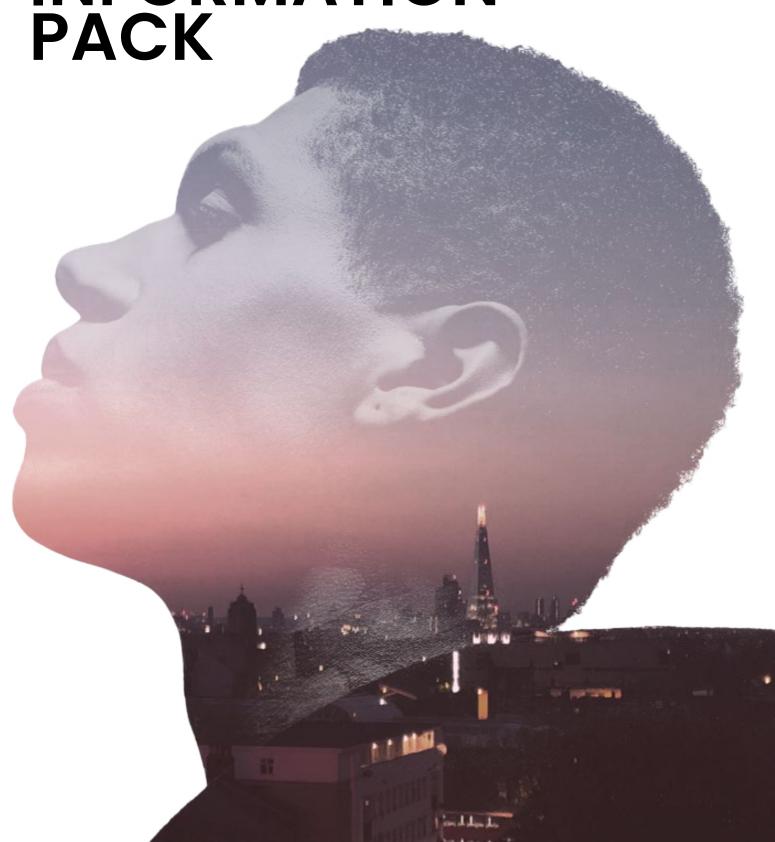


# saferlondon

CANDIDATE
INFORMATION





## Safer London candidate information pack

Post: Expert Caseworker Families Salary: £33,545

## This pack includes:

- » Welcome
- » Why working for us is different
- » More about us
- » Our values
- » About the role
- » Staff Benefits
- » How to apply

## **WELCOME**

Thank you for considering joining our team dedicated to making a positive impact!

At Safer London, we are committed to working alongside young Londoners and their families affected by violence and exploitation, supporting them to build positive futures for themselves. As you explore this candidate pack, you'll discover the meaningful work we do and the exciting opportunities that await you.

We believe that every person can make a difference. If you share our passion for creating positive change and making a lasting impact, we encourage you to consider joining the Safer London family.

Thank you for considering Safer London as your next professional home. We look forward to the possibility of welcoming you to our community and working together to achieve our shared goals.

Kind Regards, Safer London



## WHY WORKING FOR US IS DIFFERENT

## **Encouraging work life balance**

- From April 1st 2024 we are a 4 day/32 hour (FTE) working week organisation. This means that you have a regular day off in the week with no impact on your pay.
- 28 days annual leave (plus bank holidays and pro rata for those who join us part time) rising after 3 and 5 years of service.
- Flexible and smart working policies in line with an agile way of working.
- Agile working meaning you can work from different locations like home, in the community, from our office (job dependent).

## **Enriching your work life**

- ▼ Opportunities for learning and development
- New modern offices
- ✓ Opportunities to feedback including surveys and groups
- Reflective practice sessions
- Reduced caseloads compared to statutory services.

## Caring for you and your family

- ▼ Enhanced family leave
- ✓ Death in service benefit
- ✓ Free access to a confidential 24/7 helpline service with a specialist range of support and information

## Thinking about your finances

- ☑ Discounted season ticket loan
- 🗸 Staff expenses float
- Pension scheme
- ✓ Cycle to work scheme



## MORE ABOUT US

#### What we do

Safer London is a leading charity working with young Londoners and their families affected by violence and exploitation. Understanding young Londoners' lives are shaped by the world in which they live, we work not only with them and their families, but also their peer networks and directly within the community and the places where they live and spend their time.

