

Role profile

Role title	Social Worker
Corporate directorate	Adult Social Care
Service	Adult Care and Support
Grade	J
Reports to (role title)	Team Manager/Principal Social Worker
Version	
JE code	ASOP902 (Grade J)

Approving manager	
Date	June 2019

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Role purpose

Under the leadership and management of the Team Manager/Principal Social Worker to provide a statutory social work service to adults with health and social care needs achieving high quality, timely and person-centred needs assessments that will reflect the needs and risks to the individual, analysis, care planning, intervention and review appropriate to the work of the team or service unit.

Social workers are required to work collaboratively with colleagues from different teams, disciplines and partner organisations in order to provide a seamless service to individuals/families/carers. They will work in partnership to work with individuals facing complex social and family crisis across a range of settings, promoting autonomy and development with individuals who have complex needs and are more vulnerable to exclusion; and work with communities, individuals and families to promote their personal strengths.

Social workers are to work at the required level of professional competence as detailed in Adult Social Care practice standards and quality assurance framework and in line with the national Professional Capabilities Framework (PCF) for Social Work. The Social Worker will ensure they maintain and improve their knowledge and skills and contribute to the learning and development of other members of the team.

As representatives of Adult Social Care Directorate, behaviour and conduct should be professional at all times, reflecting the values of the department and the council.

Dimensions

Annual financial accountability

Oversight of costs in terms of finance and resource relating to each case that is allocated but no overall budgetary responsibility.

Management accountability

No direct line management accountability but it is a requirement of the role to provide mentoring and support to vocationally qualified, student social workers and newly qualified Social Workers (NQSW's).

Context

Cornwall Council has a wide range of statutory responsibilities for providing care and support to adults with disabilities, mental health problems and older people. The Care Act 2014 has broadened the criteria and eligibility for receiving care and support from local authorities, including support for carers and access to advocacy. The Care Act places adult safeguarding on a statutory basis, requiring local authorities to review and refocus their current arrangements for safeguarding adults from neglect and abuse, including allegations against adults working or volunteering with adults.

As the population ages and people live longer the demand on adult social care services is increasing. This increased demand is at a time of reducing budgets and is compounded by the significant reductions in welfare benefits, especially for people with disabilities so we are constantly delivering services in a challenging operational environment. Our aim is to make each individual's path through adult social care as straightforward and efficient as possible which promotes their safety, wellbeing and independence.

The role reports directly to an operational Team Manager/Principal Social Worker within a locality and teams are comprised of Social Workers, Community Care Coordinators, Occupational Therapists and specialist Technical Officers (ROVI's). Teams are focused on one of the following areas:
Access team; Emergency Duty Service; Rapid Response service; Therapy & Reablement Service; Assessment team; Hospital Social Work Team; Care & Support in Adult Years; Care & Support for Older Adults.

The Department is moving towards integration with Health based on the principles in the context of current Government policy and direction and this is reflected in the Cornwall Devolution Deal and further develops partnership working within the context of a stronger community focus including the voluntary and community sector.

Accountabilities

Cornwall Council is a dynamic organisation and the particular duties and accountabilities may vary from time to time without changing the general character of the role or the level of responsibility entailed. Individual objectives will be agreed via the PDS appraisal process

- The Social Worker will be required to maintain their knowledge regarding social policy and social work practice and work within the appropriate legislative context; to be responsible for undertaking all social work tasks within Government and departmental prescribed timescales and standards, ensuring the welfare of the adult is paramount at all times.
- To actively promote self-learning to ensure professional development and provide high quality practice in line with Professional Capability Framework (PCF); actively contribute to appropriate supervision, appraisal and development opportunities, observing the requirements of the HCPC.
- To work with other team members and multi-disciplinary team members from other agencies to meet the needs of vulnerable adults, operating as an effective member of the operational team
- To ensure the views and wishes of individuals and carers are given appropriate consideration and are central to all decision making.
- To act to protect adults in need of support services in line with legal requirements and CFA procedures and to ensure that all aspects of the councils safeguarding policies are observed
- To act within a framework which promotes independence, prevention, re-ablement and self-determination; facilitating effective communication with families, carers, individuals and other agencies
- Work within the Council's budgetary framework and have understanding with regard to Local Authority legal limits and negotiation with Continuing Health Care and other streams of funding.
- To act within the Council's policies, procedures and guidance on subjects such as Data Protection, Freedom of Information, Equality & Diversity.

Social Workers are employed across I/J/K grade and progression is based upon knowledge and skills, experience, qualification and performance. Evidence of capabilities should also be in line with the Professional Capabilities Framework (PCF) which can be viewed in full at <https://www.basw.co.uk/pcf/capabilities/> Progression between levels is determined by people's abilities to manage issues such as complexity, risk and responsibility in a

range of professional settings.

