

Practice Development Advisor

Work Area	Social Work and Social Policy (http://www.strath.ac.uk/humanities/schoolsofsocialworksocialpolicy/)		
Faculty	Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences (www.strath.ac.uk/humanities/)		
Staff Category	Knowledge Exchange	Reference No	498469
Reports To	Deputy Director	Grade:	8
Salary Range:	£43,414 - £53,353	Contract Type:	Fixed Term (12 months) with indicative funding for a further 12 months
FTE:	1.0 (35 hours/week)	Closing Date	Sunday, 19 February 2023

Job Advert

The Children and Young People’s Centre for Justice (CYCJ) works towards ensuring that Scotland’s approach to children and young people in conflict with the law is [rights-respecting](#); contributing to better outcomes for our children, young people and communities. We produce robust ground-breaking work by bringing together children and young people’s contributions, research evidence, practice wisdom and system know-how to operate as a leader for child and youth justice thinking in Scotland and beyond.

CYCJ recently secured funding through The Promise Partnership Fund to develop our Reimagining Justice Service. ‘Reimagining Justice’ combines opinions, knowledge, and experiences of everyone involved to create a comprehensive understanding of what will be effective, meaningful, and sustainable for services to meet the needs of children and young people in conflict with the law. The service has a specific aim to; Remove children and young people up to age 26 from adult courts through designing an alternative with children and young people to allow their meaningful participation.

We are looking to recruit a full-time Practice Development Advisor to join the Reimagining Justice Service, and lead on the creation of Youth Courts. The role would suit someone with expertise in developing, supporting, and understanding children and young people involved in offending, or at risk of becoming involved in offending, with a particular focus on youth courts. The post is offered initially as a one-year fixed term contract, or secondment with the option of this being extended to 2 years.

Job Description

Brief Outline of Job:

This post will join the Practice and Policy workstream within CYCJ, providing national leadership on the development of youth justice practice and knowledge exchange. The main focus of this role is to contribute to CYCJ’s Reimagining Justice service, with a particular focus on the creation of youth courts, supporting Scotland to meet The Promise and comply with UNCRC.

This includes working with all stakeholders (including children and their families) in the development of youth and criminal justice services; representing CYCJ and presenting on Reimagining Justice at meetings, events and conferences; and leading on the development of knowledge exchange resources, activities and publications.

This post reports to the Deputy Director within the Children and Young People’s Centre for Justice.

Main Activities/Responsibilities:

1.	Lead on projects and activities which support the development and implementation of CYCJ's Reimagining Justice service. This service, which is currently in development, is being designed to help Scotland meet its obligations as outlined in The Promise and the draft UNCRC Incorporation Bill.
2.	Lead on the development, management and implementation of relevant projects and activities which will shape the Reimagining Justice Service and associated workplan and support the development of youth and criminal justice practice across Scotland.
3.	Identify, develop, and promote to stakeholders relevant research and good practice models in youth justice through planning and delivering national and local events, training and conferences, and formal communications. This will include identifying and developing relevant themes for those working in the youth and criminal justice sector, and communication through a range of knowledge exchange publications and resources, which will engage and inform others in the field.
4.	Lead on the promotion, communication and dissemination of knowledge and information with all relevant professional bodies across Scotland, Britain and internationally to advance knowledge exchange.
5.	Ensure effective communications internally and externally through networks, written reports, publications, and a range of media; attendance at groups; liaise with Local Authorities, Scottish Government, Scottish Court Service, Judiciary and other relevant organisations and professional bodies to promote the work of the Reimagining Justice Service, and CYCJ more broadly; ensure all project deliverables are achieved to improve practice in youth and criminal justice.
6.	Develop evidence-based resources with children and families, colleagues in CYCJ practice and participation teams, and external stakeholders to share learning and best practice and promote community confidence in a new way of working
7.	Work in partnership with colleagues to communicate and engage with all youth justice stakeholders, taking the lead on the promotion of practice development as part of Reimagining Justice; ensure that the views and experiences of children, young people and their families are given due weight, in line with our Participation and Engagement Strategy .
8.	Assess and evaluate outcomes of Reimagining Justice activity; reflect on practice and processes, in collaboration with colleagues in Research and Knowledge Exchange, to inform the development of new initiatives to improve youth and criminal justice practice.
9.	Lead on providing detailed reporting on CYCJ and Reimagining Justice activities, as part of our activity and impact reporting obligations, as set out within the Practice workstream through representing CYCJ on National Strategic Groups and in written reports.
10.	Promote and support CYCJ's mission, vision, values, and principles; lead by example in promoting a culture of reflective, evidence-based practice within the youth justice sector.

