

compass

jobs fair

Shared Futures in Social Work Event Programme

25 November 2024

Marriott Hotel, Grosvenor Square
www.compassjobsfair.com
9.30am - 4.30pm

CPD sponsor



Media Partner



www.compassjobsfair.com

tel: 01892 784804

Retain as supporting evidence for your CPD



MISSING HEIRS, WILLS, DOCUMENTS & ASSETS FOUND WORLDWIDE

Come and see
us at stand 13 at
COMPASS Jobs Fair for
service information,
free giveaways, and a
chance to enter our
prize draw!



Free Next of Kin Tracing Service



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Photographs

Photographs are taken throughout the day. These will be used in promotional materials for future events. Attendance at the event signifies acceptance of this use.

Would your organisation like to exhibit next year?

To reserve an exhibition stand for next year's event, please speak to one of the team at the COMPASS stand and we will be able to discuss your requirements.



Children's Social Work roles

**Right team
Right time
Right place**

jobs.kent.gov.uk/were-recruiting/childrens-social-work-roles



Adult Social Work roles

**Making a
difference
every day**

jobs.kent.gov.uk/were-recruiting/adult-social-care-roles



Register your
interest in KCC
social work roles

Contact one of our specialist advisors for friendly advice and support
on **0331 6309541** or by email: socialcarerecruitment@kent.gov.uk



We want to be a place where people work together to transform the lives of children, adults, families, and residents

Be part of our future in Hounslow



Hounslow is a place where people work together to transform the lives of all our communities. We have an excellent career development pathway and are committed to our 'grow your own' policy.

To find out more about Hounslow, career pathways and current opportunities please follow the QR codes.



Opportunities for professionals working with children



Opportunities for professionals working with adults

Visit us on Stand 12

ONE HOUNSLOW

CPD sponsor

Welcome to the Shared Futures in Social Work conference

Attend seminars by London Borough of Hounslow as part of the Shared Futures in Social Work conference:

Supporting safe hospital discharge
10.00-10.40
Seminar Room 1

Exploring the impact of intersectionality, disability, and social work: Understanding and addressing the complex needs of marginalized groups
11.20-12.00
Seminar Room 2

Extra-familial exploitation of adolescents: Recognizing and responding to risk factors
12.40-1.20
Seminar Room 5

The power of language in social work: Challenging jargon and building connections
2.00-2.40
Seminar Room 1

London Borough of Hounslow are delighted to be sponsoring the Shared Futures in Social Work conference and its CPD offering, including a range of sessions and workshops designed to tell you about innovative practice in Hounslow and across the UK.

A community of communities

Bordering with Richmond, Ealing, and Heathrow Airport in Hillingdon, the borough boasts some of the most historic and biodiverse open spaces in London and a diverse population that ensures an incredible selection of specialist shops and cuisines from around the world.

We are proud that Hounslow is a real community of communities and one of the most culturally diverse areas in the UK. Over 250,000 people live in the borough. Hounslow was in 2021 recognised and named the best Council in the country for consistently delivering high quality services and making significant improvements to the lives of its residents.

Social work in Hounslow

Social work in Hounslow is underpinned by a culture of systemic and strengths-based practice with high quality relationships at the heart of what we do. As you will see from

our four seminars as part of the conference, our children's and adults' services are strongly linked, with specialist services connected to children with special educational needs and disabilities and a clear focus on developing Early Help services and Family Hubs, furthering our commitment to community-based and accessible support.

Our latest Ofsted assessment highlighted improvements made to our children's services, with all categories now rated "Good" or "Outstanding". Whether you're considering joining our children's or adults' services, we offer a structured career path with ongoing support, supervision and training.

Come and work for us

We hope you will visit our stand at the event today, or take the opportunity to talk to our friendly staff and hear first-hand what working in Hounslow is really like.

If you want to come and be part of our future in Hounslow, there has never been a better time to join us.

Visit London Borough of Hounslow on Stand 12 to find out more





Byw, dysgu, gweithio, chwarae ym Mhowys
Live, learn, work, play in Powys



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gwahaniaeth
i fywydau
plant,
pobl ifanc
ac oedolion
yng nghalon
Canolbarth Cymru

make a
difference
to the lives
of children,
young people
and adults
in the heart of
Mid-Wales

Ymunwch â'n tîm cefnogol

Join our supportive team



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[@PCCvacancies](#)

[@PCCJobs](#)



Visitor information

We're here to help

You can find the COMPASS team on Stand 18 in the Exhibition Hall, where we can assist you with any questions relating to this and future events. You are invited to network and unwind at our wine reception at 4pm, when you can also collect your CPD certificate.

The Social Work Social – 4pm

After a full day of speaking to exhibitors and attending seminars, you've earned a drink! Why not join us for a free wine or soft drink in the Catering Area at 4pm to discuss the day's learning with other visitors and exhibitors?

Food and drink

Refreshments will be available throughout the day. Coffee will be supplied by 'The Barista' in the Exhibition Hall, made complimentary by event organisers COMPASS as a thank you for all the hard work you do.

There is also no need to leave for lunch. You can indulge in Authentic Greek Flavours from Brat Bros Catering in the Exhibition Hall. From gyros to Greek salad and falafel, you are guaranteed to feel fuelled for your day of networking.

Important seminar information

Seats in seminar rooms are allocated on a first-come, first-served basis and cannot be booked in advance (except those specified). Once a seminar room's capacity has been reached, we will have to restrict further entry. Seminar rooms will need to be vacated between sessions – even if you are attending the next session to take place in the room. We thank you for your cooperation on this.

