

Context statement

To accompany job description and person specification when required

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Job title: Social Worker Locality

Directorate/Service/Team: Children's Services – Locality (North, West, Dorchester, East, Purbeck and Chesil)

Grade: 9-11

Organisation Structure

Reporting to: Team Manager Child Protection or Team Manager Family Help

Context of Work

Social workers in family help teams will usually work with children in early help and children in need cases. Social workers in child protection teams will usually work with complex children in need and child protection cases. The needs of the children and families will remain our priority and therefore where possible, and appropriate, we will ensure continuity of worker(s) for children through our system.

This position will be required:

- To take a strength-based approach to working with children and families within their communities
- To build strong working relationships with internal and external colleagues to provide robust services to families leading to sustainable positive change.
- To assess, plan and review services for individual children and families.
- To be accountable for providing assessments and reports for a range of purposes, including reviews, legal proceedings and conferences, in a timely way and to a high standard.
- To be part of a learning culture where feedback is welcomed, and reflective practice is promoted.
- To work with colleagues from within and outside the council to provide families with seamless services which meet their needs.
- To participate in peer and group supervision sessions, as well as 1:1 supervision, generously sharing knowledge, skills and information.
- To support families to develop their own plans, doing “with” not “to”.
- Working closely with colleagues to reduce the number of times children and families have to tell their story.

Our mission

- Children in Dorset thrive, are happy and are the very best that they can be.
- We inspire and enable children, young people and their families to find solutions that enable them to develop sustainable, safe and secure relationships with each other and within their community.
- We listen and act so that the voices of children and families is at the heart of everything we do.
- We work together to collaboratively shape, support and develop communities

Our vision is that we want to

- Shift our efforts to early help
- Get it right first time



- Work to meet need, rather than manage threshold
- Co-produce services with families

Our values are

- Collaborative – we want to work with citizens and communities, not do things for or to them
- Strength based – we work with people, not problems
- Restorative – we want to stop harm and repair relationships

The principles of our model

- Children, young people and families are central to everything we do – their voices codesign services and drive plans.
- We focus on getting it right first time proactively providing early help as needs arise
- Our services are rooted in communities, easy to access, and delivered by multi professional teams.
- We provide good quality, efficient services that reduce bureaucracy for staff and families and reduce ‘hand offs’ between professionals.
- We measure our success on how we have made life better for children and young people.
- We operate one children's services leadership approach based on trust, accountability, and valuing employees. Our skilled and confident workforce are well trained, supported and enabled to take decisions and operate effectively within a clear accountability structure.
- We will always learn and strive to improve so we can deliver better outcomes for children and young people.
- We will be digital by default and deliver services only where we are required by law, and where we can do this more effectively and more efficiently than anyone else

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

The ability to converse at ease with customers and provide advice in accurate spoken English is essential for the post. There is a DBS requirement for the post and a requirement to be registered with Social Work England.

Context statement prepared by:			
Manager		Date	

