

Title	Department	Post Ref.
Solicitor (Litigation)	Chief Executive's	

#### Job Purpose

To provide legal advice, guidance and representation to customers of Legal Services (internal or external) with particular emphasis on General Litigation including:

- Civil Litigation and Dispute Management including Judicial Review, Contractual & Property Disputes, complex Debt Collection and Coroners inquests
- Employment including Employment Tribunal claims and general employment advisory work in areas such as TUPE
- Education including SEN Tribunals, School Admission Appeals and Exclusions
- Criminal Litigation including Trading Standards, Highways & Planning Enforcement and School attendance prosecutions

and subject to service demand and direction and any legal disciplines covered by the section.

# Key Responsibilities

- 1. To manage a personal caseload providing expert legal advice, support assistance and advocacy by reference to the Job Purpose.
- 2. To act on behalf of the customers in legal proceedings and to attend and advise at meetings both internal and external, as required.
- To comply with professional standards of conduct, training requirements, internal protocols/standards, policies and procedures of the Authority, or such other body that may apply.
- 4. To maintain an awareness of legal developments, practice issues or problems that may impact upon work, practice,

# Key Accountabilities

- 1. To perform the postholder's responsibilities to a high standard diligently and professionally in accordance with all applicable statutory and regulatory standards, Authority policies and procedures and as directed.
- 2. To work proactively, flexibly and where appropriate, collaboratively to achieve continuous service improvements.
- 3. To meet service, business plan and personal performance targets.
- 4. To have an awareness of budgetary implications of service delivery and to deliver case work within agreed resources.

- service delivery or the political direction of the Authority and if necessary to escalate such issues.
- 5. To identify changes in law and practice relevant to the post and contribute effectively towards the development of policies, practice and business efficiencies, including delivering training to colleagues and customers.
- To provide professional supervision and support to other officers in Legal Services in connection with any matter within the postholder's area of knowledge.
- 7. To develop and maintain knowledge of the legal disciplines that are allocated to the postholder by managers.
- 8. Working proactively, flexibly and where appropriate, collaboratively to achieve continuous service improvements.
- 9. To deputise for the Senior Solicitors as necessary.
- 10. To maintain relationships with government departments, professional bodies and other public private and voluntary sector organisations to promote the Council's interests from a legal perspective.
- 11. To act as a professional exemplar in carrying out the above duties with a 'can do' attitude

- 5. To work as effectively as possible responding to customer needs within resources, policy, protocols and professional practice parameters.
- 6. To participate proactively as a team member in the Litigation section and to build positive relationships with other staff and colleagues.
- 7. To contribute to the improvement of customer satisfaction levels for the service.

The post holder will perform any duty or task that is appropriate for the role described

#### **Person Specification**

### Education and Knowledge

- 1. A qualified solicitor or barrister with a current practising certificate.
- 2. An understanding of the statutory and governance frameworks relating to Local Authorities

### **Experience**

- 7. Recent experience in <u>at least</u> two of the substantive areas listed in the Job Purpose.
- 8. Some local government experience or experience advising local government clients is desirable.

## Personal skills and general competencies

- 3. A high level of personal drive and commitment to excellent customer care and the ability to set an example for other staff
- 4. Strong interpersonal skills to gain the agreement and acceptance of others including colleagues, senior managers and customers.
- 5. Ability to make decisions and solve problems to meet operational targets, involving devising solutions and prioritising the resources available
- 6. Ability to meet agreed objectives and delivery targets by the effective use of resources.

#### Role Dimensions

- 9. Core areas of responsibility as detailed in the Job Purpose above.
- 10. Financial Responsibilities non designated to this post
- 11. No direct reports however will entail some supervisory duties of more junior staff

Please attach a structure chart

Date June 2022