

Supervising Social Worker Social Worker (SSW)

Department: Children, Young People, Education and Skills

Division: Children's Services

Reports to: Senior Practitioner and Team Manager

Job purpose

The supervising social worker will be responsible for the assessment, training, support, supervision and development of foster carers and connected person carers.

The supervising social worker will ensure that foster carers and connected carers offer a standard of care which ensures that the best interest of placed children can be met and that the principles of Safe Caring are applied and to access resources so as to manage risk and meet identified needs.

The supervising social worker will contribute to the delivery of the day to day working of social work services i.e. practice, guidelines and team development.

Job specific outcomes

Recruit, assess and approve foster carers in accordance with statutory requirements.

Manage, recruit, supervise, support and develop foster carers, directly providing and/or facilitating training as appropriate in order to safeguard the welfare and monitor the outcomes of looked after children.

Establish and participate in support groups for foster carers and their own children.

The supervising social worker will participate in a duty rota that provides advice to colleagues, other agencies and members of the public and identifies emergency and planned placements as required.

To establish and maintain the trust and confidence of service users, carers by communicating in an appropriate, open, accurate and straightforward way, clearly explaining service policies and the professional role and responsibilities of the supervising social worker, including any statutory intervention which may prove necessary.

To challenge and report dangerous, abusive, discriminatory or exploitative behaviour or practice, including potential criminal offences, wherever this may be found.

To follow risk assessment policies and procedures at all times, actively identifying and managing potential and actual risk, particularly in relation to those who are assessed as being the most vulnerable to risk of harm by self or others. The social worker must utilise statutory powers to ensure the child or young person's protection and safety, when necessary. To ensure that specialist professional advice and guidance is sought in all appropriate cases.

To be responsible for upholding public trust and confidence in Health & Social Services in order to

ensure that prompt referral of cases take place.

To maintain the highest standards of personal and professional conduct, adhering to the Health & Care Professions Council code of conduct, Government policies and procedures and relevant legislation; in order to ensure that members of the public and other professionals have confidence in the service. To be accountable for the quality of their work and take responsibility for maintaining and improving knowledge and skills, in particular ensuring that the criteria for continuing professional registration is fulfilled.

To create and maintain clear and accurate records as required by established procedures and best practice, always bearing in mind that such documents may be disclosable for the purpose of Serious Case Reviews, external inquiry and inspection, and to the Royal Court, or in criminal proceedings before the Magistrate's Court associated with the protection of vulnerable children or young people.

To ensure that all information about service users and foster carers is always treated in the strictest confidence in line with data protection, relevant disclosure and consent policies, and information sharing protocols and procedures.

Statutory responsibilities

Active engagement, participation and compliance with any other statutory responsibilities applicable to the role, as amended from time to time.

Organisational structure



Person Specification

Specific to the role

<p>Experience (Relevant work and other experience)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A minimum of 2 years post qualifying experience of working with children and families service users. • Experience of assessing situations and recording results. • Experience of multi-agency working. • Experience of writing clear and concise reports. • Experience of working with people from ethnic minority backgrounds and cultures.
<p>Skills and Ability (written communication skills, dealing with the public, etc.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding the key roles of a supervising social worker and different methods of professional social worker practice. • Understanding of legislation and guidance applying to children and families work and fostering and adoption. • Ability to work in a team setting and in partnership with other professionals/agencies. • Able to manage a caseload of differing cases, assessments and complexity. • Able to empathise with situation of people experiencing social disadvantage and cope with consequential pressures. • Prepared to apply and work within procedures, policies and practices laid down by Government of Jersey, and to be involved in their development. • Ability to work on own initiative to the completion of appropriate objectives. • Good level of IT literacy.
<p>Training</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of ability to identify own training needs and participate in training. • Ability to present and share learning with colleagues.
<p>Education/Qualifications</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BA (Hons) in Social Work or MA in Social Work.
<p>Other</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awareness of needs of people in multi-cultural society. • Understanding of disadvantage and social deprivation. • Able to demonstrate personal commitment to equality of opportunity and anti-discriminatory practice. • Prepare to work flexibly, to meet the needs of both the service and service users. • Take part in an OOH's social work service. • Social workers must be registered with the appropriate UK professional governing body i.e. Health & Care Professions Council and locally, must also register under the Health Care (Registration) (Jersey) Law 1995

Core Accountabilities, Attributes and Behaviour Indicators

Appointees to this role will be required to adhere to and perform their duties in line with the standards identified in the Government of Jersey tier 6 core accountabilities attributes and behaviour indicators.

Financial

The social worker has no direct responsibility for budget however the supervising social worker is responsible for identifying the resources required to deliver various elements of each plan, and providing a cogent, evidence based case for their use, bearing in mind the need to responsibly utilise finite resources in the most cost effective and efficient way.

Staffing

On a case by case basis supervising social workers will have responsibility for directing and supervising support workers allocated to the case. Support workers will work within a range of environments including the clients' own homes.

Social workers are, on occasion, responsible for supervising and supporting placements of student social workers whilst engaged in their professional training on the social work degree course and further post qualifying training.

Corporate Parenting

The Government of Jersey is committed to Corporate Parenting. "Corporate Parenting is the collective responsibility of the Government to provide the best possible care and protection for children who are looked after."