



Job Profile and Working for Stockport

Our Council

Our employees are our **greatest asset**. We're proud of the way we provide vital frontline services every day and work together, as **one team**.

Our 4 **core values** as shown above, run through everything that we do, and we aim to stay **true** to them regardless of the challenges that we may face.

To **support** our values, we have policies, guidance and procedures around health, safety and welfare, customer care, emergency planning and security that all our **colleagues** are adhering and working to.

We also **pride** ourselves on our commitment to wellbeing and inclusivity of our colleagues and residents.

You can find out more about working for Stockport Council and some of the benefits that we offer our employees at <https://greater.jobs/locations/stockport/>





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About the Job

Role:	Education Lawyer
Service Area:	Legal Services
Directorate:	Corporate and Support Services
Salary Grade:	MB 4

Main Purpose of the Job

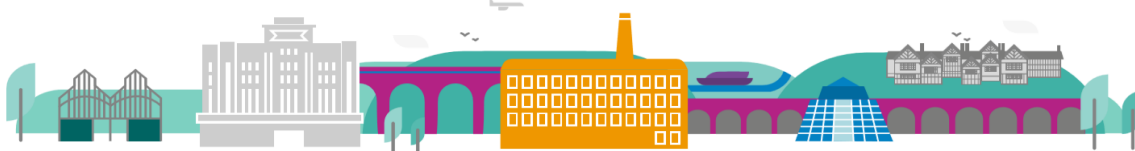
The successful applicant will take on a key role within the Litigation team. You will ideally have a strong background in Special Educational Needs (SEN) & Education law gained within a Local Authority and be able to provide high quality legal advice to the Council's Education and SEN Teams and to schools relating to areas including:

- SEN matters including SENDIST appeals.
- Education law generally, including the preparation of policies and guidance
- Schools Organisation
- Judicial Review

This also requires advocacy in courts, tribunals and advice.

Key Responsibilities

- Advising on and dealing with SENDIST appeals to conclusion
 - Dealing with challenges in relation to provision, placement and the LA's refusal to carry out an assessment of a child's special educational needs.
 - Advising on suitable placements in respect of a child's special educational needs.
 - Supporting Education Welfare in respect of non-school attendance cases
 - Undertaking advocacy and representing the Council in court
 - Dealing with claims for Judicial Review
 - Dealing with complaints, including those referred to the Ombudsman
 - Supporting the client teams with responding to requests for information
 - Dealing with client enquiries relating to EHCP and SEND matters
 - Advising the LA and schools on all Education law matters
 - Assisting in the review of policies
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- To work positively and inclusively with colleagues and customers so that the Council provides a workplace to deliver a service that does not discriminate against people



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on the grounds of their age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage, civil partnership, pregnancy, maternity, race, religion, belief, sex, or sexual orientation.

- To fulfil personal requirements, where appropriate, with regards to Council policies and procedures, standards of attendance, health, safety and welfare, customer care, emergency, evacuation, security and promotion of the Council's priorities.

Setting Direction

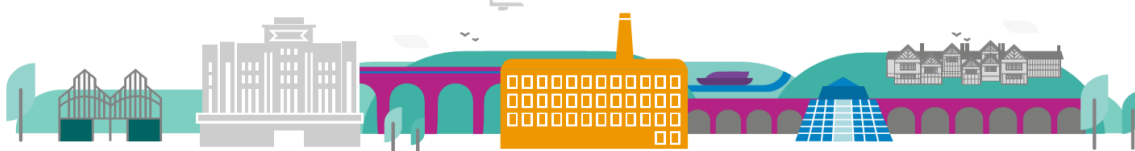
- Comply and ensure compliance with the Council's policies and procedures.
- Provide tactical direction and leadership across the Corporate and Support Services Directorate ("CSS") and within a specialist area to establish and maintain a culture of teamwork, achievement, accountability and outcome focus.

Engaging People

- Deliver excellent customer service and effective client management, in order to understand, reflect and manage the expectations of customers and the reputation of CSS.
- Foster and maintain positive relationships with key stakeholders to facilitate effective contract and relationship management and achieve the most appropriate and desirable outcomes for the organisation.
- Deliver excellent customer service and effective client management, in order to reflect and manage the expectations of customers and the reputation CSS.
- Work collaboratively within CSS, across the Council and with partner organisations at all levels in order to maximise performance levels and operational efficiencies.
- Manage change effectively, working with colleagues in response to external drivers, resolving complex issues and ensure that CSS remains fit for purpose now and in the future.
- Recognise and respond to the political environment and expectations, addressing any sensitivity and taking an appropriate view of service priorities and requirements.

Delivering Results

- Support employees at all levels in the elimination of duplication and other inefficiencies across CSS in order to maximise the use of resources and achieve budget targets.
- Contribute to the key aims and objectives of the organisation, both within the post holder's specific remit, across the section and Council as a whole.



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- Personal Health and Safety in the workplace.

Additional Information

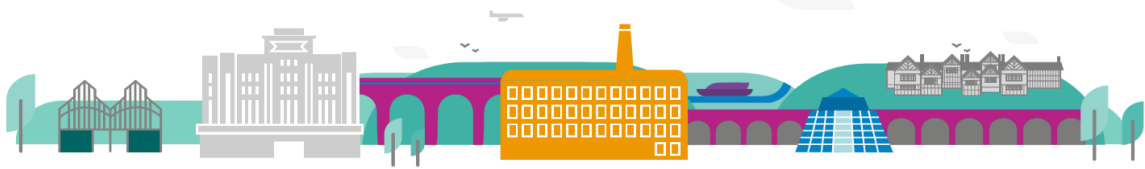
The responsibilities set out in this document, in the advert and any additional information are intended to provide a flavour of the work you will carry out. It is not possible to include everything you will be asked to undertake, and we expect all colleagues to work flexibly according to business needs and to enhance your own development. Your skills, abilities and training needs will be taken into account and discussed with you when any significant changes to your role are needed. In line with our flexible approach you may be required to work from home for a proportion of your time or from any of the Council's sites across the borough.

The Council is an inclusive employer and holds the Disability Confident and Armed Forces Covenant accreditations. If you have a disability, we will support you by implementing reasonable adjustments to enable you to perform your role.

About You

Please use your application to tell us how well you meet the criteria listed below as these are the key skills, experience, technical expertise and qualifications needed to be successful in the role. We will then use all the information you provide in your application to help us decide whether you are shortlisted for interview. Any interview questions or additional assessments such as tests or presentations may also be broadly based on these criteria:

- Working to the Council's values and behaviours by:
 - Keeping the people of **Stockport** at the heart of what we do
 - Succeeding as a **team**, collaborating with colleagues and partners
 - Driving things forward with **ambition**, creativity and confidence
 - Showing value and **respect** to our colleagues, partners and customers.
- Able to provide a copy of a current Practising Certificate or equivalent qualification entitling you to practise law in England & Wales (Barristers and Institute of Legal Executives are considered suitably qualified) demonstrating at least 2 years' post admission experience (Essential)
- Experience of SEN related law and practice (Essential)
- Experience of Education law related advice (Essential)
- Experience of public and administrative law (Essential)
- Experience of local government (Desirable)
- Strong analytical skills with the ability to quickly establish key issues (Essential)
- Effective oral and written communication skills with a confident presentational style (Essential)
- Experience of working with a range of internal and external stakeholders to work collaboratively (Essential)



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- CPD requirements of relevant professional body up to date (Essential)