

Post Specification

Post Specification - Key Information

- **Post Title: Health Safeguarding Lead (MACPT)**
- **Date: October 2026**
- **Post Group: WAF0011**
- **Job Family: Organisational Support**
- **Job Family Role Profile: OS16**
- **Final Grade: 17**

To be read in conjunction with the job family role profile.

Service Area Description

To be situated within the Multi-Agency Child Protection Team (MACPT), within Children and Families Directorate.

Purpose of this Post

The Health Safeguarding Lead will act as the lead health practitioner within the MACPT, providing specialist health advice and ensuring that health considerations are fully integrated into assessments, decision-making, and safeguarding plans. The postholder will facilitate access to health services and specialist practitioners, develop strong partnership networks across the health system, and work collaboratively with MACPT colleagues to coordinate effective multi-agency interventions based on robust risk assessment.

A key purpose of the role is to help practitioners navigate complex health systems and pathways, ensuring that children who are subject to child protection plans receive timely, appropriate, and coordinated health support and intervention.

Key Job Specific Accountabilities

This role acts as the key link between health services and safeguarding partners, ensuring effective coordination, information sharing, and health input into child protection processes. Responsibilities include:

- Coordinate health service involvement in child protection processes, ensuring appropriate health representation and contribution to Strategy Discussions, Initial and Review Child Protection Conferences, Decision-Making Meetings, and other safeguarding forums. Provide timely health advice, consultation, reports, and relevant information to support assessment, risk analysis, decision-making, and safeguarding planning.
- Working closely with the health representative within the Multi-Agency Children's Hub (MACH) to support smooth transitions from referral through to social work teams.
- Act as the lead health safeguarding professional within MACPT, facilitating access to specialist advice, information, and services across acute, community, primary care, mental health, maternity, and children's health services.

- Provide health expertise to support assessments, risk analysis, decision-making, safeguarding planning, and the coordination of health interventions for children and families.
- Support practitioners and MACPT members to navigate health systems and pathways, ensuring children and families can access appropriate services and support.
- Gather, analyse, interpret, and present relevant health information, translating complex clinical information into clear and accessible guidance to inform safeguarding activity.
- Liaise with health professionals and partner agencies to coordinate interventions, strengthen information sharing, and ensure health considerations are fully reflected in safeguarding plans.
- Develop and maintain effective networks across health services, supporting referral pathways, escalation processes, and access to services for children at risk of significant harm.
- Lead health-related audit, quality assurance, and service improvement activity within MACPT, identifying learning and driving improvements in safeguarding practice and partnership working.
- Contribute to the development, review and implementation of safeguarding policies, procedures, pathways and practice guidance.
- Support the design, delivery, evaluation and continuous improvement of safeguarding training, workforce development and learning activities across the MACPT and wider partnership.
- Support service development, practice improvement and the implementation of new safeguarding initiatives, pathways and ways of working.
- Participate in individual clinical supervision provided by the host organisation, alongside supervision in accordance with Westmorland and Furness Council's supervision policy, and contribute to multi-agency supervision, reflective practice, and learning discussions as part of the MACPT model.
- Identify service gaps, barriers, and issues affecting clinical pathways or cross-boundary working arrangements. Escalate concerns and evidence of ineffective safeguarding practice or systems, within or beyond MACPT, to the Strategic MACPT for oversight and action.
- Develop and maintain data collection, reporting, and information-sharing processes that support accurate, timely, and lawful decision-making, ensuring compliance with relevant legislation, including the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Children Acts 1989 and 2004, the Human Rights Act, UK GDPR, and confidentiality requirements.

Please note: Annual targets will be discussed during the appraisal process.

Key Facts and Figures of the Post

- **Budget Responsibilities:** No budget responsibilities.
- **Staff Management Responsibilities:** No direct line management responsibility; however, the postholder will provide professional advice, guidance, and support to practitioners on health-related matters, safeguarding practice, and the effective coordination of health interventions.
- **Other:** N/A

Essential Criteria

- **Qualifications:**

- Professional registration in Nursing with extensive post registration experience.
- Additional Specialist qualification in Community Public Health Nursing / District Nursing /Adult/Children's Nursing or equivalent qualification / experience.
- Post graduate experience, skills and training relating to safeguarding to the level of Degree or equivalent.
- Specialist knowledge across a range of procedures underpinned by theory and practice in safeguarding.
- Professional experience of safeguarding children and adults at risk of abuse and neglect including experience.
- Evidence of on-going professional development in relation to safeguarding.
- Knowledge across a range of procedures underpinned by theory and practice implementation of the Mental Capacity Act, Cared for Children and Child Protection.