NQSW	I grade
ASYE	I grade
Social Worker	I grade
Experienced Social Worker	J grade
Advanced Level Social Worker	K grade

Corporate accountabilities

Information security and governance

Manage information in line with the Council's policies, procedures and guidance on subjects such as Data Protection, Freedom of Information, confidentiality, information security and sharing, the information lifecycle and data quality, to ensure compliance and efficient and effective information governance

Safeguarding

Maintain awareness of Council policies and practices regarding the safeguarding of children, young people and/ or adults who may be at risk. Report concerns/ allegations in accordance with corporate guidance and procedures

Equality & Diversity

Work to eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and report incidents as they occur. Treat everyone with dignity and respect and ensure individual's needs are met. Challenge inappropriate behaviour and language constructively, advising on alternatives so the opportunity for change can be considered

Customer Experience

Drive to continually improve customer satisfaction and maintain a clear and consistent focus on delivering outstanding customer experience

Health, Safety and Wellbeing

Proactively manage health and safety risks and lead on the creation of a positive health and safety culture to safeguard the health, safety and wellbeing of yourself and others. Understand your health and safety responsibilities and lead on compliance with council policy and procedures.

Key objectives

- To ensure that service users, carers and families are fully involved in the process of assessment and support planning; their views are taken into account, appropriately recorded and are central to decision making.
- To ensure that within an allocated caseload statutory timescales for assessment of need are met; that performance targets are adhered to and that there is a seamless transition between teams
- To actively participate in the performance management system including supervision, team meetings, service area meetings and to contribute to the development of the service plan
- Promote care and support solutions which maximise the use of informal support and the local community, utilising 'Living Well' principles.
- Promote Direct Payments as an option for meeting care needs for all relevant clients and carers at assessment and review

Competencies and other requirements

We use the following criteria below to assess your suitability for the role; please refer to the recruitment & selection column to establish at which stage the criteria are assessed. Requirements assessed at the 'Application' stage represent the minimum essential requirement for shortlisting purposes

Behaviours	Recruitment and selection
<p>Working together</p> <p>You understand and focus on customer satisfaction and work well with colleagues and partners.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You deliver exceptional customer service – you understand and are attentive to the needs of your customers • You listen to the views of others and seek them out • You support and show consideration for others • You work well with colleagues and partners and acknowledge the different ideas, perspectives and backgrounds of others • You are committed to the protection and safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults • You share information and expertise with others • You are honest, you respect and you build relationships of trust • You share your achievements and acknowledge the achievements of others 	<p>Interview/ Assessment</p>
<p>Resourceful</p> <p>You apply expertise, solve problems and make improvements to deliver the best possible customer outcomes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You plan and organise your work and manage your time effectively • You gather relevant information, analyse it and make timely informed decisions in the course of your work • You are flexible and adaptable • You respond constructively to change • You demonstrate financial awareness relevant to the job you do • You use your initiative and are creative in problem solving • You deliver results and demonstrate commitment to serving customers 	<p>Interview/ Assessment</p>
<p>Personal responsibility</p> <p>You take responsibility for your work, your environment and your development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You are trustworthy and reliable • You pay attention to your own health, safety and wellbeing and that of others 	<p>Interview/ Assessment</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> You acknowledge errors, report them as appropriate and play your part in addressing them You appropriately challenge unhelpful behaviour You seek feedback and review your own contribution You are open to change and improvement You take responsibility for your development You are enthusiastic about and take pride in your work You act as an ambassador for the Council to our customers 	
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Knowledge, skills & experience	Recruitment and selection
Recognised relevant professional social work qualification with HCPC registration	Application Form
Prepared to complete Post Qualification & Core training	Interview
Expert knowledge and experience of relevant legislation, policy and principles, including Social Care and Human Rights legislation and Person Centred Practice	Application Form Interview Assessment
Professional expertise and demonstrable experience in social work with adults in need of support services and their families, or if a newly qualified worker a demonstrable commitment to adult social work and this is reflected in either past experience or in the student placements undertaken.	Application Form Interview
A good working knowledge and ability to use information technology and related operational systems	Interview Assessment
Ability to undertake complex assessments of need, risks, strengths, produce analysis and translate into a coherent plan and outcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Demonstrable skills in record keeping. - Demonstrable skills in analysis of information - Demonstrable presentation skills (referring to the presentation in either panel of court of meeting etc.) - Understanding of the management structure and accountability levels within a statutory Social Care organisation. 	Application Form Interview
Track record of and transferable insights into good practice in customer service, financial and people management	Application Form Interview
Proficient at dealing with challenging behaviours and delivering difficult messages	Application Form Interview
Enhanced interviewing skills with an ability to gather information in difficult situations such as family conflict and dementia	Interview Assessment
Proficient in negotiating skills to ensure the best possible support packages both in the community and in a residential setting	Interview Assessment

Other requirements	Recruitment and selection
The normal duties of the role may involve travel on a regular or	Application Form

occasional basis. It is a condition of employment that you can exercise satisfactory travel mobility in order to fulfil the obligations of the role. For those journeys where an alternative form of transport is unavailable or impracticable you will be required to provide a suitable vehicle	
This position is subject to a criminal records disclosure check	YES
This is a politically restricted position	NO