

Head of Specialist Commissioning and Quality Assurance - Tri-borough Children's Services

Job Outline

Main Purpose of the Job

The Head of Commissioning will lead and manage the team responsible for the commissioning of services for children with high level and complex needs and who require who a wide range of social care services. The team will commission services relating to (but not limited to):

- Social care services for Looked After Children and care leavers
- Family support (including parenting assessments, domestic violence support, interventions to families where children are subject to child protection procedures, and social care legal services)
- Supported housing and placements for care leavers
- Placements for looked after children, including residential care and private and voluntary foster care and additional services for looked after children, including contact services and post-adoption support
- Youth violence services
- Services for specific groups such as children with disabilities.

In addition the team is responsible for the investigation of and response to complaints for tri-borough children's services.

The role includes assessing current and future needs, forecasting and modelling demand, writing service specifications, monitoring and evaluation of a range of services for children and young people. The post holder will be responsible for financial and budgetary control, market management, horizon scanning and working closely with providers to ensure that service specifications reflect changing needs and expectations and are 'fit for the future'.

Key Accountabilities

- To lead the strategic and operational commissioning, development and delivery of social care and services for children with high and complex needs across the Tri-borough; and to ensure the implementation of the boroughs key priorities as expressed in their mandates, liaising with elected members, senior Council officers and other specific stakeholders.
- To be responsible for the commissioning, procurement and monitoring of external contracts for a range of children's services
- To be a member of the extended leadership team for children's services and to deputise for the Director of Commissioning when required.
- To be responsible for the effective management of complaints, ensuring that statutory duties and responsibilities are met.

Staff directly managed: 5
Budgetary responsibilities 2013/14: £