

Job Description and Person Specification

Key Role Details

Job title: Young Person's Advocate

Location: Face to face delivery pan London, agile working for all other duties, office location Southwark

Reports to: Service Manager

Contract: Permanent subject to funding

Hours of work: 35 hours per week – sometimes worked flexibly

About Safer London

Safer London is a leading charity working with young Londoners and their families affected by violence and exploitation. We believe that all young Londoners can have a positive and productive future.

We're paving the way for young Londoners to reach their full potential. We're here for them, wherever they are and whenever they're ready. To work for us you'll be an exceptional individual with a genuine desire to work alongside people to transform their lives. You'll be talented, courageous, committed – a change maker.

We take time to understand the contexts where violence and exploitation happen and are committed to embedding contextual safeguarding approaches. We understand that all the children, young people and families that access our services are likely to have experienced trauma and use our understanding of these experiences as the building blocks of support. Our work is shaped by the identities and experiences of those we work alongside.

In everything we do we:

- prioritise creating safe and trusted relationships
- celebrate and build on strengths
- involve young people in the shaping of our services and provide a platform for their voices to be heard
- innovate, reflect, and commit to learning, we will hold our hands up when we get things wrong.
- recognise we can't know it all and support other professionals when another trusting relationship already exists.

Issues of racial justice are central to the work we do. We are fully committed to anti-racism and actively oppose systemic oppression of any form. We celebrate diversity and challenge inequality. As an organisation, we will proactively become part of the solution, since we are not prepared to sit back, do nothing, and be part of the problem.

Role Description

Safer London works with children, young people and families who are often exposed to high levels of risk through no fault of their own. The work is complex and a desire to focus on high quality safeguarding work is critical. We are an organisation that believes that children and young people should be safeguarded rather than criminalised – we recognise the high levels of harm outside of the home that so many children and young people are exposed to and understand families are doing their best to manage this.

Role Summary

In this role you will provide one to one support to children and young people who are at risk of or who have experienced extra familial harm or abuse. This includes child sexual exploitation, child criminal exploitation, youth violence and sexual abuse perpetrated outside of the family.

Key responsibilities

- Deliver effective and appropriate services to children and young people in line with the Safer London model of work ensuring that young Londoners receive the required support to meet their individual assessed needs
- Undertake high quality case recording in line with the highest standards and best practice principles
- Make appropriate onward referrals, signposting children and young people to support services and positive activities
- Work with partners, communities and other key stakeholders to deliver the service effectively
- Work creatively with colleagues to generate project resources and materials as required.
- Act at all times in line with safeguarding legislation and guidance, as well as Safer London's procedures and wider pan London processes and protocols.
- Undertake any other duties as required and commensurate with the level of this post.

Key Behaviours, Competencies and Skills

- Relevant qualification in social care, health, youth/ community work, criminal justice or demonstrable equivalent experience
- Have a clear understanding of safeguarding and safe practice – adults and children including contextual safeguarding approaches
- An understanding of the needs of young Londoners who have been affected by violence or exploitation and the impact this will have

- Ability to develop and maintain positive bounded relationships with service users
- An understanding of the impact of trauma and the application of a trauma informed approach to practice
- Ability to record work effectively on case recording systems
- Ability to effectively utilise IT packages including Word, Outlook, Excel etc.
- Recognition of the importance of resilience in coping with the emotional demands of the role. Safer London understands that resilience is a skill that can be learnt over time and recognises the role of self-care in developing resilience.

Additional Considerations

- An enhanced DBS will be required
- The successful candidate will be required to travel
- The successful candidate may occasionally be required to work evenings or weekends

Person Specification

Criteria	Essential/ Desirable	A/I/T*
Relevant qualification in social care, health, youth/ community work, criminal justice or demonstrable equivalent experience – e.g. Registered and Qualified Social Worker	Essential	A
Experience of safeguarding children, young people and adults at risk and of managing complex safeguarding issues	Essential	A/I
Demonstrable knowledge and experience of working with children, young people and adults affected by extra-familial harm or violence	Essential	A/I
Experience of liaising with statutory services to safeguard the child and or meet the needs of adults at risk	Desirable	A/I
Knowledge of good practice in relation to serious youth violence, exploitation and harmful sexual behaviour	Essential	A/I/T
Experience of working in partnerships and relationships with a wide variety of organisations to support the needs of children, young people and adults	Desirable	A/I
Understanding of best practice and the importance of good quality case recording	Essential	A/I
Commitment to diversity and equality, and experience of applying these principles in the workplace	Essential	A/I
IT literate (Excel, Outlook, Word etc.) and experience of using databases	Desirable	A/I/T

*application, interview, test