Photographs

Photographs are taken throughout the day. These will be used in promotional materials for future events. Attendance at the event signifies acceptance of this use.

There is no need to go out for lunch, you can indulge in **Authentic Greek Flavours** without having to leave the exhibition hall.

Gyros - £7
Chicken Souvlaki, Halloumi or Falafel

All served in a pitta bread topped with tomato, onions & tzatziki or hummus

Greek Salad - £3

Cans of drink - £1





Compass Jobs Fair London 2024

7

Redbridge Council's Children's Services achieve Outstanding rating from Ofsted



Why we love working for Redbridge Children & Families



Out of 152 local authorities in England, we are one of three who have achieved an ‘**Outstanding**’ grade across every criterion within the Ofsted Inspecting Local Authority Children’s Services (ILACS) inspection framework.



Reach Out is Redbridge Council’s in-house support service for anyone aged 16 or over who is experiencing domestic abuse. We first launched in April 2020 in anticipation of a surge in domestic abuse during the COVID-19 pandemic. Since, Reach Out has continued to grow and we are pleased to announce the launch of our new service offer in September 2023.



Families First for Children (FFC) Pathfinders are local authorities that have been selected by the Department for Education (DfE) to work alongside them to deliver and test reforms to Children’s Services. Redbridge Children’s Services is rated ‘Outstanding’ by Ofsted and we wanted to be part of this drive to improve children’s social care in line with a longstanding ambition to reshape our early intervention and statutory services. Redbridge successfully applied to be a Pathfinder in November 2023 and was awarded Pathfinder status in March 2024.



Redbridge Life Feature

Lauren Curran is among the many frontline workers whose invaluable work makes a real difference in our communities. Lauren’s work in Redbridge has already made a positive impact. She shared, “It’s been a positive experience so far and massively insightful. I work closely with families referred to us and visit them in the family home or at school. In this job, you learn so much in such a quick space of time.” “It’s so rewarding to be around children and support a family in a real crisis. When you achieve a positive outcome, there’s no better feeling.”

Contact Us
London Borough of Redbridge
Visit us on the Web:
<https://www.redbridge.gov.uk>

CPD Sponsor: Stand 12

London Borough of Hounslow



Hounslow recognises that our workforce is our most valuable asset to change the lives of vulnerable children, young people, families, and residents. Our commitment is to develop a stable, highly skilled, and valued workforce that works to consistently high standards and promotes the welfare of our community. We want Hounslow Children & Adult Services to be a place where people want to work together to transform the lives of children, adults, families, and residents.

BASW England & SWU

Stand 11



The British Association of Social Workers (BASW) is the UK’s professional membership organisation supporting over 22,000 social workers. We champion social work and help members achieve the highest professional standards. The Social Workers Union (SWU) is the only UK trade union for, and run by, qualified and registered social workers.

The Caldecott Foundation

Stand 29



The Caldecott Foundation is a not-for-profit charity delivering specialist therapeutic residential care, education, and foster care to traumatised children or those with specific educational needs.

Our Relational Model of Care and Education ensures that we support children and young people to feel safe by developing nurturing, nourishing, and safe relationships.

Cellmark Stand 23



Cellmark provides court-approved DNA testing and forensic quality Hair Drug testing & Alcohol testing services to members of the public, local authority Children’s Services teams, government departments and the legal profession.

COMPASS

Stand 18



Come and meet the team who put this event together. We specialise in events, marketing, and publishing for the social work and social care sector. We organise three events throughout the year across the UK with the COMPASS Jobs Fairs in London and Birmingham, and the Social Work Show in Manchester, as well as producing social work publications.

Finders International

Stand 13



Finders International are award-winning probate genealogists. We provide a free next-of-kin tracing service for the public sector including social workers, local authorities, hospitals, funeral directors and more. See us at Stand 13 at Compass Jobs Fair or visit www.findersinternational.co.uk for further information.

Forensic Testing Service

Stand 26



Forensic Testing Service (FTS) specialises in comprehensive forensic drug and alcohol investigations, providing expert analysis tailored for legal proceedings. Unlike routine testing labs, FTS offers in-depth evaluations that ensure accurate interpretations, reducing the risk of misleading results. Their advanced approach is crucial for reliable, evidence-based decisions in family court cases.

Join colleagues and exhibitors in the Exhibition Hall at 4pm for the Social Work Social

Kent County Council

Stand 4

Meet Kent County Council at the largest recruitment event in the UK. We celebrate and shape good practice and will give you the training and development you need to excel in your chosen role in children's and adults' social work. Chat to Kent County Council on Stand 4.



The Mulberry Bush Charity

Stand 20

The Mulberry Bush is a UK-based charity, and our mission is to transform the lives of people troubled and traumatised as children. We provide a range of specialist services aimed at breaking the cycle for these children, their families, and communities, many of whom have generational patterns of difficulty and trauma.



MyCWA

Stand 27

Domestic Abuse Experts from MyCWA provide trauma-informed, whole-family-focused training and consultancy for professionals across all sectors, prioritising victim safety and accountability for perpetrators. With nearly 50 years' experience, MyCWA offers tailored support for survivors, children, and those exhibiting harmful behaviours, fostering a community free from abuse.