With a footprint in every borough in London, we build trusting, professional partnerships to embed our approaches and work towards achieving our vision of a city that is safer for all young Londoners who live here.

We deliver our work through three key themes



young Londoners will

have positive futures.

feel safer, be safer, and





We work directly in the community to ensure that the places and spaces where young Londoners spend their time are safe and positive.

We believe people, peers and places all have their own abilities and assets.

We'll work alongside them to identify their strengths and enable them to find the solutions which work best for them.



#### How we work

Through specialist one-to-one intervention, we are supporting young Londoners and parents/carers to move onto the positive futures they deserve. We put them at the centre of their support, focusing on them and their needs. By building strong, trusting relationships we gain an insight into their world, begin to understand what they need and together we find the best ways to keep them safe.

We understand the impact the wider context has on young Londoners. The area where they live; where they spend their time; their peer networks - can all impact on their safety. Whether this is positive or negative. When working alongside a young Londoner we take into consideration these contextual factors right from the point of referral. By delivering our work through the lens of Contextual Safeguarding, we are acknowledging that young Londoners face risks not only within their families but also in broader social contexts. This approach ensures a more comprehensive and effective way to protect them from harm and promote their wellbeing.

Our support is delivered by skilled Caseworkers for anywhere between six months and two years. Safer London Caseworkers work collaboratively with young Londoners and families, with sessions primarily delivered face to face in the community, with phone and online sessions also offered.

Our work is underpinned by six guiding principles:



#### **Person Centred**

Safer London puts young Londoners at the centre of their support. We listen to and work with them, focusing on them and their needs.



#### **Contextual Safeguarding**

We understand the impact the wider context has on young Londoners lives and safety.
Whether this is in physical spaces, within their peer groups or online.
We're committed to weaving Contextual Safeguarding approaches throughout our work with young Londoners.



Young Londoners have a say in their journey of support. This empowerment not only boosts their confidence but also facilitates meaningful engagement.



#### Trauma Responsive

Young Londoners tell us how they've experienced traumatic events. This can have a devastating impact on their daily lives. Our knowledge and understanding of trauma and how it effects young Londoners, are the building blocks of our support.



#### **Trusting relationships**

Strong trusting relationships form the foundation of all our work with young Londoners and families. We understand that establishing trust is pivotal for young Londoners to achieve a positive outcome for themselves. By building strong trusting relationships we gain insight into their world, understand what they need and learn how to keep them safe.

#### Non-judgemental

Whatever their history, when a child or young person comes to Safer London, they are just that – a child or a young person. Our approach is not punitive, our work is grounded and delivered through the lens of safeguarding – we never judge the young Londoners and families we work with. Our goal is to work alongside them, so they can unlock their potential.





## **OUR VALUES**

**CHANGEMAKERS** 

We bring creativity, passion and innovation to make a lasting difference

**INCLUSIVE** 

We bring creativity, passion and innovation to make a lasting difference

TRUSTED

People trust us because we have a track record of consistent, high-quality delivery

COURAGEOUS

People trust us because we have a track record of consistent, high-quality delivery

COLLABORATIVE

People trust us because we have a track record of consistent, high-quality delivery

#### Behaviours framework

Safer London's Behaviours Framework is a set of core behaviours which define 'how' we are expected to approach our work and sits alongside 'what' we do.

The framework details the behaviours and attitudes required by employees at all levels to support the effective delivery of our services and create a positive workplace culture.

Safer London's values sit at the heart of everything we do. The defined behaviours link directly to Safer London's set of values. The behaviours are what people see and are an expression of what we value. The values are brought to life through the defined behaviours.

By demonstrating the attitudes and behaviours set out in the framework, Safer London is an effective, positive and collaborative place to work.



## **ABOUT THE ROLE**

In this impactful role, you will cultivate strong trusting relationships with parents and carers, offering personalised support on a one-to-one basis. Your responsibilities will encompass a diverse range of direct support and advocacy, with a focus on safeguarding and the wellbeing of parents and carers whose child/ren are affected by violence and exploitation. You will be providing an expert level of support, working alongside families exposed to the highest levels of risk.

## Who you will be working with

At Safer London we work as one team across the entire organisation. This cohesive working allows us to realise our vision of helping to create a safer city for everyone who lives here.

