

JOB DESCRIPTION & PERSON SPECIFICATION

Group:	COMMUNITY AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES
Division:	CHILDREN'S SERVICES
Section:	INTENSIVE INTERVENTION
Sub Section:	DISABLED CHILDREN'S TEAM - EAST
Post Title:	SOCIAL WORKER - EAST
Vision Post Number:	315
Grade:	GR 11
Responsible to:	TEAM MANAGER
Posts Reporting to this Post:	NA
Team:	EAST TEAM
DBS Required Level:	ENHANCED
Location:	TY TREVITHICK
Date of Description:	DECEMBER 2013

KEY OBJECTIVES

To provide and co-ordinate specialist assessment of need for disabled children and their parents/carers.

Key Responsibilities:

- Undertake Initial and Core assessments within the required timescales
- Be able to analyse information collated to identify and address the individual needs of disabled children and their families
- Provide written reports as and when required and maintain accurate, up-to-date records
- Carry a defined caseload
- Develop and implement care plans for disabled children that promote



- inclusion and ensure best long-term outcomes
- Undertake reviews in line with statutory timescales
- To ensure that the views of disabled children are listened to and recorded as part of any process undertaken

OVERALL RESPONSIBILITIES GENERIC TO ALL RHONDDA CYNON TAF SOCIAL WORK POSTS

- To manage the process by which:
 - the needs of individuals and their carers are assessed holistically, packages of care negotiated, monitored and reviewed
 - risks to individuals and others are assessed and balanced in a way that promotes empowerment, independence and choice for service users and their carers
 - decisions about allocating scarce resources are made, the local Council manages its services within the financial resources which have been secured to deliver social care services and all staff need to have due regard to this.
 - social inclusion of isolated and vulnerable people is promoted
 - collaboration with other agencies is strengthened
 - the local council accounts for its actions through effective, accurate recording of decisions

SPECIFIC RESPONSIBILITY

Accessing Personal Social Services:

- Engaging in a structured conversation with those making initial enquiry of the service and evaluating any information given
- Giving information, advice/and or sign- posting to other services
- Apply service access criteria to make a judgement on whether a referral is appropriate
- Assessing urgency of response required to a referral
- Assessing initial level of priority of a referral
- Making initial enquiries, e.g. other agencies, contacts
- Accurately and fully recording referral information in accordance with departmental procedures
- Ensuring the timely transfer of referral information in accordance with departmental procedures and time scales
- Safeguarding the welfare of a vulnerable person at immediate risk of harm

2. Assessment of Need:

- Evaluating the nature of possible needs based on referral information and any previous records

- Making enquiries, e.g. inter-agency contact
- Safeguarding the welfare of a vulnerable person at risk of harm
- Making arrangements for an appointment and/or visit for assessment
- Engaging in direct work with service user and carer/s to carry out initial assessment
- Engaging in direct work with service user and carer/s to carry out core/comprehensive assessment
- In working with service users and carers, social workers seek to enhance their problem solving capabilities in a way that support maximum independence and choice
- Agreeing the range of needs with service users and carer/s
- Considering with service user and carers, options to best meet agreed needs and assist in making informed decisions
- Adopting a creative and holistic approach whilst exploring options
- Seeking to maximise the financial and material resources available to service users from all possible sources
- Recording unmet need
- Collating the findings of the assessment and completing assessment documentation in accordance with statutory guidance, legislation and departmental procedures and time-scales
- Preparing court and other specialist reports in the required format
- Ensuring that case file recording is completed in accordance with departmental policy and procedures and policy
- Ensuring that electronically held records are completed and/or updated in accordance with departmental policy and procedures
- Convening an/or attending inter-agency meetings/liaison, e.g. case conferences, strategy meetings

3. Planning and Managing Care:

- Promote the empowerment of service user and carer/s through agreeing desired outcomes that promote independence
- Agreeing a range of services to meet needs with service user and carer/s
- Obtaining managerial agreement to plan
- Negotiating, arranging and confirming resources with service providers to meet needs
- Recording and disseminating care plan in accordance with statutory requirements, legislation and departmental procedures
- Completing commissioning/contracting documentation in accordance with departmental policy and time scales
- Ensuring that case file recording is completed in accordance with departmental policy and procedures
- Ensuring that electronically held records are completed and/or updated in accordance with departmental policy and procedures
- Convening and/or attending inter-agency meetings/liaison, e.g. case conferences, planning meetings
- To identify the risk of abuse, failure to protect, harm to self or others and assess the need for intervention in such situations
- Participating in statutory processes to promote and protect the well-being of vulnerable children and/or adults including investigation where appropriate

- As well as managing care on an individual casework basis, having an important role to play both directly and indirectly in shaping services, improving organisational performance and achieving better outcomes for service users. This has relevance at team, divisional, departmental and authority levels. Indirectly this is fulfilled for instance by the collation of aggregated data from individual case records to identify patterns of need and performance. Directly social workers contribute their operational knowledge and expertise to the process of service review and development as well as developing local implementation strategies for new legislation, guidance and advice.