National Fostering Group

Stand 24

National Fostering Group has over two decades of experience in finding, training and supporting a UK-wide foster family of passionate foster carers. We partner closely with local authorities and foster carers to create the best possible opportunities for children and young people in our care. We offer a wide range of career development opportunities to progress your career and we would like to speak to you whatever stage you are in within your career. To learn more about our work and the amazing career opportunities we can offer you visit us on Stand 24.



Only Social Care Recruitment

Stand 6

A specialist recruitment agency helping Qualified Social Workers find their next role across the UK. We recruit Social Workers, Senior Practitioners, Team Managers, Service Managers, Independent Reviewing Officers, AMHP's and related roles within Adult and Children & Families Social Care.



Oxfordshire County Council

Stand 2

Social Care Done Differently. In our Children's Service at OCC, we strive to help children, young people and families thrive. We value relationship building, empowerment and strengths, which is reflected in our restorative, relational practice approach. We are proud to be consistently rated "Good" by Ofsted, and our ambition is to do even better. Visit us on Stand 2 to learn more about the exciting opportunities at Oxfordshire County Council.



ParentAssess

Stand 28

ParentAssess is the most widely-recognised and accepted specialist parenting assessment framework in the country. 99% of social workers who attend ParentAssess training would recommend it to others.

We offer a wide range of courses so please visit our stand for further information on the training options available.



Plymouth City Council

Stand 14

Plymouth City Council's Children's Services offers a dynamic environment where you can make a real difference for children and families. Join a dedicated team in a vibrant coastal city, delivering innovative support in safeguarding, education, and family care. Enjoy work-life balance while shaping brighter futures.



Portsmouth City Council

Stand 9

Join Portsmouth City Council (Stronger Futures) on Stand 9 and discover what makes us #ProudToBePortsmouth in children's social care. Meet our family support and safeguarding team, win a hamper of Portsmouth-inspired treats and discover what it's like to live, work and play in the waterfront city.



Powys County Council

Stand 10

Powys County Council's Social Services offer compassionate support for children, adults, and families. We provide essential care, promote independence, and ensure safety. From safeguarding to community support, our dedicated teams are here to help people live well and thrive in Powys.



London Borough of Redbridge

Stand 16

Redbridge is at the forefront of social care innovation and is recognised as Outstanding by Ofsted. As part of the FFC Pathfinder project, you'll deliver Family Help services in one of London's most diverse boroughs, helping families thrive. Join us to shape the future of social care. Visit Stand 16.



Remedy Social Care

Stand 3

Remedy Social Care takes care of your career. Our core principles focus on building strong relationships through regular contact with candidates and clients – professional, prompt and people-focused. Our extensive knowledge of the social care market enables us to regularly place temporary, contract, project-based, and permanent social workers in a wide range of organisations throughout the UK.



OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

STAND 2

DELIVERING THE FUTURE TOGETHER

Come along to STAND 2 to speak with our passionate team of social workers, to learn more about career opportunities and how we're working towards becoming an 'employer, partner, and place shaper of choice'.

Together, in Children's services we're transforming how we help our frontline colleagues to support our communities. With continuing professional development, manageable caseloads, reflective supervision and excellent management support, you can expect to bring your best self to the people you work with.

#OCCCareers

oxfordshire-county-council
 @OxfordshireCC
 OxfordshireCountyCouncil

Collect your CPD certificate from 4.00pm in the Exhibition Hall

Come and visit us

...on **Stand 5** and find out more about our pay, benefits and practice model



Social Work Today



Social Work Today

Event Media Partner – Stand 17

Social Work Today is a daily e-newsletter delivered to the inboxes of social work professionals. Backed up by a dynamic website, it offers a sector-specific space. It creates the networks to provide social work information, webinars, jobs and CPD from across the UK and wider global community. Find out more at www.socialworktoday.co.uk

Tameside Council

Stand 22



Tameside have invested in an innovative Social Work Academy to provide first-class training and development opportunities to their existing workforce and Newly Qualified Social Workers.

By investing in our workforce, and bringing out the best in our staff, we are putting children at the heart of Tameside.

West Sussex County Council

Stand 5



We're committed to putting Children First and improving the services that we provide to Children, Young People and Families. Visit us on stand 5 and find out more about how we use the Family Safeguarding Model and how West Sussex can change your life, and you can change West Sussex.

Take part in social work job interviews at this event

Today is your opportunity to have an informal interview with social work employers at the event. Ask employers about your future with their organisation and specific roles they are currently advertising. This is the only event where you can have informal interviews with social work employers, so make the most of your day.

Come and work for Tameside Children's Social Care



Our service puts children and families at the heart of everything we do. We want to improve the lives of children, young people and families, to keep them safe, and to fulfil their potential. To achieve this we need a driven and passionate workforce. We want you to be part of our ambition to be an outstanding service.

We will support you, while you support others by offering...

