

Cardiff Council Recruitment Pack

Director Children's Services

This document is available in Welsh/
Mae'r ddogfen hon ar gael yn Gymraeg



Letter from the Leader



Dear Applicant

Thank you for your interest in this exciting and challenging role.

There has never been a greater need for integration across public services than now. In the face of the Covid-19 pandemic, the response from public, private and third sectors partners in Cardiff has been genuinely inspiring. We have supported our citizens and provided solutions to rapidly emerging challenges across organisational boundaries, building on strong existing foundations.

The Council's commitment to work "across the public services in order to deliver lasting solutions to complex problems" has led to real progress over recent years with a focus on integrated service development designed around the needs of the child, family and community. The ambition for Cardiff to become an internationally recognised Child Friendly City has led to the development of a shared vision and a clear set of goals and actions that the Council and partners will deliver together. We aim to make a lasting difference in the areas that are a priority for children and young people and to ensure that we make child rights a reality for all.

We now want to take the next step towards the delivery of a whole system approach; aligning statutory and non-statutory services to integrate services to meet the full spectrum of need at the right time and in the right place.

The new post of Director, Children's Services will be responsible for delivering excellence in the way the Council supports and protects vulnerable children and families, keeping children safe and ensuring that they thrive. The opportunity to integrate a wide range of essential care, accommodation, support and advice services has never been clearer. Leadership across professional boundaries and the ability to deliver change will be crucial. You will be able to simplify complex structures, bring together assessment processes and redesign services to meet need holistically and efficiently. You will also make a crucial senior-level contribution towards enabling the Council – and Cardiff more broadly – to respond positively to fundamental challenges, formulating a cohesive cross-council approach to the development of a change agenda that is vital to the Council's reputation, service delivery role and financial resilience.

The post-holder will also have overarching managerial responsibility for a net revenue budget in the region of £65m, and will be joining an experienced, talented and committed corporate Senior Management Team providing the professional leadership needed to deliver the administration's Capital Ambition agenda. It is an exciting opportunity.

We invite you to take up the challenge with us.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Huw Thomas'.

Councillor Huw Thomas
Leader of the Council





CARDIFF COUNCIL

Director, Children's Services **Salary of £130,859 per annum**

This is an exciting opportunity to work in a vibrant and diverse city and to be part of a dynamic senior management team. In return, we ask you to bring excellent leadership and communication skills, plus the passion and experience to deliver efficient, innovative, partnership-focused services to take both of us to the next level.

You will provide strategic leadership and direction on the integration of services provided to vulnerable children and families across Cardiff, including the provision of analysis and robust advice to Cabinet Members and Councillors on the best options and methods to deliver relevant aspects of the administration's Capital Ambition commitments and the Council's Corporate Plan.

The role requires an individual who is a qualified social worker and able to lead strategic and transformational change in public service delivery, which ensures the effective and efficient implementation of the Council's strategic choices and achieves continually improving outcomes in the lives of people within Cardiff.

This is an excellent opportunity to become part of a senior management team in a large and diverse leading public organisation within the capital city of Wales. To support our citizens and communities, we have over 15,000 employees delivering over 700 individual services to over 350,000 residents.

Are you ready to play a part in Cardiff's future?

The total salary is **£130,859** per annum.

If you are ready for this challenging but rewarding role, you can apply [here](#).

For a confidential discussion, please contact Sarah McGill, Corporate Director, People & Communities on (029) XXXX

Closing Date: XXXX 2020 at 11.59pm

This vacancy is suitable for post share.

We welcome applications in both English and Welsh.

Note: The selection process for this role will involve initially an Assessment Centre, with shortlisted candidates being invited back for interview. It is envisaged that the Assessment Centre and interview processes will take place during January 2021.



Role Profile



Role Title	Director, Children's Services
Ref	
Grade	Director Spot Salary
Primary Purpose of Role	<p>To provide strategic analysis and robust advice to Cabinet, Scrutiny Committees and the Council regarding the best options and methods to deliver relevant aspects of the Council's Corporate Plan; also to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of the Cabinet's strategic choices with a focus on achieving continually improving outcomes in the field of Children's Services.</p> <p>To embrace the Corporate priorities across the Council and be part of a cohesive Corporate team.</p> <p>To ensure compliance with the requirements of the Social Services and Wellbeing (Wales) Act 2014 and all relevant legislation and guidance in the delivery of Children's Services.</p> <p>To develop integrated public service responses for Children and Young People to meet identified need and in accordance with the Council's commitment for Cardiff to become a UNICEF child-friendly city.</p>
Key Accountabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To translate the Council's stated vision and priorities into a set of aligned and effective strategies for Children's Services • To provide high-quality advice and insight for the Cabinet Members and Councillors regarding the most effective and efficient models for delivering the relevant corporate priorities and responding to emerging needs • To take a lead role in the formation and on-going development of deep-rooted strategic partnerships and relationships that will place Cardiff's Children's Services at the forefront of service delivery nationally • To ensure and promote the application of all safeguarding policies and associated processes and procedures • To identify and make the most of existing and potential synergies across the work of the Council's Children's Services and other Council services, plus those of partner organisations • To take a lead role in optimising the use of the Council's resources by creatively using risk-managed partnerships and collaborations to best deliver the key services needed by the people of Cardiff and the wider region





