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| **Post Title:** Social Worker connected persons/ Fostering | **Grade: BR11/12** |
| **Department: Education Care and Health Services** | **Division/Section: Fostering** |
| **Post No: 14309 &14310** | **Reports to:** Deputy Group Manager |

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| **MAIN PURPOSE:**  To discharge the authority’s responsibilities under the Children Act 1989 and other relevant legislation, including Care Planning Regulations and Fostering Regulations.  All post holders are expected to maintain professional standards of practice and to work in accordance with the Departmental vision, values, procedures and managerial guidance. |

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| **SUMMARY OF RESPONSIBILITIES AND DUTIES:**   1. With appropriate supervision, undertake assessments of Connected Persons and Special Guardians within the framework of the appropriate legislation, regulations, departmental procedures and child care policy. 2. To establish and maintain liaison and co-operation with colleagues in teams within Children’s and Young Peoples Services and to work jointly with staff in planning and supporting the placement of children in family based placements. 3. Give written/verbal evidence in court /fostering panels when required to do so and provide and deliver evidence to support decisions and recommendations made by social services to safeguard children at risk. 4. To offer effective support and advice to people who are being assessed in order to enable them to provide a positive placement for the child. 5. Ensure all relevant information and reports of work undertaken is recorded, updated and completed in an efficient and timely manner and according to Departmental/legislative policies and procedures so that decisions made and acted upon are fully evidenced and provide sufficiently for audit, court or any other legitimate purpose. 6. To act as duty social worker as required by the Group Manager and Deputy. Group Manager. 7. To make recommendations to the Group Manager/Deputy Manager (or other budget holder as appropriate) regarding financial expenditure entailed in care plans and undertakes delegated financial responsibilities. 8. To undertake appropriate training and to maintain a knowledge of changes to departmental procedure, legislation and regulations and of developments in professional practice. 9. To promote Equal Opportunities and anti-discriminatory practice in all areas of work within and outside the Council, in line with legislation and Council policy. 10. To undertake any other duties as may be required commensurate with the grade of the post in order to meet the changing needs of the service. |
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| **CONTACTS AND RELATIONSHIPS:** |

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| **MANAGEMENT AND LEADERSHIP:** |

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| **EQUALITIES:**  Implementation of the Council’s equal opportunities policies and its statutory responsibility with regard to other individuals and service delivery. |

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|  | **Date** | **Name** |
| 1. Date drawn up |  |  |
| 2. Given to Post holder |  |  |
| 3. Confirmed by Line Manager |  |  |
| 4. Evaluated |  |  |

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| **Post Title: Social Worker** | **Grade:BR11/12** |
| **Department: Education Care and Health Services** | **Division/Section: Fostering** |
| **Post No: 13873 & 14309** | **Reports to: Deputy Group Manager** |

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| **SKILLS & ABILITIES**  Ability to work within a framework of legislation, guidance, Divisional policies and procedures and accountability to senior officers.  Ability to relate effectively to children, parents and carers, many of whom may be under stress.  A proven ability to complete high quality assessments within agreed timescales.  An ability to make clear recommendations based on analysis of the evidence and information collated.  A flexible approach to undertaking assessments.  Recent substantial experience of undertaking assessments and presenting to panels.  An ability to demonstrate in your written application and at interview, up-to-date practice and knowledge of relevant regulations, guidance, standards and research in fostering.  A high level of competence in report writing.  A competence and confidence in using a variety of IT applications.  Ability to work as a team member and to form professional partnerships with other staff within the Department, colleagues from other agencies, foster carers and residential workers and health and education professionals.  Skill in communicating clearly orally and in writing, including an ability to maintain concise case records including Children Looked After documentation and to produce reports for case conferences, courts and other bodies.  Ability to manage working time effectively in order to meet both professional priorities and administrative requirements.  Demonstrate appropriate understanding, knowledge and skills in valuing diversity |

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| **KNOWLEDGE**  Knowledge of the Children Act 1989 and of other relevant legislation, regulations and guidance, including Care Planning Regulations and Fostering Regulations.  Knowledge of the range of services which are available to children and families and of the organisational framework within which they are provided.  Knowledge of child development and of family functioning and dynamics.  Knowledge of methods of social work intervention. |

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| **EXPERIENCE**  Experience of children and families social work within a statutory, voluntary or independent sector organisation.  In order to be appointed to Level 3 relevant post qualification experience of a range of casework is required. This must include proven assessment skills and experience of a range of Social work interventions. |

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| **QUALIFICATIONS**  Degree or equivalent qualification in Social Care  Registered with Health and Care Professions Council  Those holding a social work qualification from 2012 onwards must provide evidence of successfully completing an assessed and supported year in employment. |

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| **SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS**  To promote Equal Opportunities and anti-discriminatory practice in all areas of work within and outside the Council, in line with legislation and Council policy.  Ability to undertake duties outside of normal working hours in order to meet specific needs or objectives.  A satisfactory enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) disclosure is required. |