

Job Description: Deputy Director of Research

Department:	Research
Responsible to:	Deputy to the Children's Commissioner
Grade / Salary:	Grade 6 / £65,783 - £73,146
Purpose of the job:	<p>The Children's Commissioner for England sits at the heart of Government, delivering for children, and championing their voices and needs. This includes a particular responsibility towards children who rely on the state for their safety or protection.</p> <p>The Children's Commissioner is a unique statutory role with powers to help bring about long-term change and improvements for children. Her messages to policy and decision makers, leaders of industry, charities and sometimes parents provide insight, evidence and challenge to us all to provide the best support possible for children as they grow up. Research and data play a critical role in this.</p> <p>The Children's Commissioner's office (CCo) use government administrative data, national survey data, cohort studies, commission and run new surveys and capture the voices of children and young people to ensure that their experiences, rights and interests are heard and shape policy and practice.</p> <p>As part of senior management, the Deputy Director of Research will work closely with the Deputy to the Children's Commissioner to support CCo's strategy, research and public engagement.</p> <p>The Deputy Director of Research will be responsible for leading and managing the Research team. They will also be responsible for developing and leading all aspects of research and analysis within CCo to generate high quality and robust evidence about the experiences and outcomes for children in England.</p> <p>Utilising the Children's Commissioner's unique data collection powers for access to data on children and young people held by public institutions, the Deputy Director of Research will consider the priorities, concerns and issues for</p>

	<p>children, particularly for the most disadvantaged and vulnerable (including Children in Care).</p>
Specific duties:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and deliver a comprehensive research strategy to support the priorities of the Children’s Commissioner and to inform business planning. • Develop, lead and manage a team of researchers and analysts including qualitative and quantitative researchers, analysts and statisticians. • Identify and respond to gaps in research through use of the Children’s Commissioner’s powers to request data, commissioning research and carrying out new data analysis. • Suggest and trial new research and data collection methods and pilot new analytical and data visualisation techniques. • Provide, present and communicate research and data in an accessible and timely way to support the strategy and priorities of the Children’s Commissioner. • Act as Senior Information Risk Owner (SIRO) for the Children’s Commissioner with responsibility for the Data Protection Officer service. • To be an active and effective member of senior management to ensure that the research team is sufficiently resourced and enabled to function effectively working closely with other teams. • Build partnerships and networks with leading research bodies, national and local government, academia, the third sector and elsewhere to share learning and research. • Represent the Children’s Commissioner in external meetings.
Essential Skills/Experience required	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A passionate and proven commitment to delivering for children and championing their voices in research and data. • In-depth and up-to-date knowledge and experience of quantitative and

	<p>qualitative social research and statistical methodology and techniques.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proven leadership in a research or data analytical role and experience of translating evidence into public policy. • The ability to lead a team to deliver complex research to schedule and provide adhoc research and analysis to tight deadlines. • Experience of analytical/statistical software such as R, SQL or SPSS and/or qualitative analysis software such as NVIVO. • Experience of working and collaborating with national or local government, academia, the third sector and/or other research organisations. • Knowledge of GDPR legislation and wider knowledge of data protection, data security and data sharing.
Safeguarding	<p>All staff have a responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people. The post holder will undertake the appropriate level of training and is responsible for ensuring that they understand and work in line with the safeguarding children and young people policy and associated guidance.</p>
Changes	<p>This is a description of the job as it is presently constituted. It is CCo's practice to periodically review job descriptions and to update them from time to time. This process will be conducted in consultation with you. It is the aim of CCo to reach agreement on any changes but if agreement cannot be reached, it reserves the right to insist on such changes, after consultation with you.</p>
Date	September 2022