Flexible working for a greater work life balance

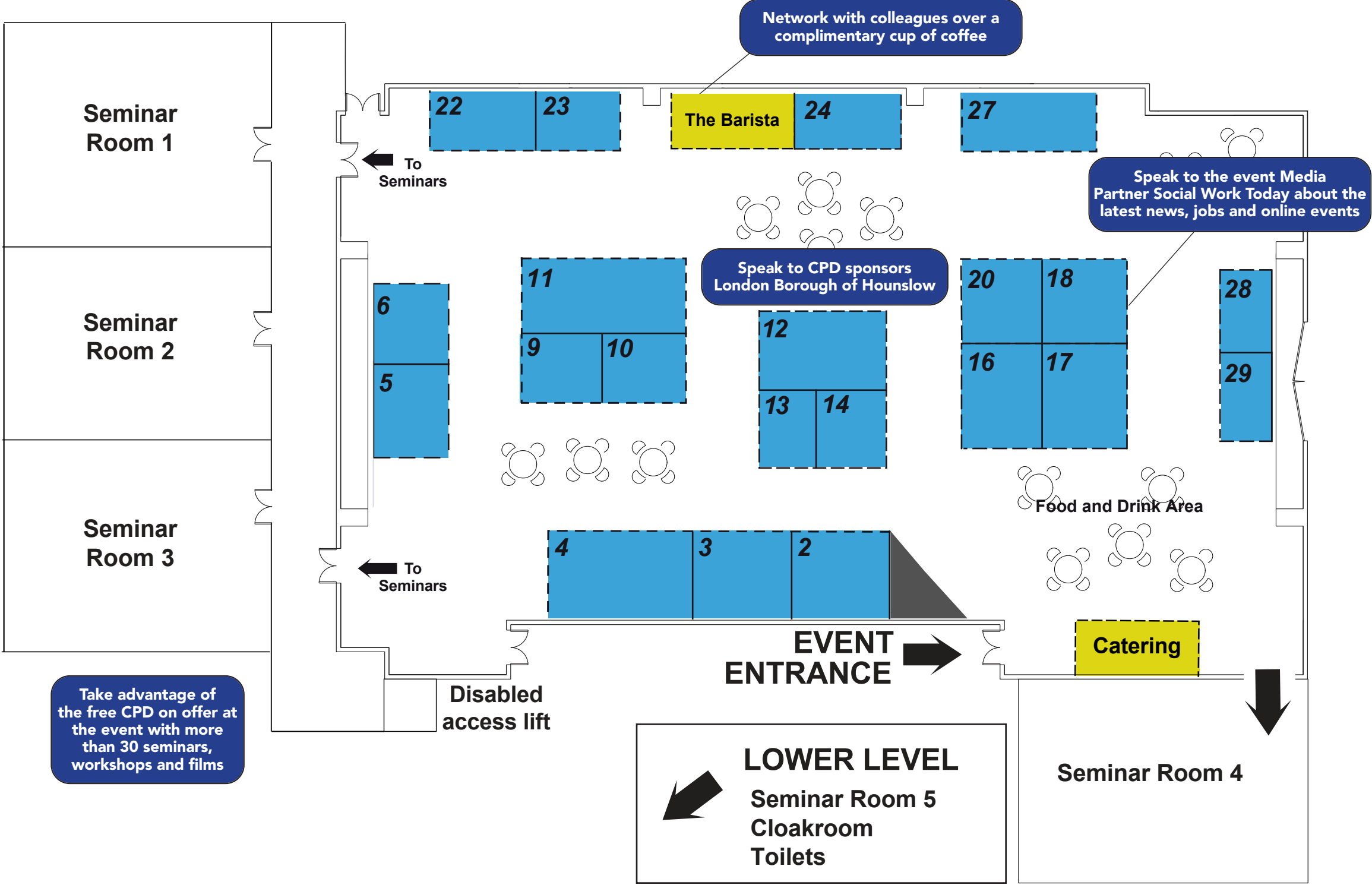
36 hour working week and minimum 28 days annual leave

Competitive Salary increasing with your professional development (starting at £37,336)

Health and Wellbeing Support



Scan to see jobs available



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Shared Futures in Social Work

Conference timetable

25 November 2024, 9.30am – 4.30pm

Part of the **compass** jobs fair

CPD Sponsor



London Borough of Hounslow

7 hours of CPD for free

There is no cost to attend any of the sessions at the event and a certificate of attendance is available for all visitors at the event, available from 4.00 - 4.30pm

Free tea & coffee

Get your complimentary hot drinks from our dedicated barista in the Exhibition Hall, provided by COMPASS as a thank you to all visitors

The Social Work Social

Join us from 4.00 - 4.30pm for a free drinks reception to meet colleagues and exhibitors and discuss the day's learning and opportunities

Seminar Room 1

10.00 - 10.40

Supporting safe hospital discharge

London Borough of Hounslow

11.00 - 11.40

Domestic Abuse and the Law: Orders, Legal Aid, and collaborative support

Ringrose Law

12.00 - 12.40

Providing a systemic, multi-agency and circular approach in children's social care

Kent County Council

1.00 - 1.40

How to overcome professional difference or 'stuckness' to keep children at the centre of practice

Portsmouth City Council

2.00 - 2.40

The power of language in social work: Challenging jargon and building connections

London Borough of Hounslow

3.00 - 3.40

Masterclass on meeting the SWE CPD requirements

Dr Carol Stewart

Exhibition Floor

Seminar Room 2

10.20 - 11.00

A new model of early intervention and statutory social work

London Borough of Redbridge

11.20 - 12.00

Intersectionality, disability, and social work

London Borough of Hounslow

12.20 - 1.00

Reach Out: Delivering a one-front-door response to domestic abuse

London Borough of Redbridge

1.20 - 2.00

Building resilient organisations: The role of reflective supervision when working with trauma

The Mulberry Bush

2.20 - 3.00

How to effectively engage perpetrators of domestic abuse

My CWA

3.20 - 4.00

Leadership in social work practice: Influence and impact

Imara Development

Exhibition Floor

Seminar Room 3

10.30 - 11.10

Relational practice in therapeutic residential schools

The Mulberry Bush

11.30 - 12.10

Masterclass on meeting the CPD requirements for Social Work England re-registration

Dr Carol Stewart

12.30 - 1.10

Strategies for interview success

Vicki Shevlin, COMPASS

1.20 - 2.20

Develop your career by becoming a certified DNA sample collector

Cellmark

2.30 - 3.10

Will a new era of government mean a new era for social work? What are your priorities?

