



## **JOB DESCRIPTION**

Job Title	Strategic Manager for Safeguarding and Partnerships
Job number	3335
Grade	SM2

### **Overall purpose of the job**

Reporting to the Assistant Director for Quality and Practice (PSW), the Strategic Manager for Practice Oversight & Support has responsibility for strategic leadership of the statutory functions of Independent Reviewing, Child Protection Conference and Designated Officer Services, delivering specific statutory safeguarding and quality assurance functions. The remit covers; the Independent Reviewing Officers function, the Child Protection Chairs function; and the Designated Officer function for the Local Authorities. The role plays a key strategic function within local partnerships, including representing NCT and providing expert social care input, advice and guidance; overseeing and quality assuring NCT's contributions to LSCP rapid reviews and child safeguarding practice reviews. The Independent Reviewing and Conference Officers function oversees the management and delivery of all Looked After Children Reviews and Child Protection Conferences. A key role within this work is to escalate casework for improvement and onward action to Strategic and Service Managers in NCT and to the wider leadership Team. The function provides an essential internal quality assurance function as part of NCT's Quality Assurance Framework.

### **Main accountabilities**

Please list the accountabilities in descending order of priority.

<b>Main accountabilities</b>	
1.	Be fully responsible for all aspects of service delivery and performance management for the practice oversight and support function. To set clear key objectives for the short, medium and long term including overall business performance and improvement targets. Includes: -Asset and Resource Management – accountability for all financial outcomes of the allocated area; -People – by engendering respect for those we work with and for, add value to the talent of the organisation through people development and management of their performance; and -Risk – to ensure the development and management of risk and business continuity strategies within the specified business plan.

2.	To lead the service areas preparation and action planning for Ofsted inspection outcomes, including any DfE requirements.
3.	To be responsible for ensuring the highest quality of service for the Independent Reviewing Officer function and associated support functions, e.g. IRO business support functions and Escalations
4.	To be responsible for the ensuring the highest quality of service for the Child Protection Conference function and associated support functions, e.g. CP Conference business support functions, Escalations and partner engagement with this statutory requirement.
5.	To deliver an efficient, effective Designated Officer function, ensuring that all matters are managed within the appropriate procedures with clear management information and records for all matters in place.
6.	To ensure an effective and high quality internal quality assurance function through the IRO and CP Chair Services that leads to practice improvement within NCT. To produce regular, clear reports to
	SLT and Boards regarding the progress of this, including building an evidence bank of plan-do-review for Ofsted and associated peer reviews.
7.	To proactively contribute towards the work of the Safeguarding Children Partnership by ensuring active management participation at the appropriate sub groups specifically: CSPRs, Learning and Development, Quality Assurance.
8.	To establish and develop a positive climate for direct delivery and managing services in internal, commissioned and partnership working environments. Learn and gain from shared experiences, using the outputs of which to be harnessed and incorporated into service delivery strategies and ways of working through network governance of public, private and voluntary sectors.
9.	To ensure that the Service is responsive to the needs of children and families and that their views and thoughts are represented in the wider improvement activity of NCT.

## Person Specification

### Qualifications, knowledge, skills and experience

Minimum level of qualifications required for this job

Qualifications Required	Subject	Essential/ Desirable
Appropriate professional qualification e.g. DiPSW, CQSW, CSS	Social Work	E
SWE Registration	Social Work	E
Management Studies e.g. PgCMS, PgDMS, MBA	Management Studies	D

Minimum levels of knowledge, skills and experience required for this job

Identify	Describe	Essential/ Desirable
<b>Knowledge</b>		
Children's Social Care	Extensive knowledge of statutory responsibilities in Children's Social Care.	E
	Extensive experience of managing service at a senior level in a social care or related setting.	E
	Detailed knowledge of the Government's agenda for modernising Children's Services.	E
	Experience in the strategic development of services in a social care or related setting.	E
<b>Skills</b>		
	The ability to forge and maintain solid working relationships with internal and external partners at a senior level.	E
	Excellent written and interpersonal skills. Able to produce clear reports detailing complex situations, able to present with clear analysis and recommendations. Solid presentation skills able to present at all levels and gain buy-in to change.	E
	Able to drive performance and improvement across a complex service area, through solid operational and management skills.	E
	A strong leader, one who can challenge performance and raise standards internally and with partners. Meets NCT leadership expectations, a role model for others.	E

<b>Experience</b>	Give an idea of the type and level of experience required <b>do not</b> specify years of experience.	
	Experience of motivating and developing others. Focused on improvements in Services for children and their families.	E
	Experience of managing a large and complex function, ability to deliver against an improvement agenda within a Children's Services setting.	E
	Ability to establish and develop monitoring systems for the continuous development of people and services.	E
	Ability to risk assess whilst effectively developing and managing services and strategic priorities.	E
	Experience of developing strong partnership services and relationships incorporating public, private and voluntary sector services.	E