

Job Description

Job Title	Senior Researcher: Children's Insights
Responsible to	Head of Social Research
Salary	SEO [£39,240 to £43,358]
Purpose of the job	<p>This role sits within the Evidence Team and is critical to ensuring that the Children's Commissioner's Office (CCO) can understand trends and issues in children's lives in England, particularly the most vulnerable.</p> <p>The senior researcher will be responsible for leading insight work drawing on digital and survey sources, consumer insight and specialist bodies as well as from the data sets and sources of data held by the Office. The senior researcher will be responsible for establishing relationships and mechanisms to collect this data and for presenting it to the Commissioner and the wider team in a range of engaging and relevant ways including an internal monthly children's insight briefing. Working within the evidence team the role will provide analytical support to the policy and communications teams including responsive work. The senior researcher will also contribute to a wide range of research conducted by the Office including work directly with children and families as well as data collection and analysis.</p>
Specific duties	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To lead the creation of mechanisms and relationships to collect data on trends and issues in children's lives in England. To present the data to the Commissioner and the wider team in a range of engaging and relevant ways including a monthly internal children's insight briefing for the Office. • To work collaboratively with colleagues across the Office providing analytical support including responsive work such as quality assurance of briefings and short evidence reviews on specific topics in order to deliver the CCO's Business Plan priorities. • To lead and support the design, piloting, communication and delivery of surveys and data requests on issues affecting the wellbeing and welfare of vulnerable children. • To help ensure, as part of the Evidence Team, that the Commissioner has the data she needs to deliver effective policy and public affairs messages, by taking responsibility for and working independently on discrete areas of work. • To support the Office in ensuring that the organisation's data management activities take full account of legal, ethical and data

	<p>protection requirements, as well as organisational policies and procedures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Support the Evidence Team in wider work including maintaining and enhancing the Office's vulnerability database.
Date	January 2019

	Essential	Desirable
Knowledge	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Possess a Masters level degree in a social science including advanced training on social research methods covering data analytic, data collection and qualitative research techniques and ethics. • Strong knowledge and understanding of qualitative and quantitative research methods. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PhD or equivalent. • Knowledge of or experience working in children’s services and/or on children’s and family policy. • Rich knowledge of child safeguarding procedures
Experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At least 2 years’ post-education experience of applied research. • Experience of successfully using statistical data to inform and challenge. • Proven experience of working directly with children and young people including vulnerable groups. • Experience of delivering projects, taking ownership for delivering to time, identifying and mitigating risks and developing contingencies where required. • Experience of working at pace in a responsive way. 	
Skills and abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proven ability to generate insight using primary data and secondary sources with the ability to pay close attention to detail in data analysis. • Strong capacity to use innovative and digital methods of research. • Good knowledge and competence with information systems and IT tools and software for the collection and management of data. • Excellent oral and written communication skills and good interpersonal and stakeholder management skills. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excellent project management, prioritisation and organisational skills.	
Personal qualities	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Flexible, calm and effective under pressure.• Committed to the Children's Commissioner's principles in relation to equality and diversity and to operating with integrity at all times.	

The post holder must be able to travel within England as required.