Person Specification

Educational and/or Professional Qualifications

(E=Essential, i.e. a candidate must meet all essential criteria to be considered for selection, D=Desirable)

E1 A social work degree and PhD or equivalent professional experience in youth justice services.

D1 Membership of relevant Chartered/professional bodies

Experience

E2 Relevant recent knowledge and significant experience of the criminal justice social work and/or youth justice sector; clear understanding of the range and prevalence of needs and experiences children and young people often face, and the link to children and young people in conflict with the law, with particular focus on children and young people on the cusp of, or involved in, offending behaviour.

D2 Recent knowledge and experience of the criminal justice social work and/or youth justice sector drawn from one or more of the following fields: youth/adult courts; transitions from children's to adult systems including secure care and detention; and young people who present a high risk to themselves and/or others.

E3 Knowledge and understanding of relevant Scottish Government legislation and policy areas and the complexities of effective implementation.

D3 Experience of managing politically sensitive policy or situations.

D4 Experience in managing knowledge exchange projects and leading on knowledge exchange proposals.

Job Related Skills and Achievements

E4 A strong track record of teamwork through supporting and influencing the work of others.

E5 Demonstrable track record in defining, implementing and managing programmes of activity across a diverse and complex environment, including planning and monitoring resources.

E6 Ability to plan and organise knowledge exchange programmes, pulling together teams from a range of backgrounds to ensure project delivery.

E7 Demonstrate a strong track record of leading on, and working with, a range of stakeholders at all levels within and across sectors.

D5 Experience of service evaluation.

Personal Attributes

E8 Excellent relationship management skills including strong negotiating and conflict resolution skills.

E9 Excellent oral and written communication skills, particularly in presenting information on complex or sensitive issues.

E10 Track record of success in leading and managing multiple areas of activity.

Application Procedure

Applicants are required to complete an application form including the name of three referees who will be contacted without further permission, unless you indicate that you would prefer otherwise. Applicants should also submit a Curriculum Vitae and a covering letter detailing the knowledge, skills and experience you think make you the right candidate for the job. Applicants should also complete the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form.

Other Information

Further information on the application process and working at Strathclyde can be found on our website (<http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr/workforus>).

Informal enquiries about the post can be directed to Fiona Dyer on 0141 444 8622 or fiona.dyer@strath.ac.uk

Conditions of Employment

Conditions of employment relating to the Knowledge Exchange staff category can be found at: [Conditions of Employment](#).

Rewards and Benefits

Our staff have access to a wide range of outstanding benefits that include financial rewards, family friendly and wellbeing benefits and career development opportunities, details of which can be found [here](#).

Pre-employment health screening

An offer of appointment will be subject to a medical assessment by Occupational Health. An individual who accepts an offer of employment must complete a confidential medical questionnaire and forward it to the Occupational Health Nurse within 5 days of receipt. If further information is required the individual may be contacted by the OHN or a Medical Advisor and a personal appointment with the individual may be arranged. An unconditional contract of employment will not be issued until Human Resources receives confirmation that applicant is fit to undertake the duties of the post.

Probation

Where applicable, the successful applicant will be required to serve a 12 month probationary period.

Pension

The successful applicant will be eligible to join the Universities' Superannuation Scheme. Further information regarding this scheme is available from [Payroll and Pensions](#).

Relocation

Where applicable, the University offers a relocation package to support new employees who meet the eligibility criteria. The relocation package is offered as a contribution towards costs incurred, and is designed to be flexible, allowing staff to use the financial support available in the way that will be most helpful to them. Further details are outlined in the Relocation Policy.

Interviews

Formal interviews for this post will be held on 1st March 2023

Equality and Diversity

The University of Strathclyde is a socially progressive institution that strives to ensure equality of opportunity and celebrates the diversity of its student and staff community. Strathclyde is people-oriented and collaborative, offering a supportive and flexible working culture with a deep commitment to our equality, diversity and inclusion charters, initiatives, groups and networks.

We strongly encourage applications from Black, Asian and minority ethnicity, women, LGBT+, and disabled candidates and candidates from lower socio-economic groups and care-experienced backgrounds.

University Values

The University's Values capture what we're all about: who we are, what we believe in and what we stand for. [Our Values](#) have been derived from how we act and how we expect to be treated as part of Strathclyde.



Conditions of Employment

Knowledge Exchange Staff

1. GENERAL CONDITIONS

Members of staff are subject to the Charter and Statutes and the Ordinances and Regulations of the University, published in the Calendar, and to any amendments or additions thereto approved by the University Court and, in the case of the Charter and Statutes, the Privy Council. Staff are also expected to familiarise themselves with, and adhere to, general University policies and procedures, as published on University web pages.