BASW England

4.00 - 4.30

Collect your CPD certificate

In the Exhibition Hall

Exhibition Floor

Seminar Room 4

10.10 - 10.50

Finding the right employer for you

Vicki Shevlin, COMPASS

11.10 - 11.50

Parents with learning disabilities: Opening the door to new ways of working

ParentAssess

12.10 - 12.50

The vital role of social work in hospital discharge

BASW England

2.10 - 2.50

Setting up as an Independent Social Worker and growing your practice

Imara Development

3.10 - 3.50

Moving forward: The next stage of your social work journey

Vicki Shevlin, COMPASS

4.00 - 4.30

Collect your CPD certificate

In the Exhibition Hall

Exhibition Floor

Seminar Room 5

10.40 - 11.20

PANEL Q&A: What makes a good campaign?

Social Workers Union

12.40 - 1.20

Extra-familial exploitation of adolescents: Recognizing and responding to risk factors

London Borough of Hounslow

1.40 - 2.20

What does trauma-informed practice look like in adult social care?

Kent County Council

2.40 - 3.20

Why neurodiversity matters in social work

Lauren Crickmar

4.00 - 4.30

Collect your CPD certificate

In the Exhibition Hall

Lower Floor

Don't forget to **keep your copy** of this Event Guide as **evidence of your CPD**

Conference programme

10.00 - 10.40
Seminar Room 1

Supporting safe hospital discharge

Richard Brown, Manager, Hospital Social Work Services & First Response; and Rosie Kirsty Richards, Social Worker, London Borough of Hounslow



**London Borough
of Hounslow**

This seminar explores the challenges and critical role of social services in ensuring safe and effective hospital discharge, balancing the need to manage hospital bed capacity with the individual needs of residents. We'll delve into strategies for identifying and addressing complex needs, developing personalized discharge plans, and prioritizing care and support. By the end of this session, participants will gain a deeper understanding of their critical role in supporting residents' successful transition from hospital to community.

10.10 - 10.50
Seminar Room 4

Finding the right employer for you

Vicki Shevlin, Social Work Trainer, COMPASS



In this interactive session, social workers will explore strategies for choosing their ideal employer and job opportunities aligned with their professional aspirations. We'll look at asking the right questions to help your decision-making for job applications, and share ideas for what to focus on before you apply.

By the end of this session you'll feel confident about choosing the job that is right for you, and ready to network with all the incredible employers waiting to meet you at the COMPASS Jobs Fair.

10.20 - 11.00
Seminar Room 2

A new model of early intervention and statutory social work: Families First for Children Pathfinder Project

Sabina Samad and Gita Hargun, Heads of Service, London Borough of Redbridge



In February 2023, the Government published Stable Homes, Built on Love, which set out government plans to transform early help and children's social care. The Families First for Children Pathfinder was a core commitment in the Government's plans, and Redbridge was selected to be a Pathfinder and deliver and test reforms to Children's Services. Redbridge Children's Services is rated 'Outstanding' by Ofsted and has now developed its vision for change through a reshaped early intervention and statutory services.

10.30 - 11.10
Seminar Room 3

Relational practice in therapeutic residential schools

Joy Oldfield, Household Manager; and Siobhan Weston-Foster, Household Manager, The Mulberry Bush



The Mulberry Bush School offers individualised integrated therapeutic care, treatment and education, overseen by a multidisciplinary team of highly trained professional staff. Our continual focus is to help children learn to manage their emotions and behaviours through the development of safe and trusting relationships within a group setting. We will be exploring how this works in our everyday practice.

Fuel your day at the COMPASS Jobs Fair with the perfect brew

Whether you're a **latte lover** or an **espresso enthusiast**, enjoy a *complimentary* hot drink during your visit to our event – provided free of charge by COMPASS as a thank you for the hard work you do as social workers.

the barista. Find us in the exhibition hall



Conference programme

10.40 - 11.20
Seminar Room 5

PANEL Q&A: What makes a good campaign?

John McGowan, Social Workers Union, General Secretary
Plus guests: Simon Francis, Founding Member: Campaign Collective;
Dr Peter Unwin, Principal Lecturer SW, University of Worcester &
Chair SWU/BASW Austerity Action Group



As the dust settles from the election, one thing has become clear: many of the challenges faced by people whom social workers support have not gone away and in many cases are getting worse. Social workers are natural campaigners, but taking activity from private advocacy to a more public platform can be daunting. That's why the Social Workers Union has developed a Campaign Fund and a resource pack to help social workers and students take action on issues they are passionate about. This session will review examples where public campaigning has made a difference and some practical tips and advice on how to take action. What we have available in the session is a downloadable CAMPAIGN ACTION PACK to take away and use. Some hard copies will also be available.

11.00 - 11.40
Seminar Room 1

Domestic Abuse and the Law: Orders, Legal Aid, and Collaborative Support

Rachael Bridges, Associate Solicitor Children Law and Domestic Abuse, Ringrose Law



Rachael will explain what Injunctions/Orders are available to victims of domestic abuse. She will run through the steps for obtaining a Non-Molestation Order and Occupation Order and explain the use of Undertakings. She will give an overview of the legal aid funding available and the eligibility criteria to qualify for legal Aid. Rachael will give a brief overview of how the courts deal with domestic abuse allegations within children proceedings and end with exploring how different professionals and agencies can work together to give better support to victims of domestic abuse.

