



Candidate Information Pack

**Somerset
Council**

Somerset Supporter - Community Support Worker

Children's Social Care

SCC04414/SR

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If you are interested in finding out more before applying, please get in touch with
Taunton Area – **Fiona Hennessy** on 07811313001, \
Sedgemoor Area – **Tracey Searle** on 07919540109,
South Somerset – **Karrina Pittard** on 07855 2866681,
South Somerset & Mendip – **Nicki Frost** on 07976693273

If you have any questions about the benefits we offer, or our recruitment process, please contact our Recruitment Team on recruitment@somerset.gov.uk or telephone on **01823 355596**

We will notify you by email if you have been selected for interview or have been unsuccessful on this occasion. Please check that the automated email has not gone in your junk mail folder before contacting us.

When completing your application/CV please provide your full employment history and ensure that any gaps in employment are explained. Please start with your current or most recent employment.

What You Will Be Good At

Work Experience Knowledge & Skills

Essential

- Experience of dealing with children personally and/or professionally
- Ability to speak fluent English as stated in Part 7 of the Immigration Act (2016)

Desirable

- Experience of children with disabilities.
- Experience of work in the care industry.

Qualifications

Essential

- Evidence of learning

Desirable

- Child related vocational training

Personal Attributes

Essential

- Available to work evenings/weekends
- Able to attend training.
- Able to demonstrate empathy
- The ability to travel is necessary to carry out the role therefore access to / use of a vehicle is an essential requirement
- Honesty
- Self reliance
- Diplomacy
- Reliability
- Flexibility
- Resilience

Desirable

All disabled applicants meeting the essential criteria will be interviewed.



What You Will Deliver

Key tasks and responsibilities

The Somerset Supporters Service aims to provide children / young person with a disability the opportunity to enjoy new experiences and develop independence skills, whilst accessing their local community, groups and clubs. Support also provides parents/carers with a break from their caring role.

Main Duties & Responsibilities:

We are looking for caring people with a professional attitude, to provide help and support to children and young people up to the age of 18 with learning and/or physical difficulties throughout the County.

Each area of the County maintains a register of sessional workers, employed on casual contracts, to work with families in which at least one child has a physical or learning disability which has a significant influence on their daily lives.

This service to families is known as the Somerset Supporters Scheme. The aim of the scheme is to provide parents/carers with a break from their caring role, whilst allowing the children/young person the opportunity to enjoy new experiences and develop independence in line with their individual care plans.

A Somerset supporter coordinator, who is a professional member of the Children Social care service, administers the scheme.

Main Tasks:

1. To provide support to families by linking with an individual child to provide care in the home or access to community resources.
2. To establish and maintain good standards of practice working with families and professional colleagues.
3. To establish and maintain high standards of care to meet the physical, emotional and social needs to the child/young person.
4. To maintain procedures considered important to the health, safety and welfare of the child/young person and to adhere to the agreed County policy and practice in these areas.
5. To participate in appropriate training as required.

Job Activities:

Somerset Supporters report to a Somerset supporter coordinator for professional support. The specific duties carried out will depend on individual contracts with the families. Typical examples of the work to be carried out are as follows:

1. To support a disabled child/young person in their own home by providing supervision and recreational/play activities, as appropriate.
2. To accompany a disabled child/young person in the community, providing support in accessing swimming, sports, youth club activities etc.
3. To initiate activities to enhance the child/young person's social skills and independence e.g. going shopping. This will be in line with the child/young person's individual care plan.
4. To provide assistance with a disabled child in family activities within the home or on family outings.
5. To liaise with their Somerset Support Coordinator, Family Intervention Workers and Social Workers in the Disability Teams as required regarding the work undertaken.
6. To carry out other duties or responsibilities as specified in individual contracts.

Further information specific to this job

The successful candidate has a responsibility for promoting and safeguarding the welfare of the children and young people they are responsible for or come into contact with.

Somerset Council is subject to Part 7 of the Immigration Act (2016) and therefore the ability to speak fluent English will be an essential requirement for customer-facing roles.

This job requires a criminal background check (DBS) via the disclosure procedure.

	What We Will Offer You in Return
Salary and grade:	Grade 14 - £10.98 per hour Appointments are normally made at the bottom of the salary scale.
Contract type:	Casual/sessional
Location:	Somerset
Hours of work:	As required with a minimum of 4 hours per month. The hours of work will be in agreement with the line manager.
Annual leave:	Casual staff will accrue rights to paid leave and your hourly rate will be enhanced to automatically include payment in respect of this leave entitlement. Please note that this is only payable for hours up to 37 per week and is paid on the current "basic" rate per hour. Overtime hours and any other enhancements will not attract this additional payment. You will be expected to take a minimum of four weeks leave per year (1 April – 31 March). As your hourly rate is already enhanced with a payment for annual leave, these four weeks will be unpaid.
Probationary period:	The appointment will be subject to a probationary period of 6 months. Internal applicants who have already completed their probationary period would not normally be expected to complete this again.



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