# Context statement

Job title: **Service Manager – Young and Thriving**

Directorate/Service/Team: **Children’s Services**

## Organisation structure

Reporting to: **Head of Commissioning – Family Help**

Responsibility for:

* Targeted Youth Work and Contextual Safeguarding
* Ensuring young people are participating in post-16 education and provision

## Context of work

The postholder will be expected to contribute to realisation of our strategic vision for young people and lead these two key strategic areas on behalf of Children’s Services.

*Targeted Youth Work -* Dorset Council has significantly expanded our Targeted Youth Work offer to young people with a focus on contextual safeguarding and education inclusion. The postholder will provide matrix management of 26 youth work posts which are managed within our six locality areas. This responsibility includes maintaining fidelity to our youth work model, workforce development, quality assurance, and integration with the wider support for young people and their families.

In addition, the postholder will have responsibility for the strategic leadership of the Young and Thriving Section of the Dorset Children and Young People’s Plan. Furthermore, they will hold a critical role in ensuring our strong existing relationships with VCSE sector are maintained and including oversight of the annual Dorset Youth Grant Scheme and providing a key link with elected members on matters related to young people.

The postholder will provide strategic leadership around contextual safeguarding, working closely with other strategic leaders around prevention of Extra-Familial Risk and Harm, co-ordinating efforts around reducing youth violence, substance misuse, missing episodes, healthy relationships and anti-social behaviour.

*Participation in Post-16 Provision –* The postholder will be the lead officer for ensuring that young people access post-16 provision and continue to participate in education, employment and training beyond the statutory school age. This will include the management of the Employment, Education and Training Tracking and Re-Engagement team who support young people who become NEET and management of the Pan-Dorset Careers Hub, ensuring high quality support to schools and careers leader in careers information, advice and guidance and the delivery of the Gatsby standards.

The postholder will be expected to link closely with leaders in education and SEND to provide a joined-up approach to keep young people engaged in education and preventing them from becoming NEET.

## Travel requirement:

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This post does not have a significant travel requirement; however, the post holder will be required to travel within and outside of County on occasion for partner meetings, training, networking events etc. as directed by the Head of Commissioning.

## Other information:

The ability to converse at ease with customers and provide advice in accurate spoken English is essential for this post. This requires a current DBS clearance and an appropriate qualification, with professional registration where this applies.

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| **Context statement prepared by:** |
| Manager | Simon Fraiz-Brown | Date | 12/02/25 |