11.10 - 11.50
Seminar Room 4

Parents with learning disabilities: Opening the door to new ways of working

Jo James, Independent Social Worker and Trainer, ParentAssess



When there are questions about the learning capacity of a parent, how should social workers adapt to support, assess and enable them to learn?

Taking in the law, policy and guidance, we'll be exploring some of the ways in which we can recognise additional learning needs in parents and adapt how we work with them. We'll think about the need for Children's and Adults' services to work together and how addressing these parents' needs can improve services for EVERY parent.

11.20 - 12.00
Seminar Room 2

Exploring the impact of intersectionality, disability, and social work: Understanding and addressing the complex needs of marginalized groups

Richard Johnson, Service Manager, London Borough of Hounslow



This seminar examines the intersectional experiences of individuals with disabilities, exploring how disability intersects with race, ethnicity, gender, class, and sexuality to shape their lives and experiences. The seminar will explore ways in which social work practice can address the complex needs of marginalized groups, including those with disabilities, and provide strategies for promoting inclusivity, equity, and social justice. Participants will gain a deeper understanding of the intersections between disability, intersectionality, and social work, and develop skills to better support the diverse needs of clients.

Have you booked your ticket for the Social Work Show?

6 October 2025
Hilton Deansgate,
Manchester

Conference programme

11.30 - 12.10
Seminar Room 3

Masterclass on meeting the CPD requirements for Social Work England re-registration

Dr Carol Stewart, Social Worker, Director, Chinara Enterprises Ltd

Are you a social worker struggling to meet the CPD standards set by Social Work England? Join this masterclass to equip yourself with essential knowledge, practical tips, and effective tools to help you confidently meet your CPD requirements.

Whether you're new to the profession or an experienced social worker, this masterclass will give you the tools you need to stay on top of your CPD requirements and make the process more straightforward and rewarding.



12.00 - 12.40
Seminar Room 1

Providing a systemic, multi-agency and circular approach in children's social care

Anita Hiller and Martina Oldfrey, Practice Development Managers, Kent County Council

Kent was rated 'Outstanding' in 2022, after a journey in developing systemic and relationship-based practice.

An Outstanding feature in Kent was their unique Quality Assurance and Practice Framework. Despite Kent's size they have been able to undertake thematic analysis and service improvement across children's social care through the development of the 'Children's Outcome Analysis (COA)' providing a systemic, multi-agency and circular approach operating across all services in Kent CYPE.

Join this seminar to hear more about the uniqueness of the positive impact for practice improvement and how this approach has developed the children's services workforce.



12.10 - 12.50
Seminar Room 4

The vital role of social work in hospital discharge

Liz Howard, Social Worker and Professional Officer, BASW England

Delays in hospital discharges have regularly been publicised in the media. Policy changes over recent years have influenced ways of working for social workers who have been traditionally hospital based and aligned to multi-disciplinary teams (MDTs) and various clinical specialities.

The BASW England Hospital Discharge sub-group commissioned a snapshot survey of qualified and registered social workers who were working in local authority and health settings to facilitate hospital discharge.

A survey report was produced which concludes with a series of recommendations reinforcing the value and importance of social work in hospital discharge.

Join this session to hear about the findings and learn about what social workers need to support and enable this area of practice to flourish.



12.20 - 1.00
Seminar Room 2

Reach Out: Delivering a one-front-door response to domestic abuse

Emma Pattison, Head of Service, London Borough of Redbridge

In 2023, Reach Out was re-modelled to become Redbridge's one front door for domestic abuse. This new service is embedded in children's social care and features a unique survivor-centred, child-focused, and perpetrator-aware model that provides creative and innovative solutions to domestic abuse. The Department of Levelling Up has recognised the new service model as best practice.



Have you booked your ticket for the COMPASS Jobs Fair, Birmingham?

17 March 2025
Birmingham Conference
and Exhibition Centre

Launch your Social Work Career National NQSW Conference 2025

21-23 January

A free online conference for final year
students on www.socialworktoday.co.uk



Social Work Today
www.socialworktoday.co.uk

Want to work with us on this event?
jaicox@socialworktoday.co.uk or call 01892 784 804



Relationships are central to social work practice. The Relational Social Work Podcast explores the importance of connection and relationships in social work, celebrating excellent and innovative practice 'with' amazing children, young people and families, and having honest conversations about some of the struggles which we can face in children and families social work.



Each episode is a conversation between hosts,
Matt Clayton and Hannah Bedford, with
prominent guests from the field of social work

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Conference programme

12.30 - 1.10
Seminar Room 3

Strategies for interview success

Vicki Shevlin, Social Work Trainer, COMPASS

Whether you're a seasoned professional or just starting out, this session will cover everything you need to know to shine in your next interview.

Learn practical tips for managing nerves and anxiety, effective responses to interview questions, and showcasing your unique personality. Discover how your social work skills are transferable to interview scenarios and gain confidence in your ability to communicate your qualifications. You'll leave feeling calm, confident and ready for your social work interview.

Join Vicki for an engaging session focused on your social work interview.



