

Context statement

To accompany job description and person specification when required

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Job title: Enquiry Officer, Fostering Service
Directorate/Service/Team: Children's Services

Organisation Structure

Reporting to: Gerry Connell, Fostering Service Manager
Responsibility for:

Context of Work

Most children in care live in foster families. The foster carers are recruited, supported, and trained by experienced and aspirational social workers who support them to understand the trauma that children may have faced earlier in their lives. Through the challenges of several lockdowns, foster carers have been supported well to build and maintain relationships with children'. (Dorset Council Children's Services, Ofsted Inspection Report, November 2021)

Dorset Council Fostering Service is embarking on an ambitious and exciting journey to strengthen and enhance the support for our amazing foster carers looking after our vulnerable children and young people in our care.

We are inviting applications for the post of Enquiry Officer who will be the face of Dorset Fostering Service to people who make contact by phone or by email that are interested in fostering.

You will be our front-line ambassador for our organisation, putting the needs of our children and carers first, and we are looking to appoint individuals who are as passionate about this as we are.

Travel Requirement

This position has a significant travel requirement. This means that there is a requirement for a vehicle (or transport deemed to be suitable by the Council) to be available on most working days in order to carry out normal duties. Employees in positions with a significant travel requirement are required to provide a replacement vehicle if their usual vehicle is not available over an extended period.

Other information

This post is exempted under the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 and as such appointment to this post will be conditional upon the receipt of a satisfactory response to a check of police records via Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS). The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) helps employers make safer recruitment decisions and prevent unsuitable people from working with vulnerable groups, including children. It replaces the Criminal Records Bureau (CRB) and Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA).

Dorset Council is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people vulnerable adults and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.



Context statement prepared by:			
Service Manager	Gerry Connell	Date	10/12/2021