We love social workers

Yes, we know that's a bold statement to make. But join our children's social care team in locations around Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and you'll quickly find out we mean it.

Our social workers do all they can to make the lives of our children and families better and enjoy the challenge that every day brings.

Make the move – we offer a salary between £31,371 - £42,603, a relocation package of up to £8,000 – and you'll benefit from generous annual holidays, an excellent pension scheme, flexible working, and plenty of opportunities for training and career progression.

But most importantly you will be part of a team that will have your back.

If you are interested in several of our Children Social Worker opportunities please complete a quick application form using the ‘Apply online now’ button. Shortly after you’ve applied we will be in touch, to discuss your particular interests further.

Alternatively if you are targeting just one of the specific vacancies advertised below, please click on the individual link to apply.

Current vacancies

We aren't what you might think typical local government organisations looks like. We understand the work you do on a
daily basis and we provide the support you need to make a difference to the residents of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

**Our Teams**

We currently have openings in a range of teams across both Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council.

### Assessment Teams

There are Assessment Teams based in both Authorities, which are fast paced, lively and interesting and would ideally suit Social Workers who are proactive and adaptable, and who have a passion for ensuring that Children and Families in our area receive a positive and timely first experience of our service. The Teams complete Section 17 Child and Family Assessments and carry out S47 investigations, with cases transferring at initial Child in Need meeting or Child Protection Conference. The work is immensely rich and varied day-to-day and allows for a high level of multi-agency working often to tight timelines. As well as Social Workers, each Assessment Team has a Team Manager, Senior Practitioners and Children's Advice and Information Officers.

There are teams in each part of the area, so there are six bases to choose from when considering a role. We would expect Social Workers in these Teams to have a passion for providing the right service at the right time, and the skills and knowledge to assess threshold for proportionate intervention well. We would expect Social Workers to have a keen appreciation of and the ability to meet statutory timescales throughout all of their work, as well as value the importance of developing effective relationships with children and their families. The Teams would welcome positive, friendly, practical people from a diverse range of backgrounds to join us and thrive in this exciting and rewarding setting.

**Apply online now**

### Family Safeguarding and Children's Teams

Family Safeguarding is the new practice model in Peterborough that has received such positive national coverage and the recognition of the Department for Education. The Government is now rolling out the model across the country and Cambridgeshire is the next LA to introduce it in the New Year. We are currently building our teams to support the innovative multi-disciplinary model, and there are roles across the area as in Assessment.

The Teams manage complex caseloads of Child in Need, Children in need of Protection, Public Law Outline and care proceedings, focusing on children up to 12. They will all use a Motivational Interviewing approach where workers will act in partnership with children and their families to achieve sustainable change and improved outcomes for children. They are supported in this by a multi-disciplinary team that includes adult mental health workers, drug and alcohol recovery workers, and adult domestic abuse workers, and a bespoke intervention model. This is an exciting and creative time in the social work in these teams, and we would welcome applications from a diverse range of workers to enhance our existing workforce.

**Apply online now**

### Adolescent Team

This team bring together services for young people including those who are homeless, experience mental ill health, family...
breakdown and are vulnerable to exploitation including criminal and sexual exploitation. It tends to work with young people over the age of 13. The team follows the ‘single trusted adult principle’, which means they provide staff to young people from within the service, so that they can remain under their care through all the various processes involved in Complex Safeguarding and Child Protection. The team is made up of social workers and alternatively qualified staff, who work together to achieve positive well-being and safety for adolescents across the area. The team has bases in Ely, Cambridge, Huntingdon and Wisbech. We would welcome applications from a diverse range of workers to enhance our existing workforce.

**Apply online now**

[https://cambridgeshire-self.achieveservice.com/service/Apply_for_a_social_care_role](https://cambridgeshire-self.achieveservice.com/service/Apply_for_a_social_care_role)

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### Children in Care Teams

These teams work with children of all ages that are in care. They may be finding adoptive placements for them, or supporting long term fostering plans. There will also be some complex young people in residential care, and a group that we are supporting to return home to family members. Workers will need to have excellent skills in direct work with children and young people, and be committed to robust and timely permanence planning for all these children. We are highly aspirational for our children in care, and would expect workers promote good health, educational achievement and developing positive relationships as the key foundations to a successful future. Teams consist of a Team Manager, Senior Practitioner, Social Workers and Personal Advisor. We would welcome applications from a diverse range of workers to enhance our existing workforce, and continue the work to promote positive outcomes for young people. These teams are located in Wisbech, Cambridge, Ely and Peterborough. We would welcome applications from a diverse range of workers to enhance our existing workforce.

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### Leaving Care Team

The teams work with young people aged between 18-25 (Cambridgeshire) and 16-25 (Peterborough), who have previously been in local authority care. The teams are supportive and committed to providing positive outcomes for young people, and are strong advocates for our young people. Workers hold a caseload of young people with differing levels of need and support in terms of housing, education, emotional and mental health and budgeting. Good quality Pathway Plans are key to the achievement of the ambitious plans we have for our young people, and workers will be expected to complete in full partnership with the young person concerned. The teams include a Team Manager, Senior Practitioner, Social Workers and Personal Advisors, and are based in Ely and Peterborough. We would welcome applications from a diverse range of workers to enhance our existing workforce.