12.40 - 1.20
Seminar Room 5

Extra-familial exploitation of adolescents: Recognizing and responding to risk factors

Lianne Conway, Exploitation & Vulnerabilities Co-ordinator; and Phil Hopkins, Head of Service, Adolescent Service, London Borough of Hounslow

This seminar delves into the issue of extra-familial exploitation, including child sex trafficking, sexual exploitation, and other forms of abuse, and explores the risk factors that contribute to this problem. The seminar will also discuss strategies for social workers to identify and respond to situations of exploitation, including reporting requirements, safety planning, and providing support to survivors.



1.00 - 1.40
Seminar Room 1

Re-think: How to overcome professional difference and/or 'stuckness' to keep children at the centre of practice

Sam Nesbit, Portsmouth Safeguarding Children Partnership Training Manager; and Adam Shepherd, Head of Family Safeguarding, Portsmouth City Council

'Re-think' is a restorative way of bringing the multi-agency professional network together when there has been a difference of opinion and/or a sense that there is limited progress for a family.

In Portsmouth, making, maintaining and mending relationships is seen as a critical part of effective safeguarding practice. We believe that when relationships are prioritised within the professional network, children are safer.

Conflict has lasting effects upon us both individually and collectively. Creating a psychologically safe space for professionals to develop a shared understanding of roles, responsibilities, risk, empathy and compassion means decisions for children and their families are safer.

Re-think is a response that ensures the challenges of multi-agency working does not impact on outcomes for children. This session will provide a space for practitioners to not just think about 'does this work?' but 'what works, for whom, under what circumstances and how?'.



1.20 - 2.20
Seminar Room 3

Develop your career by becoming a certified DNA sample collector

Romana Ahmed, Account Manager, Cellmark




As a social worker, you may need a DNA sample for chain of custody matters. You can reduce time and sampling costs for you and the people you work with by becoming a certified DNA sample collector at the event. Join a free, industry-leading training session in mouth swab (buccal) sample collection and chain of custody matters for court approved DNA tests.

Please note: This session must be pre-booked prior to attendance at the event. If you were unable to secure a place, speak to Cellmark on Stand 23 about future opportunities.



Collect your CPD certificate from 4pm in the Exhibition Hall

1.20 - 2.00 Seminar Room 2	<p>Building resilient organisations: The role of reflective supervision when working with trauma</p> <p>Polly Francis, Therapeutic Trainer and Outreach Practitioner; and Mike Staines, Mulberry Bush Supervision Training Lead, The Mulberry Bush</p> <p>This session will focus on the contribution that high-quality reflective supervision makes to your organisation's resilience and ability to support those who have been affected by trauma. The impact which working with trauma has on your organisation requires a coordinated response. Supervision should be a key part of this.</p> <p>Participants will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Explore the key values underpinning supervision and how these can be embedded in your structures; - Discuss how reflective supervision can impact the wellbeing of your teams, staff retention and enable best practice; - Consider the qualities of effective supervisory relationships and the different forms supervision can take. <p>This seminar presents reflective supervision as a fundamental structure when working with trauma. It will be relevant to those working in education, social and residential care settings, youth and criminal justice services, amongst others.</p> 
1.40 - 2.20 Seminar Room 5	<p>What does trauma-informed practice look like in adult social care?</p> <p>Richard Kingsford, Practice Development Officer; and Sam Godden, Newly Qualified Social Worker Supervisor, Kent County Council</p> <p>The effects of trauma - emotional/psychological, physical and social - often persist throughout a person's lifespan.</p> <p>How we can use the above knowledge to construct a socially-based trauma informed approach to practice and, the skills and methods that can support this practice?</p> <p>Join this session to learn more about how understanding the impact of our work on us as social work practitioners and, how we can look after ourselves and our colleagues in this emotionally demanding work.</p> 
2.00 - 2.40 Seminar Room 1	<p>The power of language in social work: Challenging jargon and building connections</p> <p>Tamlyn Bilton, Principal Social Worker, London Borough of Hounslow</p> <p>Social workers are aware of the importance of effective communication in building trust and rapport with service users. However, the use of technical jargon and complex language can often hinder this process, creating barriers that can lead to feelings of alienation, confusion, and mistrust.</p> <p>This seminar will explore the impact of language on social work practice, examining the negative effects of jargon and discussing strategies for using clear and simple language to improve relationships and outcomes. Participants will also examine the ethical implications of language use in social work, considering how it can perpetuate power imbalances and affect the way we engage with service users.</p> 
2.10 - 2.50 Seminar Room 4	<p>Setting up as an Independent Social Worker and growing your practice</p> <p>Joe Z Mairura, Independent Social Worker and Trainer, Imara Development Programmes</p> <p>The social work profession, market, and industry has evolved and is set to continue to evolve, especially in the post Covid-19 era.</p> <p>Join Joe as he explains why Independent Social Work is real social work and a viable and valid alternative approach to practising social work within statutory or other organisational settings.</p> <p>As an Independent Social Worker, you have a tangible, visible and quantifiable impact on the lives of those you choose to serve with a unique influence, impact and income.</p> <p>This workshop will reveal how to start, grow and scale a thriving Independent Social Work practice and demystify one of the most marginalised and misunderstood approaches to social work practice.</p> <p>Explore why Independent Social Work is a necessary catalyst for liberating social work, and social work practice.</p> 