We choose to invest heavily in our direct practice work, with practitioner Caseworkers making up the majority of Safer London's workforce. Safer London's Caseworkers are supported by a team of practice managers and safeguarding professionals.

We have Caseworkers who are Specialists and Experts in the following areas:

- Violence and criminal exploitation
- Sexual exploitation
- Child sexual abuse
- · Sexual and criminal violence
- Neurodiversity and SEND
- Harmful Sexual Behaviours
- Families (parents and carers)
- Education, training and employment
- Housing and resettlement

At Safer London we encourage a culture of shared learning and collaborative working. We work together to support the presenting needs of the young Londoners and families we work with. Our work is grounded in the <u>AMBIT</u> approach of working, with the team working to the AMBIT principle of mentalization.

If the practice team is the beating heart of Safer London, then the central resources team are the brain. Encompassing finance, HR, fundraising and communications, learning and development and data management, these individuals work hard to make sure Safer London is operating to the highest standard possible.

Collaborative working with multiple different external organisations and agencies is critical in this role. In order to effectively safeguard and address the complex challenges faced by young Londoners, you will be required to work alongside a variety of professionals, each with their unique expertise. By fostering effective communication and information sharing multi-agency working allows for:

- Enhancies overall effectiveness of safeguarding young Londoners and families.
- Intervention and prevention of potential risks.
- Provides a holistic understanding of a young Londoner's situation.
- Creates a coordinated effort, preventing duplication of work and ensures resources are used efficiently.



## JOB DESCRIPTION

Job title	Expert Caseworker Families
Reporting to	Service Manager
Contract	Permanent (subject to funding)
Location	London / agile working
Hours	35 hours per week (Please note that as of 1st April 2024 Safer London will be moving to a 32 hour/4 day working week)
Salary	Grade C £33,545

## Main purpose of the role

In this role, you will work alongside parents or carers whose children have been exposed to or are at risk of exploitation or violence. Within your role as an Expert Family Caseworker, you will provide support to parents and carers to help them gain a greater understanding of the challenges young Londoners and their families often face and work alongside them to secure the safety and positive outcomes they want for their children and family.

As well as manage a caseload of families with additional and/or multiple and complex needs the Expert Caseworker will be expected to:

- Apply specialist knowledge of CP procedures to support and work alongside colleagues to improve the quality and professionalism of support provided to families, including consistent delivery of early help services and needs assessments.
- You will be expected to provide robust risk assessments that reflect the contexts within which harm has occurred, and to work collaboratively with partnership agencies to reduce risk and secure services and support.
- Support the delivery of whole family, multi-agency outcome focused support plans which respond to the needs of families (and individual family members)
- Adhere to and implement safeguarding, information sharing and risk assessment protocols, confidently communicating risks/ issues early whilst taking account of personal safety and the safety of others.

The context that many children and their families are living within can be challenging and a key part of your role is to support families to manage their own emotional wellbeing in what can be difficult circumstances. Alongside this, you should be able to demonstrate how you manage your own wellbeing to enable us to offer the very best services to parents and carers.



## Main duties and responsibilities

- Deliver effective one-to-one support to families in line with Safer London's Service models and in collaboration with them so that their voice is at the centre of all we do, and they receive the support they need.
- Carry out robust risk assessments and strengths-based needs assessments, with safeguarding as the priority, to ensure the most appropriate intervention is offered and risks are managed and escalated appropriately. This also ensures that priority areas of work are focussed on.
- Accurately maintaining essential records, ensuring high-quality case recording, utilising our in-house bespoke case recording system. Complet reports (which may be shared with statutory bodies such as the police, courts, and children social care, and which can be shared with the family) that accurately reflect the work undertaken in a professional manner.
- 4 Maintain effective communication, both written and verbal, whether this is virtual or face-to-face.
- Making appropriate onward referrals and signposting children, young people and their families to support services and positive activities as and when required. Where necessary, advocating for them to get the services they are entitled to.
- 6 Co-develop and deliver presentations about the family work to raise service awareness to external and internal audiences.
- Working with partners, communities, and other key stakeholders to deliver the service effectively.
- 8 Produce detailed reports to reflect the work being undertaken.
- Acting in accordance with safeguarding legislation and guidance in addition to Safer London's practice guidelines and wider pan-London processes and protocols.
- Undertaking any other duties as required and commensurate with the level of this post.



