

JOB SUMMARY

Post Title	Best Interests Assessor						
Job Family	Service Delivery	Pay Range	10	Line Manager to others?	No	Role profile ref	SD10
Service Area	Adult Social Care/DoLS Team						
Line Manager	Senior Social Worker - DoLS						
Location	All Island						

Job Purpose

To undertake Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards assessments as a Best Interests Assessor in line with the current legislation and guidance (Mental Capacity Act 2005/DoLS 2007 and the relevant Codes of Practice).

To undertake the statutory functions of the Isle of Wight Council's Adult Social Care in relation to the Supervisory Body role with regards DoLS.

Job Context

- To undertake autonomous statutory assessments under the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards.
- To provide an independent review of restrictive care arrangements, ensuring they comply with relevant legislation (Mental Capacity Act 2005, Human Rights Act 1998, and Mental Health Act 1983, amended 2007) and promote service users' rights and welfare.
- To promote the understanding of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards, across the health and social care sector, including service users, carers, colleagues and Managing Authorities.
- Promote equality as an integral part of the role, use a strength-based approach and treat everyone with fairness and dignity.
- Encourage, develop and maintain effective working relationships with service colleagues and those in a wide range of partner agencies and services. Promote multi-disciplinary working partnerships, sometimes acting as a liaison between the council and other health and social care partners.
- Apply policies, procedures, codes of conduct and practice in range of settings and locations as required.
- Ensure keep up to date with the relevant legislation and developments, in order to undertake statutory duties under the Care Act 2014, Mental Health Act, Mental Capacity Act and other legislation and guidance. Be involved in Safeguarding enquiries as required and ensure all recording is accurate and timely.
- Maintain a positive and professional attitude and approach that will enhance the professionalism, quality of service and image of the council.

Knowledge, Skills and Experience

Role Profile requirements.	Job specific examples. (if left blank refer to left hand column)	Essential	Desirable
Proven ability to influence based on facts and evidence, a range of audiences with differing competence and abilities. Ability to communicate one to one and with specific client groups.	Evidence of working with people in a social care setting or other area where there is evidence of development and use of transferrable skills in assessment and analysis. Evidence of ability to engage with others in many different settings.	E	
Substantial practical experience demonstrating development through a series of progressively more demanding and relevant work roles. Relevant experience within the service area, working as part of team to meet service standards, targets and deadlines.	You will have an appropriate Social Work/ Nursing/Occupational Therapist qualification or Chartered Psychologist with 2 years post qualified experience with a Best Interests Assessor qualification too. Experience as a practitioner including Best Interests Assessorwork essential.	E	

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<p>Good communication, interpersonal and presentation skills, able to explain technical / legal issues clearly. Proven ability to negotiate with, persuade and influence others.</p>	<p>Ability to undertake Best Interests Assessor/DoLS assessments in accordance with the DoLS legislation and guidance.</p> <p>You will be able to evidence General Needs and Risk Assessment skills in a Health/Social Care setting.</p> <p>Ability to establish and maintain effective communication and working relationships with colleagues and partner agencies.</p>	<p>E</p>	
<p>Good ICT skills including use of Microsoft applications and specialist systems.</p>	<p>Ability to learn and use local recording tools.</p> <p>Ability to write high quality reports that are accurate and complete, with all information recorded in a timely manner.</p>	<p>E</p>	
<p>Authoritative knowledge of the specialist work area and relevant legislation, regulations, processes, systems, procedures and standards. Good knowledge of other areas of the authority relevant to the service and of wider sector / external influences.</p>	<p>Be aware of care resources and services, and to be able to review restrictive care arrangements and advise colleagues and others with regards promoting individual's rights and wellbeing. Also, to encourage the development of suitable resources and partnerships that would benefit carers and users of care services.</p> <p>Able to evidence personal accountability and effective management of personal practice and development, using supervision and the PPM process to identify training needs. Able to demonstrate and evidence competence in professional social care practice.</p> <p>Able to demonstrate the necessary knowledge and skill in order to ensure that personal practice and services comply with the council's commitment to equality.</p> <p>To be familiar and up to date with changes relating to legislation policy and guidance.</p>	<p>E</p>	
<p>Good planning and organisational skills, with proven ability to prioritise and co-ordinate workload, monitor and evaluate work, to ensure deadlines are achieved.</p>	<p>Ability to manage a specialist case load under the direction of the Senior Practitioners and Team Manager to ensure time targets are met in line with local and national guidance.</p>	<p>E</p>	
<p>Research, investigation and analysis skills.</p>	<p>You will be able to evidence your participation in training and continuous professional and skills development; and a willingness to actively participate in multi-agency training where appropriate.</p>	<p>E</p>	
<p>Knowledge of relevant financial processes and experience or training sufficient to ensure financial processing and / or budget monitoring is completed accurately.</p>		<p>E</p>	

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Qualifications			
Role Profile requirements.	Job specific examples. (if left blank refer to left hand column)	Essential	Desirable
May require relevant certifications including evidence of fluency in English language.		E	
May require level 4 up to first degree standard or equivalent experience in a relevant subject.	Appropriate Social Work/ Nursing/Occupational Therapist qualification or Chartered Psychologist with 2 years post qualified experience, plus current registration with appropriate body.	E	
Relevant vocational / professional qualification.	Current registration with a relevant professional body i.e., Social Work England/SWE/NMC. Best Interests Assessor (BIA) qualification inline with the DoLS legislation, and participation in ongoing annual BIA legal updates.	E	
Other Requirements			
Full driving licence and use of car for work purposes			
Satisfactory Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check at level enhanced			
Must present a positive image of the Isle of Wight Council.			
Must be flexible and able to work in more than one location.			
Must be able to understand and observe the Council's Equality Policy.			

Out of Hours Standby and Call Out You will be required to take part in the Out of Hours Stand-by Duty Rota as and when requested by management. Standby and call out duties are paid in accordance with the IWC Terms and Conditions 2012 document