The University Court recognises Strathclyde Universities and College Union (SUCU) as the sole body with which it will negotiate and consult on all collective issues concerned with the terms and conditions of employment of Knowledge Exchange Staff. Such terms and conditions may be varied by the University Court after negotiation and consultation with SUCU.

Each member of staff is responsible for the proper performance of allocated duties to the person or persons specified in the member of staff's letter of appointment and any accompanying papers.

The University is committed to ensuring that its business is conducted in an open and transparent manner and will take all appropriate steps to address risks of bribery or corruption. Members of staff are required at all times to act honestly and with integrity and to safeguard the resources for which they are responsible. The University has in place a robust Public Interest Disclosure (Whistleblowing) Policy to enable concerns to be brought to its attention. This is available at www.strath.ac.uk/publicinterestdisclosure. Other relevant policies, e.g. Fraud Prevention and Conflicts of Interests, can also be found on the University's website.

Any member of staff may at any time be exposed to commercially sensitive information, information related to potentially valuable intellectual property or information which may otherwise be of a confidential nature. This information, which could be found anywhere in the University, may be written or disclosed orally, can include information of a commercial or technical nature, and may be owned by the University or by third parties. The University requires all employees to keep any such information confidential in the first instance and not disclose, publish or otherwise disseminate it without prior consent of the University. Such confidentiality obligations are commonplace and in the commercial interests of the University. When in doubt advice should always be sought from Research and Knowledge Exchange Services prior to disclosure.

The University operates probationary periods for new staff, the duration of which will be specified in individual letters of appointment. The normal probation period for posts in this staff category is 9 months for those at grades 6 and 7, and 12 months for grades 8 and above. Further guidance on probationary procedures is published at <http://www.strath.ac.uk/staff/policies/hr/>.

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Further information on the terms and conditions specified in this document and other staffing policies and procedures can also be found at www.strath.ac.uk/hr.

2. SALARY

Appointments are made at an appropriate salary point on the University's grading structure, with initial placing determined according to qualifications and experience. Increments are paid to staff on the 12 month anniversary of their appointment. Where this is not the first of the month, the increment will be paid on the first of the month directly

after the 12 month anniversary. This allows 1 progression to the next point on the salary scale until the top guaranteed point of the scale is reached.

Salaries are paid directly to staff members nominated bank account, normally on the second last working day of the month.

3. HOURS OF WORK

Working time is that required to fulfil the duties of the post. The University Court recognises that Knowledge Exchange staff carry out their duties in a variety of ways appropriate to the nature of their role, but expects work to generally be performed during normal working hours on week days. There are exceptions to this pattern which may involve contact at other locations or in the evenings, or at weekends, but these arrangements will be made with the agreement of the member of staff concerned.

Duties may, by arrangement with Head of Department/School/Director, include some teaching associated with the post (up to a maximum of 40 hours per semester) for which no additional payment will be made.

Additional work which does not fall within the scope of that described above may by arrangement attract payment which must be authorised and processed through the payroll.

4. HOLIDAYS

Annual leave entitlement is 31 days per year to be taken by agreement with the line manager. For staff members working on a part-time basis, holidays will be calculated on a pro-rata basis.

In addition to annual leave there is an entitlement to eleven public holidays per year which should be taken on days that the University is closed for this purpose. The University presently closes for four additional days over the Christmas and New Year period. **These additional days count against the annual leave entitlement.**

For staff members working on a part-time basis, public holiday entitlement will be calculated on a pro-rata basis.

Annual leave and public holiday entitlements should be taken in the leave year to which they relate. Up to five days leave can be carried forward into the new leave year subject to line management agreement. In exceptional circumstances, Heads of Department/School/Director may approve carry forward of accrued annual leave in excess of five days.

The University's expectation is that staff take all accrued holidays prior to their termination date. If staff have exceeded their entitlement the University will deduct an equivalent number of days pay from final salary payments.

5. SICKNESS ABSENCE

During any period of absence through illness or injury provided the appropriate notification and certification procedures have been followed the University will pay a member of staff (having taken account of the aggregate of all periods of absence due to illness during the twelve months immediately preceding the first day of the current absence) as follows:

Period of Continuous Employment at start of absence from work	Full Pay	Half Pay
Less than 1 year	1 month	1 month
1 year but less than 2 years	2 months	2 months
2 years but less than 3 years	4 months	4 months
3 years but less than 5 years	5 months	5 months
5 years or more	6 months	6 months

In order to manage the University's sick pay scheme the University requires to maintain sickness absence records on individual members of staff. When making payments after the expiry of statutory sick pay the University will deduct an amount equivalent to any benefit normally payable by the Department of Work and Pensions. For full details on the general University policy in this area please refer to the Sickness Absence Management Policy at www.strath.ac.uk/staff/policies/hr.