- **Knowledge:**

- Thorough knowledge of safeguarding legislation, statutory guidance, and child protection procedures, including the Children Act 1989 and 2004, Working Together to Safeguard Children, and relevant information-sharing requirements.
- Understanding of the impact of abuse, neglect, trauma, domestic abuse, parental mental health, substance misuse, exploitation, and contextual safeguarding on children and young people.
- Understanding of health inequalities, adverse childhood experiences, and the wider social determinants of health, and their impact on children, families, and safeguarding outcomes.
- Knowledge of the health needs, statutory responsibilities and pathways for cared for children, care experienced young people and children subject to child protection planning.
- Knowledge of health services, pathways, and interventions available to children, young people, and families across acute, community, primary care, and mental health settings.
- Understanding of confidentiality, consent, information governance, and UK GDPR requirements.
- Knowledge of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements and partnership working.
- Extensive understanding and knowledge of NHS commissioning and provider services legislation and guidance in respect of the rights and legislative, policy and statutory guidance for safeguarding adults and children.
- Excellent communication, ICT, presentation & report writing skills.

- **Experience:**

- Significant post-registration experience working with children, young people, and families in a safeguarding, child protection, health visiting, school nursing, paediatric, community health, or related setting.
- Experience of contributing to child protection enquiries, strategy discussions, conferences, assessments, and multi-agency planning.
- Experience of working collaboratively across organisational and professional boundaries to achieve positive outcomes for children.

- Experience of undertaking audit, quality assurance, service evaluation and improvement activity to improve safeguarding practice.
 - Experience of providing professional supervision, consultation, advice and leadership in safeguarding practice.
 - Experience of analysing and interpreting complex information to inform safeguarding assessments and decision-making.
 - Experience of providing professional advice, consultation, and challenge to practitioners and partner agencies.
 - Ability to inspire others and lead by example, act as ambassador for the organisation, in all aspects of the role.
 - Provide advice and guidance in relation to the Mental Capacity Act and its application within safeguarding practice where appropriate.
- **Expertise:**
 - Ability to assess, analyse, and interpret complex health and safeguarding information and apply professional judgement to support decision-making.
 - Strong communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to build effective relationships across agencies and professional groups.
 - Ability to translate complex clinical terminology into clear and accessible information for professionals, families, and partner agencies.
 - Skilled in chairing or contributing effectively to multi-agency meetings and safeguarding forums.
 - Ability to provide constructive professional challenge and escalate concerns where safeguarding practice, decision-making or systems place children at risk.
 - Strong organisational skills, with the ability to manage competing priorities and work effectively in a complex environment.
 - Ability to support reflective practice, recognise the impact of trauma and secondary trauma, and maintain professional resilience.

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Checks

- This post requires a DBS check.
- The level of check required is:
 - DBS Enhanced – Children

Job Working Circumstances

- **Emotional Demands:**
 - Support practitioners working with children who have experienced trauma, abuse, and neglect, recognising the potential impact of secondary trauma and emotional distress. Effectively utilise supervision, reflective practice, and wellbeing support to manage these demands.
- **Physical Demands:**
 - Office based work; required to undertake typing of reports, sitting / standing to give presentations.
- **Working Conditions:**
- **Other Factors:** (Any other relevant factors)
 - The post holder will be required to adopt a flexible approach to working arrangements and may occasionally be required to work outside normal office hours in response to urgent safeguarding concerns, critical incidents, or exceptional operational demands.

- Ability and willingness to travel across the Westmorland and Furness area, maintaining a regular presence within the Kendal, Barrow and Penrith offices to support partnership working, relationship building, and effective engagement with practitioners and agencies.

Other Factors:

- N/A