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### Unaccompanied Care Team (Cambridgeshire)

The Unaccompanied Care Team supports Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASCs) that enter the UK and arrive in Cambridgeshire or that are part of the National Transfer Scheme. We work with Children in Care and Care Leavers between the ages of 14 and 24 years, and are committed to treating these young people as children first and asylum seekers second, regardless of their immigration status. The main aim of our team is to ensure that these young people are given the opportunity to settle and grow within the UK, given the space to begin to recover from the trauma that they have experienced, and ensure they are able to access services such as health and education.

The Team has two bases in Wisbech and Cambridge. The team consists of a Team Manager, a Senior Practitioner, Social Workers and
Personal Advisors. Our Team wants social workers who are passionate about supporting unaccompanied asylum seeking children who are often the most vulnerable young people within the UK. We want social workers who are empathetic and sensitive in their approach, whilst being committed to achieving positive outcomes for the young people. We would welcome applications from a diverse range of workers to enhance our existing workforce.

Apply online now (https://cambridgeshire-self.achieveservice.com/service/Apply_for_a_social_care_role)

Disability Team (Children's) Cambridgeshire

The team supports disabled children across the county, ensuring that the statutory duties and responsibilities of social care are met within legislative frameworks. This includes Assessments, Reviews, Planning, Child Protection and Safeguarding. All support and services provided are understood within the family’s natural and community resources. The service is made up of five social work teams, of which one team specifically meets the needs of eligible Disabled or Autistic (with EHCP) young people between the ages of 18-25. Each team is made up of a Team Manager, Senior Practitioners, Social Workers and Child Practitioners (for the 0-18 service). The team has bases in Cambridge, Huntingdon, St Ives and Wisbech. We would welcome applications from a diverse range of workers to enhance our existing workforce.

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0 - 25 Service (Children and Young Adults with Disabilities) Peterborough

The 0-25 Service provides services to children and young people with disabilities from age 0 to 25 and their families. The service is part of the Adult Social Care Directorate but continues to have strong links with Children's Social Care. The Service has two team managers with one leading on Children’s activity and one on transitions/preparation for adulthood. The service ensures that statutory duties and responsibilities of social care are met within legislative frameworks. This includes Assessments, Reviews, Planning, and Safeguarding. Each team is made up of Senior Practitioners, Social Workers and both Adult and Child Practitioners.

Flexible person centred services and support are integral within the team’s practice offering children, their families and young people more choice and control. Through the use of assessments, planning and intervention the team are able to provide a continuous, consistent and appropriate service for the children and young people. Young people are supported into appropriate housing with care options, employment, education and day time occupation options. The team is based in Peterborough. We would welcome applications from a diverse range of workers to enhance our existing workforce.

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Fostering Service (Cambridgeshire)

The Fostering service provides a range of fostering placement options. This includes short term, long term, respite, supported lodgings, short breaks for disabled children, kinship and connected persons as well as Special Guardianship placements. We also approve and oversee Private Fostering Placements as well as provide PACE foster care to support young people who have been arrested and processed by the police.

The fostering service approves foster carers to look after children aged 0-18 years. Many of the children placed have experienced difficulties including abuse or neglect before being fostered. Some children and young people present with very challenging behaviour, special needs or complex health conditions. It does this by assessing, registering, supervising, supporting and training a
wide range of carers with a range of skills to offer the diverse placements needed by Cambridgeshire’s Children in Care.

This is a really exciting time to join the service as we are continuing to develop and grow our service and to aspire to providing excellent fostering provision to Cambridgeshire children and an excellent and competitive offer to our valued foster carers. We would welcome applications from a diverse range of workers to enhance our existing workforce.

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Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

The Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub is based at Chord Park, and sits as part of the Integrated Front Door Services, which includes the Out of Hours service, the Missing, Exploited and Trafficked Hub (MET HUB) and the Early Help Hub. It works across both Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Authorities.

The team undertakes MASH enquiries on referrals concerning children and their families, to establish whether the threshold is met for statutory intervention or whether early help is a more appropriate intervention. As a social worker in MASH you would lead on the MASH enquiry supporting the Advice and Information Officers and collating the multi-agency information to complete an analysis and recommendation as to what level of intervention is required. The team is made up of Team Managers, senior practitioners, qualified social workers and Children Information and Advice Officers. If you like to build up rapport with families to better understand their needs, enjoy working in a multi-agency environment gathering and analysing information and are motivated and passionate about considering the impact on the child’s lived experience then the MASH is the place for you. We would welcome applications from a diverse range of workers to enhance our existing workforce.

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If you like the sound of moving to an authority where social workers are truly valued and challenged, please apply below or get in touch with us today by calling Caroline on 01354 750325 or by emailing [email protected].

Oh, and if you’re wondering whether Cambridgeshire and Peterborough really does love its social workers, we’ll arrange for you to speak to a member of our team to see if our boldness is justified.

Trailblazing authorities

Cambridgeshire County Council has recently been named as a ‘trailblazing authority’ in the national roll out of an innovative approach to children’s social care—backed by a share of a £84m Department for Education (DfE) funding package.
Cambridgeshire will take a leading national role in supporting the Government’s nationwide roll out of Family Safeguarding - an approach that improves outcomes for vulnerable children and young people by involving multi-disciplinary teams in children’s social care, and which builds on work which has been underway in Peterborough for the last two years.

Families in Peterborough have welcomed the approach which has been in place for two years, saying that the support that they have been offered has been much better at helping them to address their challenges and make positive changes – and it has been instrumental in keeping more children living safely with their own families in the city.