of statutory safeguarding and child protection legislation, local procedures, and delegation arrangements. • Strong understanding of multi-agency child protection practice, including strategy discussions, section 47 processes and child protection conferencing and planning. • Understanding of Families First reforms and how Family Help interfaces with statutory child protection and MACPT functions. • Working knowledge of quality assurance approaches in safeguarding services and how to translate learning into improved practice.
KENT VALUES AND CULTURAL ATTRIBUTES	**Kent Values:** • 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. Our values enable us to build a culture that is: **Flexible/agile** - willing to take (calculated) risks and want people that are flexible and agile. **Curious** - constantly learning and evolving. **Compassionate and Inclusive** - compassionate, understanding, and respectful to all **Working Together** - building and delivering for the best interests of Kent **Empowering -** Our people take accountability for their decisions and actions. **Externally Focused** - Residents, families, and communities at the heart of decision making.