

## Job Description

Job Title: Quality Assurance Officer (Youth Justice)

Location: Flexible

Grade: P2

### Overall purpose of the job

1. To deliver on relevant aspects of the Quality Assurance and Learning Framework including running practice workshops.
2. To support the delivery of quality assurance systems and monitoring tools to report on the quality of the service provision for children, young people, families and carers in order to enable the directorate to improve the quality of service provided.
3. To undertake audits and other investigations using these tools, whilst also advising others on their use. To collate and analyse the data arising from the various quality assurance approaches, reporting to the Director, senior management, Performance Board and other groups as appropriate.
4. To ensure practice standards are embedded across a wide range of services within the Children and Families Directorate.
5. To assist the Practice Improvement Lead in coordinating quality and performance monitoring activity within Services; and to assist with the reporting of performance information and contributing to corrective action to assist with the improvement of practice.
6. To take a lead on participation in the Youth Justice Service.
7. This post is part of the Standards and Quality Assurance service, but will also have a Youth Justice link manager.

### Main accountabilities

Main accountabilities	
1.	In consultation with Senior Managers design audit and quality assurance systems to ensure that the quality of practice and services can be continually monitored against national and local standards.
2.	Conduct audits, support managers to self-audit and prepare written reports on the outcomes, following through recommendations for actions to ensure that improvement is achieved.

3.	Design and develop systems to enable the dissemination of audit and quality assurance findings and other relevant activities such as practice workshops to ensure that opportunities for improvement are acted upon.
4.	Assist in writing and updating procedures, policies and practice standards to support good practice across children's services.
5.	Ensure that audit and quality assurance activity links with partner agencies to enable wider organisational learning.
6.	Undertaking one off tasks for the Partnership and Quality Assurance Service e.g. Management Case Reviews and Service Evaluations.
7.	Support with the implementation of inspection and other action plans as appropriate.
8.	Present QA reports to the Youth Justice Management Board and other Senior Management Groups.
9.	To demonstrate awareness/understanding of equal opportunities and other people's behavioural, physical, social and welfare needs.
10.	Support the development of an annual Youth Justice Workforce Development plan and training programme.
11.	Take a lead in the delivery of youth justice participation and support with equality and diversity improvement.

**Safeguarding commitment** *(Include for roles involving work with children/vulnerable adults)*

We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people/vulnerable adults. We require you to understand and demonstrate this commitment.

**Person Specification**

**Qualifications, knowledge, skills and experience**

Minimum level of qualifications required for this job

<b>Qualifications Required</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Essential/ Desirable</b>
Educated to Degree level or equivalent in an appropriate discipline or relevant extensive experience in Health and Social Care.	Health and Social Care or related	Essential

Social work qualification and registration	Social Work	Desirable
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Minimum levels of knowledge, skills and experience required for this job

Identify	Describe	Essential/ Desirable
<b>Knowledge</b>		
Performance Management	Knowledge of the national performance assessment frameworks for children's services, key performance indicators and their relationship with both front line service and wider strategic implications.	Essential
Legislative Framework	Knowledge of the legislative framework and national and local standards and procedures relating to children's services.	Essential
	Knowledge of the legislative framework and national and local standards and procedures relating to youth justice.	Desirable
Professional knowledge and awareness	Up to date knowledge of good practice and or research findings in working with vulnerable children and families.	Essential
	Up to date knowledge of good practice and or research findings in working with youth justice.	Desirable
Evidence based practice and research	Knowledge of key research that should be drawn upon to influence the shape of the service provided.	Essential
Organisational knowledge and political and strategic awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Detailed knowledge, experience and awareness of the role of key partner services and agencies.</li> <li>An understanding of the political and managerial sensitivities of the organisation.</li> <li>Understanding of the drivers, motivations and issues that impact upon key partners.</li> </ul>	Essential
<b>Skills</b>		
Communication	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must be able to present ideas clearly and effectively verbally and in writing</li> <li>Must be able to communicate clearly and effectively with a wide range of stakeholders, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Senior Managers</li> <li>County Councillors</li> <li>Service Users - carers and young people</li> <li>Service Managers</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Essential

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Front line practitioners</li> <li>• Partner agencies</li> </ul>	
Challenge role	Must have the confidence and ability to challenge managers regarding case decisions and quality of work.	Essential
Strategic Thinking	Must have the ability to recognise the strategic context of the role and be able to work across organisational, professional and functional boundaries.	Essential
Change Management	Must have a high level of skill in change management and be able to recognise what needs to change to improve services and outcomes and how such change can be delivered.	Essential
Partnership Working	High level of skill and ability in working with colleagues at all levels in a wide range of services and organisations including service users and their families.	Essential
Leadership and Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Must be able to demonstrate the ability to provide guidance and support to the service as a whole in relation to audit and quality assurance.</li> <li>• Must be able to support staff from a variety of backgrounds with varying levels of knowledge and expertise to ensure that statutory and internal obligations are met.</li> <li>• Must be self-motivated and able to motivate others.</li> <li>• Must be able to plan and prioritise workloads in order to meet strict deadlines.</li> </ul>	Essential
Audit and Quality Assurance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High level of skill in developing and implementing a range of audit and quality assurance tools and processes to monitor children's services.</li> <li>• Must be able to collate, analyse and present complex data from a variety of sources for a wide range of stakeholders.</li> </ul>	Essential
IT Skills	Must be able to use IT to develop audit tools, quality assurance processes, collate data and write reports.	Essential
Other	Car driver/owner or ability to travel around Peterborough and Cambridgeshire.	Essential
<b>Experience</b>		
Social Work experience	Experience of working in social care, Health or Education settings or comparable	Essential

	positions working with children, young people and their families	
Youth Justice experience	Experience of working in Youth Justice	Desirable
Audit	Experience of carrying out auditing activities and performance monitoring in relation to children's services.	Desirable
Customer Service	Knowledge and experience of how to ensure that service users can input into service learning and improvement.	Essential
Data	Experience of using spreadsheets, databases and presentation software.	Desirable
Quality Assurance	Experience of designing questionnaires, customer feedback tools and standards measurement within children's services.	Desirable
<b>Equal opportunities</b>	Ability to demonstrate awareness/understanding of equal opportunities and other people's behaviour, physical, social and welfare needs	Essential
	In depth understanding and knowledge of equal opportunities issues and anti-discriminatory practice and how these relate to children's services.	Essential
<b>Safeguarding</b>	Demonstrate an understanding of the safe working practices that apply to this role.	Essential
	Ability to work in a way that promotes the safety and well-being of children and young people/vulnerable adults.	Essential

#### Disclosure level

What disclosure level is required for this post?	None	Standard
	<b>Enhanced</b>	Enhanced with barred list checks

#### Work type

What work type does this role fit into?	Fixed	<b>Flexible</b>	Field	Home
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