

Title	Department	Post Ref.
Court Service Social Worker	Children, Families and Young People	
Job Purpose The Court Team is part of the Through-Care Service based in Ollerton. The purpose of the Court Work team is to provide a service to all children where a decision has been made to issue care proceedings, and where children require Section 7 and Section 37 reports for court. Social workers in the court team will be responsible for undertaking all identified assessments and progress plans as identified within the legal framework. In addition they will be responsible for preparation of written evidence, attendance at court, advocates/professionals meetings and instructing solicitors representing Nottinghamshire County Council. The Court Team also provides professional consultation to all Assessment and District Child Protection Teams and mentor and co-work with other teams in order to share knowledge and build up skills in court proceedings. They also co-ordinate and undertake direct responsibility for highly complex cases and provide leadership and development on agreed legal practice issues to Assessment and District Child Protection teams. The Court Service team are also practice educators for student social workers.		
Key Responsibilities - To be allocated an agreed number of complex cases, take responsibility in the assessment and care plan and ensure that services are delivered monitored and reviewed in accordance with relevant legislation and departmental policies where: - The case requires the Practice Consultant's involvement to ensure the case is worked appropriately - There are complex safeguarding concerns - To be allocated as a co-worker to work alongside other social work teams on a specific case: - Where additional professional support and or mentoring is required to enable the allocated worker to effectively manage the case. - Where a separate or independent social work assessment is required. - To be delegated supplementary supervisory responsibilities to for		Key Accountabilities - To be a positive role model, promote and maintain high standards of professional social work practice. - To ensure that national and local policies and procedures are followed - To work with other social work teams to implement and feedback on legal research, case law, practice and development issues - To promote national developments relating to social care practice at a local level.

a designated number of less experienced workers within the Division. 4. To provide professional consultation to Children Services Teams and other appropriate agencies. 5. To provide leadership and development on agreed practice issues. 6. To undertake responsibility for promoting good practice standards in assessment, safeguarding and care planning for children and their families, and to ensure those standards comply with procedures, agreed targets and timescales. 7. To contribute to key planning and decision-making as requested by Team Manager. 8. To be able to operate effectively in court and to give verbal evidence as the recognised expert in relation to the children and families on your case load. 9. To initiate and participate in relevant development work, identify training needs and to take part in the provision of local staff briefings. 10. To collaborate with the County wide social work practice consultant group to identify training needs and areas for development. 11. To disseminate information about all new and relevant changes in policy or procedures that are relevant to their specialist and practitioner role. 12. To provide support to Practice Teachers for the supervision of students placed in the team or service. 13. To maintain full, accurate and up to date records, and in accordance with departmental procedures, to ensure Quality Assurance requirements are met. 14. To assist with developing, monitoring and reviewing systems within the team. 15. To collaborate and develop links with colleagues from other statutory and independent agencies.	
The post holder will perform any duty or task that is appropriate for the role described	

Person Specification	
Education and Knowledge	Personal skills and general competencies
1. Professional Social Work Qualification e.g. DipSW / CQSW / CSS 2. HCPC registered 3. Holds the PQ Specialist Award or can provide substantial evidence of how you can demonstrate advanced level skills and knowledge 4. Knowledge and understanding of the relevant legislation relating to children and families, including knowledge of national and local policy and procedures in relation to children and families. 5. Knowledge and understanding of current research and evidence which is used to inform analysis and decision making. 6. Hold a Practice Educator or Mentoring qualification or can provide evidence of these skills and desire to undertake future accredited training.	7. A high level of personal drive and commitment to excellent customer care and the ability to set an example for other staff 8. Strong interpersonal skills to gain the agreement and acceptance of others including colleagues, senior managers and customers. 9. Ability to work effectively with legal services and give clear instructions based on evidence 10. Ability to meet agreed objectives and delivery targets by the effective use of resources. 11. Participate in and present relevant training. 12. Work effectively in assessment work, care planning and review and maintain judgement when working under pressure. 13. Plan, manage, and prioritise workload 14. Prepare and present clear reports and assessments. Excellent report writing skills is essential. 15. Chair meetings effectively and represent the Department in a responsible and effective manner. 16. Liaise effectively within the department and other agencies and work effectively as a member of a multi-disciplinary team, as appropriate. 17. Proficient in use of information technology 18. Provision of suitable transport. 19. Required to work some 'unsocial hours' 20. A positive and flexible attitude to change and development in service. 21. Understating of and commitment to equality in the delivery of services in accordance with Nottinghamshire County Council's public sector equality duty 22. A commitment to fair and non-discriminatory service delivery regardless of age, religion, race, culture, gender, disability or sexuality.
Experience	
23. Significant post-qualifying experience in child care social work, including experience in safeguarding and looked after children and training relevant to this post. 24. Demonstrable expertise in assessments, including assessments for Court. 25. Experience of providing specialist practice advice, mentoring or reflective supervision to others	

Role Dimensions 26. High quality professional social work practice 27. Provide specialist practice advice and support, and provide reflective practice mentoring to social work staff as required. 28. Work in a county wide service to meet the departmental priorities <i>Please attach a structure chart</i>	

Date 27.8.15