

Job Profile

Social Worker (Adults)

Grade 8

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About the Job

Social Workers work alongside adult social care practitioners, managers and other professionals within a range of Locality offices, including hospital settings and a specialist learning disabilities team. Social Workers have a key role in upholding the rights of people in Gloucestershire with care and support needs. Social Workers, work in line with legislative frameworks to deliver person centred practice, in often challenging and complex situations, and take a lead role in undertaking enquires to safeguard adults with care and support needs across Gloucestershire, balancing their rights, wishes and feelings in line with statutory duties.

This is what we need you to do...

- Listen to the people of Gloucestershire, supporting them to connect to community resources, including promoting digital inclusion; recognising the opportunities and risk of new technologies, digital resources, online communications, virtual environments and social media in social work.
- Prioritise supporting people in crisis to regain control of their lives, working together to achieve effective plans to reduce risk and ensure people are more stable.
- In line with the Care Act, undertake complex social care interventions including assessments, to determine eligibility, and support plans, to ensure individuals are enabled to lead the lives they choose.
- To coordinate and manage section 42 enquiries and complex, high risk situations, utilising professional judgement throughout.
- To promote social change and development, social cohesion and the empowerment and liberation of people.
- To develop and maintain an in – depth knowledge of local resources, working collaboratively with teams and services both within and outside of Gloucestershire County Council.
- To be an active participant of your team, supporting the development of others and committed to own professional development to deliver the best quality practice for the people of Gloucestershire.
- To take responsibility for obtaining regular, effective supervision from a professional supervisor/manager and appraisal to discuss effective practice, reflection, continuing professional development and career opportunities.
- To take ownership of and responsibility for delivering against team and individual performance targets. Maintaining an awareness of own professional limitations and knowledge gaps and seeking to address these.
- To contribute to the development of the service by communicating new ideas, through means such as briefings, completion of council surveys, and team meetings.

Special Conditions

- This position is subject to an enhanced Disclosure and Barring Check, and you will be asked to apply for a Disclosure Certificate if you are offered the position.
- The nature of this post requires flexibility to meet urgent work needs as they arise. This will inevitably entail work outside of normal working hours and locations across the county, including in locality, Acute and Learning Disabilities teams.
- The post holder must hold a clear and valid driving licence (exceptions under the Equality Act may apply) or have the ability to travel around the County.

The ideal candidate will have...

Experience of...

- Working in a social worker position with adults, their families and carers, desirably in a statutory setting
- Working with people with multiple complex needs and supporting them to live their best life, in line with statutory duties
- Significant experience of undertaking assessments to form professional judgement, and of implementing plans in line with these judgements
- Undertaking assessment and planning for safeguarding
- Working with high risk situations, including safeguarding enquiries and other multi-agency risk management procedures.
- Managing fluctuating and complex workloads autonomously, seeking support where required
- Routinely and effectively applying critical reflection and analysis to increasingly complex cases and situations

Knowledge, Skills and Understanding

- Recognise the high level of confidentiality required in relation to people, their carers and families and help to manage sufficient security of such information, recognising and being able to justify and take appropriate action when the right to privacy is over – ridden by professional or legal requirements
- A sound understanding and application of legislative frameworks underpinning adult social care, for example the Care Act, and the Mental Capacity Act (MCA) and the Human Rights Act
- An understanding of statutory social work, including critical awareness of current issues and new evidence–informed practice research
- A critical knowledge of the range of theories and models for social work intervention
- An ability to communicate with compassion and authority in challenging situations, and able to understand and work effectively with negative and rejecting responses
- An ability to clearly report and record analysis and judgements

Monitoring and ongoing development of outcomes: As part of the annual appraisal, outcome based targets will be developed in conjunction with the post holder and will supplement this job profile. The job profile will be subject to regular review and the council reserves its right to amend or add to the accountabilities listed above.

Behavioural attributes

- Actively asks for and considers other people's views and opinions
- Is available and approachable and takes time to consult and communicate
- Able to work well as part of a team and on own initiative
- Listens to others and communicates with sensitivity and understanding
- Acknowledges, respects and responds to individual differences and diversity requirements, recognising discriminatory practices and inequality, and is able to appropriately challenge others
- Stays calm under pressure
- Accepts and responds to constructive feedback
- Identifies and takes up opportunities for professional development and training relevant to the role
- Acts with integrity, honesty and impartiality
- Contributes to the development of the service
- Ability to operate in a climate of change and to embrace new ways of thinking and working; sustaining and developing own imagination, creativity and curiosity in practice, exploring options to solve dilemmas and problems. Involving people who use services in reflections and creativity wherever possible.
- Highly organised with a solution focused, logical and innovative approach to challenges.

Education & Qualifications

Essential

- Social Work qualification
- Social Work registration with professional body in England
- Evidence of Assessed and Supported Year in employment (applicable since 2012) or equivalent qualification/statutory experience
- Evidence of continuing professional development
- Evidence of Covid vaccination status