



Safeguarding Adults Scrutineer Role for the Oxfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board

Role: Safeguarding Adults Scrutineer

Salary: £300 per day

Commitment: 60 days per year (on average 5 days per month depending on work programme)

Contract: Two years (subject to annual review)

Closing Date: Noon on 9th February 2024

Interview: 23rd February 2024

Appointment: 1st April 2024

Oxfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board (OSAB) are looking to appoint to the newly created role of Safeguarding Adults Scrutineer. The person filling the role will work closely with the Independent Chair, the Strategic Safeguarding Partnerships Manager and the Board Members to ensure the partnership has appropriate challenge and scrutiny in place to oversee safeguarding arrangements and that these are robust, offering a true reflection of the practice in Oxfordshire and the experiences of those on the receiving end of services.

A commitment of 5 days per month will be required to a maximum of 60 days per year. Payment for which will be circa £300 per day. The initial period will be for two years, subject to annual review by either party.

If you would like to discuss the role, please email Steven Turner, Strategic Safeguarding Partnerships Manager, Oxfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board on steven.turner@oxfordshire.gov.uk to arrange a time to talk.

To apply for this role, please submit your CV together with a supporting letter for the attention of Steven Turner to OSAB@oxfordshire.gov.uk no later than noon on Friday 9th February 2024.



Role Description – Safeguarding Adults Scrutineer

Directorate & Team
Adult Social Care - Oxfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board
Work Style
Contract for Services, up to 5 days per month
Grade/Salary Range
£300 per day
Key Objectives
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To provide independent scrutiny of the Oxfordshire Adult Safeguarding arrangements and to provide challenge to ensure the arrangements operate effectively in accordance with statutory regulation and guidance.2. To provide independent assurance that organisations and agencies work together effectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of adults with needs for care and support in Oxfordshire.3. To support the strategic development of the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements, establishing close collaboration with other relevant partnerships, ensuring that the Board's work informs wider planning processes related to adults at risk in Oxfordshire.
Designation of Post and Position within Departmental Structure
This is an independent role that is accountable to the Independent Chair and the representatives of the funding partners of the OSAB for the term of their contract.
Responsibilities
Scrutiny <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Provide independent scrutiny to the Safeguarding Board, ensuring that the Board and its members fulfil their statutory responsibilities set out in the Care Act 2014 in relation to quality assurance.

2. Provide effective and objective scrutiny and challenge and act as constructive critical friend as well as promoting reflection to drive continuous improvement to both the partnership and safeguarding practice.
3. Scrutinise on how organisations hold each other to account to take corrective action and improve services where issues of poor performance and practice are identified.
4. Report to the Safeguarding Partners any recommendations from their scrutiny and/or assurance activities.
5. Provide independent oversight and scrutiny on embedding learning from Safeguarding Adult Reviews, Homeless Mortality Reviews and any other case reviews commissioned by the Board ensuring that these are undertaken rigorously in line with statutory guidance. To challenge decisions on behalf of the partnership on the commissioning of reviews and publication arrangements.
6. To develop and lead on identified projects as directed by the Chair of the Board or the Strategic Safeguarding Partnerships Manager.

Assurance

7. Consider how well the safeguarding partners are providing strong and effective leadership and agree with the Safeguarding Partners how this will be reported.
8. Provide assurance to the Safeguarding Board and its partners that organisations have strategies in place for addressing priorities, gaps and risks and how effective they are.
9. Seek assurance regarding the robustness and effectiveness of local multiagency arrangements in Oxfordshire to safeguard and promote the welfare of adults and to report areas of weakness and highlight areas of strength to the safeguarding partners.
10. Assist and provide independent advice when there are any conflicts of interest between the key statutory leads.
11. Listen to the experiences of adults with care and support needs and their families to ascertain how effectively local arrangements are working for them.
12. Provide opportunities for an independent perspective of frontline practice through direct conversations with practitioners and how effectively the arrangements are working for them.

13. Contribute to the content of the partnership’s annual reports on the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements for adults, their performance and the effectiveness of local services.
14. Identify both good practice and risks to share for partnership action/mitigation.
15. As required, offer leadership regarding the implementation of Safeguarding Adults Reviews, Homeless Mortality Review, etc. To ensure that any reviews are undertaken rigorously, that lessons are effectively communicated and impact is evaluated.
16. To ensure that the Board and its constituents work within a framework that respects diversity, challenges discrimination and promotes equality.
17. To support and contribute to any external inspection or review of safeguarding adult arrangements in Oxfordshire.