4. Monitoring and Reviewing Provision:

- Delegating monitoring task (if appropriate) to another individual, e.g. care provider
- Liaising with other professionals and contacts to ensure on going appropriateness of the care plan
- Engaging directly with service user and carer/s to update assessment of need
- Ensuring that case file recording is completed in accordance with departmental policy and procedures
- Arranging and co-ordinating review of the Care Plan
- Engaging directly with service user/families/carers/ in the review of the Care Plan and agreeing changes where necessary
- Negotiating and agreeing changes to plan with providers and other agencies involved
- Completing review documentation in accordance with departmental policy and time scales
- Ensuring that case file recording is completed in accordance with departmental policy and procedures
- Ensuring that service users are aware of complaints procedures and advocacy services

5. Managing Workload:

- Timely administration of all aspects of caseload to ensure that the recorded caseload fairly reflects work done
- Preparing and engaging in professional supervision with line manager
- Establishing and maintaining good working relationships with colleagues
- Identifying and addressing areas for professional development and training
- Completing appropriate documentation, e.g. agenda/minutes of supervision
- Agreeing action plan

6. Maintaining and Developing Professional Competence:

- As a registered social worker the individual practitioner is required to demonstrate Continuing Professional Development that will meet the requirements of the Care Council for Wales. This amounts to the equivalent of 15 days over a three year period and should ensure the registrant updates their knowledge and maintains a level of competence that at least meets the requirements of the National Occupational Standards

Social work has become more specialised in the last ten to fifteen years. It is important that the core skills and knowledge are shared between social workers in different areas of specialism.



Social Workers have a responsibility to plan and work within the financial resources which have been secured to deliver social care services within their area of accountability

Following a minimum two years post qualification practice and as a career and developmental opportunity, may as mutually agreed with the Council undertake Approved Social Work training and subsequently practice as an AMHP.

Following a minimum two years post qualification practice and as a career and developmental opportunity, may as mutually agreed with the Council, undertake the practice teaching qualification and subsequently act as a Practice Teacher/Assessor.

To carry out health and safety responsibilities in accordance with the Division's Health & Safety Responsibilities document.

To undertake such other duties and responsibilities commensurate with the grade, as may be reasonably required by the Service Director, or as a mutually agreed development opportunity.

THE CONTENTS OF THE DOCUMENT WILL BE SUBJECT TO REVIEW FROM TIME TO TIME IN CONSULTATION WITH THE POST HOLDER. JOB DESCRIPTIONS MAY BE AMENDED TO REFLECT AND RECORD SUCH CHANGES.

Protecting Children and Vulnerable Adults is a core responsibility of all staff. All safeguarding concerns should be reported to the Cwm Taf Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).



PERSON SPECIFICATION

This Person Specification sets out the knowledge and / or qualifications, past experience and personal competencies that would be ideal for this particular post.

The **Knowledge/ Qualifications and Experience** sections describe what is required in terms of the technical ability that is needed to do this job successfully.

The **Competencies** section describes the kinds of non-technical skills, abilities and personal characteristics that the ideal person for this particular role would have. The competencies describe how that person would ideally work with other people and how they would approach their responsibilities.

The **Special Conditions and Professional Requirements** section describes any other qualities appropriate to the particular circumstances associated with this role.

ATTRIBUTE	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE
KNOWLEDGE / EDUCATION	<p>Professional Social Work qualification e.g. CQSW, DipSW, CSS</p> <p>Understanding of the practice implications of the Children Act and other relevant legislation</p> <p>Awareness of disability issues, including the impact of disabilities on families</p> <p>An understanding of the social model of disability</p> <p>A knowledge of equal opportunities / anti-oppressive practice</p> <p>Welsh Language Level 1 - All employees will be required to undertake a basic Welsh Language Induction to reach this level. Please refer to The Welsh Language Skills Guidance online www.rctcbc.gov.uk/WelshSkills.</p>	<p>PQ Award/Consolidation Programme</p> <p>Practice Teaching Award</p> <p>Welsh Language Level 2 to Level 5. For details on the levels please refer to The Welsh Language Skills Guidelines, which can be found in the Welsh Services section of the RCT Council Website.</p>
EXPERIENCE	<p>Experience of working with children and families</p> <p>An understanding of the assessment of need and risk</p> <p>An understanding of child protection issues</p>	<p>Experience of working with Disabled Children</p>
COMPETENCIES	Community and Social Care Competency Framework	
Encouraging Professional Development	<p>Participates in regular reviews and supervisions to identify goals and areas for development</p> <p>Keeps professional development (CPD) up-to-date</p>	



Achieving Results	Is able to work effectively when under pressure Is flexible, can switch tasks / roles / priorities to deal with new demands, changes or new information
Working with Change	Has creative and different ideas about how to move things forward in service areas Is willing to try new ways of working and is flexible to them
Earning Service Users' Trust	Is honest and open with Service Users Maintains clear professional boundaries whilst demonstrating a clear understanding of the Service Users' issues
Looking After the Service Users' Best Interests	Supports and enables service users to make decisions (5 principles of MCA 2005 & Children Acts – Gillick competence) Is able to analyse, summarise and record the situation for / with the service user effectively taking into account potential barriers
Communicating Effectively	Produces clear, accurate and up-to-date reports and records Is able to deliver difficult messages sensitively
Working with Team Members	Asks for support when needed Contributes to a strong team spirit of shared responsibility and co-operation
Working with Partners	Actively identifies partners and community networks that can be used for the benefit of the service user Is respectful of boundaries but tries to break down barriers to co-operation
SPECIAL CONDITIONS AND PROFESSIONAL REQUIREMENTS	Continuous Registration as a Social Worker with Social Care Wales