	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To accurately advise the Corporate Director, Chief Executive, Cabinet Members, Scrutiny Committees, and Councillors how and where to make efficiencies or investment in Children's Services that will best serve the people of Cardiff and the wider region • To assess the strategic impact of shifting service demands in a diverse urban context, against a backdrop of significant financial pressures and an overarching commitment to the provision of improving standards, and to advise the Cabinet Members and Councillors of all of the options (including innovative responses) and associated implications • To lead a management team; creating, implementing, monitoring and reviewing the performance of Children's Services and ensuring that significantly improved outcomes in the lives of service users are secured • To promote and lead a culture that realises Cardiff's Capital Ambition vision and aspirations to become a child-friendly city • To scan the external context and to advise the Cabinet Members how to position the portfolio for emerging changes, challenges and opportunities • There is a requirement for the post holder to be a qualified social worker
<p>Areas of Responsibility</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children's Social Services • Youth Justice Services including Youth Offending Service • Young Carers • Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub • Children's safeguarding including responsibility as chair for regional child safeguarding • A wide range of partnership and cross sector working to deliver more integrated person centred services
<p>Types of Measures of Success</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continually improving outcomes particularly in the lives of Children and Young People in Cardiff and the wider region • Achievement of Corporate priorities for the Children's Services portfolio • Effective management of resources – improvement of portfolio performance, whilst achieving required financial savings • Satisfaction of Councillors in relation to the professional advice, strategic options and service delivery



Role Profile



When preparing your written application you will need to provide evidence only for the competencies identified with an asterisk. These are the essential competencies for your written application. In responding to each of the essential competency areas, you must provide examples which demonstrate how you have successfully delivered results of a size, scope and complexity comparable to the challenges faced by Cardiff Council. These and the remaining competencies will be assessed during the remaining stages of the recruitment process.

Behavioural Competencies	Application Stage	Competency Level(s)
Putting Our Customers First	*	5
Getting Things Done	*	5
Taking Personal Responsibility	*	5
Seeking to Understand Others		5
Developing Potential		5
Leading Change	*	5
Initiating Change and Improvement	*	5
Organisational Awareness		5
Partnering and Corporate Working	*	5
Communicating		5
Analysing , Problem Solving and Decision Making		5
Equality & Diversity		5
Optimising Resources	*	5
Demonstrating Political Acumen		5





PRINCIPAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SERVICE APPOINTMENT OF DIRECTOR, CHILDREN'S SERVICES

1. CONTRACT

This is a permanent appointment.

2. CONDITIONS

Conditions of service will be in accordance with the Joint Negotiating Committee for Chief Officers of Local Authorities as adopted by the County Council from time to time, plus any other conditions or regulations determined by the Council from time to time in consultation with the recognised trade unions.

3. SALARY

The total spot salary for this post is **£130,859** per annum. National pay awards in accordance with the JNC for Chief Officers of Local Authorities will be applied subject to Council approval.

4. PERFORMANCE APPRAISAL

There will be an annual process of performance appraisal linked to the setting and achievement of the responsibilities and accountabilities of the job; and identifying any continuing personal development needs to maintain a high level of performance. The process is separate from any scheme relating to either pay or performance related pay.

5. ANNUAL LEAVE

Annual leave will be 27 days for employees with less than 5 years continuous service, and 32 days for employees with more than 5 years continuous service. You will also be entitled to 8 bank holidays.

6. HOURS OF WORK

The job of Director, Children's Services cannot be satisfactorily undertaken within a fixed working week and some element of unsocial hours will be required for the proper performance of the responsibilities. The inclusive salary scale for the appointment reflects the need to work in addition to and outside normal office hours.

7. SICK PAY

Occupational Sick Pay Scheme will be in accordance with the JNC for Chief Officers' Conditions of Service.

8. PENSION

Local Government Pension Scheme. An opting out notice is available from the Pension Section.

9. POLITICAL RESTRICTION

This post is politically restricted in accordance with the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 (as amended by Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009).



Terms & Conditions



10. CAR LOAN SCHEME

You are eligible for a loan (which is not a taxable benefit) under the Council's scheme.

11. CAR MILEAGE ALLOWANCE

HMRC rate of 45 pence per mile will apply.

12. SMOKING

The Council has a no smoking policy.

13. FLEXIBILITY AND MOBILITY CLAUSE

As a term of your employment you may be required to undertake such other duties and/or times of work as may reasonably be required of you commensurate with your grade or general level of responsibility within the organisation, at your initial place of work or at or from any other of the Council's establishments.

14. SATISFACTORY MEDICAL REPORT

A satisfactory medical report is required from the Council's Medical Adviser on initial appointment to the Council.

15. NOTICE PERIODS

This will normally be three months in writing on either side but this can be changed by mutual agreement.

16. RESTRICTIONS ON RE-EMPLOYMENT

Certain restrictions apply after termination of employment. These relate to not divulging confidential information. Also within 12 months not taking up employment or providing services for reward to a body in the circumstances outlined in the conditions of service, without the consent of the Council which will not unreasonably be withheld. These provisions do not apply if the termination is as a result of redundancy or externalisation of work and a consequent transfer to a new employer.