Scope of Role

1. The role will be reviewed annually
2. Fees will be paid at a daily rate of £300 per day (including expenses)
3. The role is subject to an enhanced DBS check
4. The appointed person must act in compliance with data protection principles in respecting the privacy of personal information held by Board’s partners
5. The appointed person must carry out their duties with full regard to Oxfordshire’s Equal Opportunities Policy, Code of Conduct, Safeguarding Procedures, all other Council policies and those of the statutory partners as appropriate
6. The above list is not exhaustive and other duties relevant to the role may from time to time be required. Variation may also occur to the duties and responsibilities without changing the general character of the role
7. This post holder will be independent of all OSAB Partner Agencies.
8. The position will be managed by Oxfordshire County Council on behalf of OSAB.
9. The post holder will be expected to work a minimum of 48 days per year with additional hours and work by agreement up to 60 days
10. As a new role, this appointment will be for an initial period of one year, with the possibility to extend this to two years dependant on the role’s success

PERSON SPECIFICATION Qualifications, knowledge, skills and experience		
Minimum level of qualifications required for this role		
Qualifications Required	Subject	Essential/ Desirable
Educated to degree level in a relevant field	Professional qualification in health, education, criminal justice, social care or equivalent work experience.	Essential
Minimum levels of knowledge, skills and experience required for this job		
Identify	Describe	Essential/ Desirable
Knowledge		
Extensive experience of safeguarding adults via social care, health, police, voluntary or academic sectors.	Statutory knowledge spanning different agencies in the wider adults' workforce	Essential
Knowledge and understanding of relevant legislation, research, inspection regimes and sector led improvement activity including the Care Act 2014 and supporting guidance.	Statutory knowledge spanning different agencies in the wider adults' workforce	Essential
Demonstrate good understanding of safeguarding and the safe working practices that apply to this role.	Ability to work in a way that promotes the safety and well-being of adults at risk of harm and abuse.	Essential
A good knowledge of the Data Protection Act and information sharing.	Application of GDPR within the context of adults' safeguarding across different agencies	Desirable
Skills		
Significant and demonstrable evidence of chairing/facilitation skills within complex multi-agency arenas.	This will include facilitating meetings staff from various levels within organisations, from senior leaders to operational teams.	Essential
A proven track record of having influenced and negotiated successfully across agencies, disciplines, and sectors.	The level of negotiating skills will be extensive and at demonstrable.	Desirable

Ability and determination to hold agencies to account for shortfalls in agreed standards of safeguarding practice.	Ensuring that agencies are accountable for their practice – at case level, through to systemic, strategic leadership changes.	Essential
Experience of supporting and advising a multi-agency partnership on how to resolve professional disagreements.	Maintenance on achieving positive outcomes for adults whilst managing different agencies' agendas.	Essential
High level of communication skills including: interpersonal, presentation, media relations, and maintaining a positive public and professional profile.	Ability to manage news / hold press conferences to include managing national media interest & communication with central government (departments & ministers)	Essential
Good level of experience in the use of technology to support day to day working practice.	Ability to make good use of a computer/laptop without the need for support.	Essential
Experience		
Experience of independent scrutiny and quality assurance functions.	Ensuring that agencies are accountable for their practice – at case level, through to systemic, strategic leadership changes.	Essential
Proven experience and/or background of effective involvement at both an operational and strategic level	Senior responsibility in an associated partner agency (wider adults' workforce)	Essential
Experience of working at a strategic level within a multi-disciplinary context.	Senior leadership responsibility in an associated partner agency (wider adult's workforce)	Desirable
Proven track record of a robust and effective approach to performance management that has improved outcomes in a multi-agency environment.	Ensuring positive outcomes are achieved through quality assurance and challenge processes	Essential
Experience of developing and maintaining strong professional relationships.	Ensuring positive outcomes are identified through quality assurance and challenge processes across differing agencies in the wider adults' workforce	Essential
Experience of involving the wider community in consultation including contributing to strategic plans and developments.	Ensuring the voice of adults are at the heart of practice improvement	Essential
Equal opportunities	Ability to demonstrate awareness/understanding of equal opportunities and other people's behaviour, physical, social and welfare needs	Essential