2.20 - 3.00 Seminar Room 2	<p>The Engage Model: How to effectively engage perpetrators of domestic abuse</p> <p>Alice Young, Behaviour Change Expert Lead, My CWA</p> <p>Learn more about a 'Whole Family, Whole System' approach to reducing domestic abuse.</p> <p>The Engage Approach uses a whole-family, whole-system model to reduce domestic abuse by focusing on early intervention and behavioural change. Tailored to an individual's age, stage, and phase of life, the approach provides support at the earliest opportunity to influence positive outcomes.</p> 
2.30 - 3.10 Seminar Room 3	<p>Will a new era of government mean a new era for social work? What are your priorities?</p> <p>Josh Dixon, Policy and Campaigns Officer, BASW England</p> <p>July 2024 closed the door on 14 years of Conservative government and ushered in Keir Starmer and the Labour Party. But how much will really change and how can we influence things for the better?</p> <p>Find out more about BASW's manifesto, key asks and how BASW England are engaging this new Labour government and how you can help us to deliver change for the wider profession. This will also be an opportunity to learn about the new government and their priorities with an opportunity to reflect and share your thoughts on their record so far and what you'd like to see from them.</p> 
2.40 - 3.20 Seminar Room 5	<p>Why neurodiversity matters in social work</p> <p>Lauren Crickmar, Independent Social Worker</p> <p>Lauren provides expert court reports for parents with a learning disability or who are neurodivergent (ND), assessing with insight from her lived experience, as Lauren is neurodivergent herself.</p> <p>Participants will explore the emergence of neurodiversity over recent years and the key issues for both social workers who are neurodivergent, and the families that we support within social work. This workshop examines what neurodivergence is, the challenges, strengths and key issues within society that impact on ND communities, in particular, social care staff and families. Lauren provides a unique insight into neurodiversity as a social worker, the challenges and superpowers and how ND staff can be supported within their organisations. Neurodiversity is being raised more frequently within care proceedings and, using case studies, good practice guidance and the law, Lauren will demonstrate how parents can be supported to safely care for their children with acceptance, understanding and thinking outside the box.</p> <p>Join this session to find out more about neurodiversity and how you can apply learning to your own practice.</p>
3.00 - 3.40 Seminar Room 1	<p>Masterclass on meeting the CPD requirements for Social Work England re-registration</p> <p>Dr Carol Stewart, Social Worker, Director Chinara Enterprises Ltd</p> <p>Are you a social worker struggling to meet the CPD standards set by Social Work England? Join this masterclass to equip yourself with essential knowledge, practical tips, and effective tools to help you confidently meet your CPD requirements.</p> <p>Whether you're new to the profession or an experienced social worker, this masterclass will give you the tools you need to stay on top of your CPD requirements and make the process more straightforward and rewarding.</p> 

Have you booked your ticket for the Social Work Show?

6 October 2025
Hilton Deansgate,
Manchester

Conference programme

3.10 - 3.50
Seminar Room 4

Moving forward: The next stage of your social work journey

Vicki Shevlin, Social Work Trainer, COMPASS

Join Vicki as she looks at what happens after the application and interview process. She will explore how to choose the right opportunity when it's offered, recognising when it's time for you to move on from a job, and how to cope when you don't get the job offer you wanted.

You'll leave with the tools and confidence to make informed decisions about the next stage of your social work journey.



3.20 - 4.00
Seminar Room 2

Leadership in social work practice: Influence and impact

Joe Z Mairura, Independent Social Worker and Trainer, Imara Development Programmes

This session is relevant for: Senior Practitioners and Social Workers aspiring to become leaders of teams, as well as current Heads of Service, Service Managers, and Team Managers.

Conscious leadership in social work practice is an essential vehicle for confident, capable, and impactful teams and good practice and will contribute to transforming the lives of clients.

Join Joe to learn about the transformative impact of 'conscious leadership' on individual practitioners, teams and service users.



Collect your CPD certificate from 4pm in the Exhibition Hall

Our Values

People We're passionate about creating valuable relationships with everyone we work with. We understand the needs of our clients and candidates so that we be trusted to deliver solutions which meet their expectations.

Honesty & Integrity Honesty and Integrity inspires trust and confidence and is at the heart of every relationship we have.

Enjoy It! Working in a positive environment where enjoyment leads to success.

Continuous Improvement Achieving more by becoming better at what we do.

Passion & Pride Passionate about great service, taking pride in everything we do.

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Dates for your Diary

21-23
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National NQSW Conference: Launch Your Social Work Career

Social Work Today
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Calling all final year students! Don't miss this free online conference from Social Work Today. Engage with experts from Social Work and Social Care Academies from Local Authorities, providing insight into schemes they offer ASYE social workers and get first hand advice about career pathways and job offers.

17
March

Compass Jobs Fair, Birmingham



Join us next year at the BCEC for the largest recruitment, retention and career conference and exhibition in the UK for the social work and social care sector. Meet over 40 exhibitors from the profession and access employment, training and job opportunities in social work and social care.

6
October

The Social Work Show

The Social Work Show

This annual event is the place to be for social work professionals, providing an update and networking opportunity to share and learn from a community of over 1,000 visitors working in the social work and social care sector. Don't miss out and book your free ticket now and visit the Hilton Deansgate in Manchester next October.

Date
TBC

Compass Jobs Fair, London 2025



The COMPASS Jobs Fair and Shared Futures in Social Work conference will return next year. Spend the day in central London and meet exhibitors actively looking to recruit social work and social care professionals. Update your sector knowledge or kickstart your career development by visiting one of the many stands with the country's leading social work and social care organisations. You will also be able to update your CPD for free and take part in seminars for professionals working with children, adults or in mental health.

2024-2025

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