## PERSON SPECIFICATION

The person specification describes the specific experience, knowledge, skills, qualifications and attributes that are needed for the job.

Criteria	Essential/ Desirable	Application/ Interview/ Test
Skills and experience		
Relevant qualification in social care, health, youth/community work, criminal justice or demonstrable equivalent experience – e.g. Registered and Qualified Social Worker	Essential	A/I
Experience of managing complex safeguarding issues with children, young people, families and adults at risk, including being able to demonstrate effective partnership working	Essential	А/I/Т
Experience of working with families with complex support needs	Essential	A/I
Extensive knowledge of the impact of context on children, young people and adults, with a clear understanding of the principles of contextual safeguarding	Essential	A/I/T
Experience of high-quality case recording	Essential	A/I
Experience of identifying and managing complex safeguarding concerns	Essential	A/I/T
Experience of developing and delivering presentations showcasing service capability and capacity to external audiences	Desirable	A/I
Recognition of the importance of resilience in coping with the emotional demands of the role and demonstrable experience of managing your own wellbeing	Essential	Α/Ι/Τ
Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal, in order to communicate and influence a wide range of internal and external colleagues on matters relating to the service, and produce reports for a variety of audiences	Essential	A/I/T
IT literate (Excel, Outlook, Word etc.) and experience of using databases	Essential	A/T



Knowledge		
Demonstrable knowledge of best practice around working with families whose children are impacted by harm outside the home	Essential	A/I
Demonstrable specialist knowledge of specialist knowledge of Child Protection procedures to support and advise colleagues	Essential	A/I
Knowledge of trauma-informed practice and of how trauma –including from their own lives – can impact on how practitioners manage cases	Essential	A/I
Knowledge of best practice in and understanding of the mportance of good quality case recording	Essential	A/I
Knowledge of safeguarding legislation	Essential	A/I/T
Values and attributes		
Commitment to equity, diversity and inclusion, and experience of applying these principles in the workplace	Essential	A/I
Ability to demonstrate, with examples, your alignment to Safer London's values	Essential	А
Ability to prioritise own workload and able to work without close supervision	Essential	A/I
Ability to be flexible with work location	Essential	А
Ability to draw on a range of strategies to support your wellbeing, help you cope with pressure and ambiguity and continue to build resilience	Essential	A/I

#### **Additional Considerations**

- We're committed to protecting and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and we expect anyone who works and volunteers with us to share this commitment. An Enhanced Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) check is required for this role.
- The successful candidate will be required to travel to different locations around London.
- Safer London Caseworkers sometimes work extended hours to meet the needs of young Londoners/ parents/carers. Therefore, the successful candidate may
- occasionally be required to work evenings and some posts may include regular
- Saturday working.
- Safer London is an agile working organisation. This means employees are able to work from different locations, e.g. from home, our office premises and community locations such as libraries/co-working spaces. Agile working arrangements will be agreed with the line-manager.



## **STAFF BENEFITS**

We offer our staff a wide range of benefits to reward them for the value that they bring to Safer London, to support them in their work, to help improve health and wellbeing, and maintain a healthy work-life balance.

We intend to offer these benefits on an ongoing basis but may amend or withdraw them at any time.

## **Agile working**

Safer London is committed to ensuring that it provides the best working conditions for its employees. Agile working is a practical, flexible, and sensitive approach to individual circumstances that allows staff to balance their personal and professional lives. At Safer London, agile working allows employees to work from various locations, such as the office, their homes, or other locations such as a library or shared workspace, depending on which is most appropriate or which is closest to any meetings with young Londoners. This approach enables Safer London to provide the best possible service, while taking into account the technology, support and safeguards that are in place. Regardless of where they will normally be based, all employees may be required to attend the office for team meetings, training or other reasons, with more regular attendance required during staff probation.

#### Death-in-service

Death-in-service is an employee benefit which pays out a tax-free lump sum if an employee passes away while they are employed by Safer London, regardless of the cause of death. Any payments that become due under this scheme are tax free and paid – at the discretion of the scheme's Trustees – to a named beneficiary/beneficiaries nominated by the employee.

#### **Annual Leave**

Staff are entitled to 28 days annual leave plus Bank Holidays (pro-rata for part time staff and in the first year of employment), rising to 30 days after 3 years and 33 days after 5 years employment. This is in addition to eight days paid public holidays every year.