6. PENSIONS

If you are under age 75 at the date your appointment commences you will automatically become a member of the pension scheme operated by the University — the Universities Superannuation Scheme (USS). You will be admitted to the career revalued benefits scheme called the USS Retirement Income Builder; the contribution rate that currently applies is 9.8% of pensionable salary. A threshold applies to the maximum salary that counts towards the USS Retirement Income Builder. The current threshold from 1 April 2022 is £40,000 per year. Contributions based on salary above the monthly equivalent rate of the threshold are paid to the defined contribution section of the scheme called the USS Investment Builder. Please use the following link to access information, including the USS Member Guide: <https://www.uss.co.uk/for-members/youre-a-new-joiner>. The scheme booklet is called 'Your Guide to the Universities Superannuation Scheme'.

The University operates a salary exchange arrangement, Pensions Plus, for members of the USS. Pensions Plus enables pension contributions to be made in a manner so that both employees and the University can benefit from available National Insurance Contribution savings. You will be automatically included in Pensions Plus, provided it does not adversely affect your take-home pay or your ability to claim certain state benefits. If your earnings fall below the Pension Plus pay protection limit you will be opted out of Pension Plus. This will not affect your membership of the USS.

New members of staff may opt out of USS within three months of taking up appointment and will then be treated as if they had never been a member of the scheme. After three months members of staff who wish to withdraw from USS during their employment will be required to give a minimum of 28 days' notice in writing to the University. Any member of staff who wishes to opt out should contact the Pensions Section, Finance, in the first instance (pensions@strath.ac.uk). Please note that if you are a member of Pensions Plus and withdraw from USS with less than two years of membership, or cease employment with the University and have less than two years of USS membership, the option of a refund of pension contributions will not be available to you. Instead, USS must provide you with a pension benefit that is payable from your Normal Pension Age. Regardless of whether you participate in Pensions Plus, if you are a member of the pension scheme for two years or more you are not entitled to a refund of pension contributions on leaving the scheme, you will be entitled to a pension benefit.

The University reserves the right to alter or withdraw Pensions Plus as it sees fit or as required to comply with legislative changes. Withdrawal or amendment of Pensions Plus will not affect your membership of USS. If you do not wish to participate in Pensions Plus but wish to remain in

the pension scheme please contact the Pensions Team who will provide you with a non-participation form.

Information regarding pension scheme membership can be found on the Pensions pages of the University's website. Full information regarding USS can be found on the USS website – www.uss.co.uk

7. PLACE OF WORK AND RESIDENCE

Members of staff will be based on the John Anderson Campus, unless otherwise stated in the letter of appointment. The Department/School in which the post is initially placed will be specified in the letter of appointment although there will be an expectation to work at such other places as required in the course of employment.

If the need arises for members of staff to work outside the UK for a period (or periods) of more than one month then such arrangements will be subject to mutual agreement. Members of staff would then be provided with a statement in advance setting out the terms covering such periods of employment.

The University does not normally place specific restrictions upon the place of residence of members of staff. All staff are, however, expected to reside in a location which is compatible with the satisfactory fulfilment of all the duties associated with their appointment.

8. CONSULTANCY/FURTHER ACTIVITIES

To support the strategic objectives of the University and to facilitate individual professional development, the University encourages staff to engage in professional activities with outside bodies related to their field of work. In many cases, such activity will be approved on the basis that it represents University knowledge exchange activity and should therefore be treated as part of the individual's overall workload and managed through the University's systems. It is also recognised that there will be some cases where an activity is entirely separate from the University and should thus be notified/approved as a personal business activity. For further information please refer to the "University Procedure in relation to Work for Outside Bodies including Consultancies", which forms part of the employment contract and can be accessed at <http://www.strath.ac.uk/hr>.

9. DISCIPLINARY AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

Further information on the University's disciplinary and grievance procedure can also be found at www.strath.ac.uk/policies/hr or on request from Human Resources.

10. NOTICE AND TERMINATION

The employment of a member of staff is terminable by at least three months notice in writing, on either side; except during probationary period when the notice period is one month. If notice is being given by a member of staff earlier release may be granted if this can be arranged without detriment to the work of the department or area. If the appointment is for a fixed term it will expire at the end of the period without the necessity for notice. Fixed term contracts may be terminated by either party short of the expiry date by the serving of one months' notice in writing. The University is not obliged to continue a fixed term appointment beyond the employment period.

Revised April 2022