#### Staff expenses float

The Staff Expenses Float is a financial support system where Safer London provides a one-off loan payment of £100 to cover the initial costs of expenses.

#### Cycle to Work Scheme

We offer a Cycle to Work Scheme to encourage health and fitness. This enables you to use an interest free loan to purchase bike and safety equipment with costs recovered from your salary over a 12-month period and meaning a tax and National Insurance saving on this cost



#### Season Ticket Loan

Interest free season ticket loans are available to all staff once they have passed probation (six months).

### **Paid Maternity Leave**

All pregnant staff are entitled to up to 52 week's maternity leave regardless of length of service. Safer London offers enhanced maternity pay to those employees who:

- have completed one year of continuous service by the end of the 15th week before their baby is due; and
- agree to return to work for at least three months after the end of their Maternity Leave period.

Enhanced Maternity Pay means that the eligible employee's pay will be increased to:

- 100% of normal salary for the first six weeks of maternity leave;
- 50% of normal salary for the next 20 weeks of maternity leave;
- The next 13 weeks paid at the Statutory Maternity Pay flat weekly rate.

### **Paid Paternity Leave**

Any employee who satisfies the conditions for 2 weeks' statutory paternity leave and pay will be entitled to our Enhanced Paternity Pay benefit of an additional 2 weeks' paid leave. The leave may be taken as four consecutive weeks of continuous leave or in two blocks of two weeks each. All Enhanced Paternity Pay is paid at 100% of normal pay. It is calculated as Statutory Paternity Pay and topped up by Enhanced Paternity Pay.

## **Employee Assistance Programme**

We offer a Staff Assistance Programme to all staff free of charge. It offers completely confidential and impartial support, information, and a counselling service to staff on legal, financial, debt management and emotional issues.

#### **Pension**

On joining Safer London, new staff are auto-enrolled into our pension scheme if they meet the eligibility criteria. Employees will pay an employee's contribution of 4% and Safer London will pay an employer's contribution of 3% every month. Employees may choose to contribute more than 4%.

#### Equity, inclusion and diversity

At Safer London we value diversity and we're committed to creating an inclusive culture. We know that in order to make London a safer place for the young people that live here, we need a diverse range of perspectives, experience and knowledge. 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.



## **HOW TO APPLY**

If you are committed, resilient, and believe you have what it takes to work collaboratively with young Londoners and their families to help them create better futures for themselves, then please apply.

To apply for this role complete the online application form via the Safer London website: <a href="https://saferlondon.org.uk/join-the-team/">https://saferlondon.org.uk/join-the-team/</a>

As an agile working organisation, shortlisting will take place on a rolling basis and the closing date is subject to change at any time. Interviews will take place in person at Safer London's central office based in Southwark.

As part of the online application, you will be required to confirm you have read our <u>Privacy and Cookie Policy</u> and <u>Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy</u>.

Please note we don't accept CVs.

Should you need any adjustments to the recruitment process, at either application or interview, or experience any technical issues when trying to access and/or complete the online application form, please contact us at <a href="mailto:recruitment@saferlondon.org.uk">recruitment@saferlondon.org.uk</a>

## **Your Application**

Please read the information below thoroughly before starting your application.

Your supporting statement is a very important part of your application. We cannot make any assumptions about your knowledge, skills and experience, so the information that you provide in your supporting statement is vital for us to decide whether to shortlist you for an interview.

Please demonstrate how you meet the criteria and the values listed in the person specification, detailing your experience, skills, achievements and/or abilities that are relevant for the role that you are applying for. You should use specific examples. We are looking for evidence that you can thrive in the role advertised.

Your statement should not exceed 1,000 words. We recommend you draft and save your supporting statement outside of the application portal as your connection may time out and it is not possible to save this document online for future use.

#### **Data Protection**

The information you provide in your application will be used by Safer London to assess your suitability for the role you have applied for. We will not use personal data for marketing or fundraising purposes (unless you have previously supported Safer London) or share your data with any third parties for their marketing purposes.

We will also ask you for sensitive information (such as information relating to ethnicity or sexual orientation), but only to allow Safer London to monitor and report on diversity and equality of opportunities. The provision of this information is entirely voluntary and will not affect whether you are shortlisted. for the role you have applied for.