

Job Description: Community Care Solicitor

Reporting to: Director

Location: London/Hybrid

Job Type: Full-time

Department: Community Care

Salary: Competitive dependant on experience.

About Us

We are a leading legal aid law firm committed to providing high-quality legal advice and representation to vulnerable individuals. Our work focuses on promoting access to justice and upholding the rights of our clients.

Role Purpose:

As Community Care Solicitors we are specialists in challenging decisions made by Children's or Adult's Social Services and other bodies where it's believed they've acted unlawfully in the provision of services to disabled or vulnerable people, children and the elderly.

We're recruiting an experienced and ambitious Community Care Solicitor to join to join our dynamic legal aid practice. With a modern approach, the firm are legal experts within their areas of law and pride ourselves on high levels of client care, providing an outstanding service at all times.

We require a self-motivated individual with excellent communication and written skills. You will be highly organised, able to manage a varied workload and work well under pressure. Patience and tact are necessary as you will be assisting vulnerable people whose welfare is our priority. Sound knowledge of legal aid funding is desirable.

As a solicitor joining our friendly and expanding team, we will provide support and on-going training; however, you must have enough experience to hit the ground running.

We're a versatile and adaptive practice with a unique approach to the delivery of legal services, and we work hard to achieve the best results for our clients.

Community Care Solicitor:

A committed and passionate solicitor with good knowledge of community care and public law, current policies, and legal aid. You will need to share our passion for access to justice, have good knowledge of the legal aid scheme.

The successful applicant will have solid experience of running a diverse community care/public law claimant case load and will demonstrate a solid commitment to upholding the rights of vulnerable people in society.

You will be working with colleagues specialising in housing and public law.

Required duties:

- Carrying out all allotted casework, promptly and efficiently.
- Analysing legal matters and advising clients of appropriate course of action.
- Communicating clearly and regularly with clients and complying with 'client care' requirements.
- Dealing with all routine correspondence, negotiations and advocacy, where appropriate.
- Ensuring time spent on all casework is promptly recorded and on conclusion of cases are billed and payment is recorded promptly.
- Ensuring where any part of the work within the department is funded by the Legal Aid Agency that requirements are met.
- Keeping up to date with general legal developments, particularly relating to own specialist field(s).
- Providing supervision where appropriate and/or reporting to supervisors when supervision required.

Skills/Knowledge Requirements

- At least 2 years' experience of working on a full range of community care and/or Court of Protection law (including challenging assessments and care plans, ensuring that local authorities comply with their safeguarding duties, identifying judicial review challenges and potential Court of Protection cases)
- Ability to communicate effectively with the firm's client group
- Problem-solving ability
- Experience of working to targets
- Excellent IT Skills
- Commitment to our client group in connection with maintaining access to justice
- Current Practising Certificate
- Experience of Legal Aid funding and using CCMS

For more information and to apply: Email cover letter and CV to Natalie Harrington at natalieh@lawstop.co.uk

Firm Profile

Lawstop is a specialist firm of legal aid and private solicitors with offices in London, Brighton and West Sussex, Cornwall, Somerset, Bristol, Nottingham, Cambridge and The Wirral. We are the UK's largest provider of housing legal aid and are dedicated to social justice and upholding the rights of our vulnerable clients.

Inclusion & Diversity

We are committed to building an inclusive culture here at Lawstop where our people can thrive, regardless of their background or circumstance. As well as being the right thing to do, it makes good business sense too. A richness of backgrounds, experiences and perspectives helps us best serve our clients and the communities in which we operate and we have a proud mix of ages, ethnic backgrounds, genders and life experiences in our team. You can find out more about inclusion and diversity at Lawstop on our website.

Equal Opportunities

Lawstop is committed to providing equal opportunities for all. We welcome applications from everyone including of any age, ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, nationality, neurodiversity, disability, or with parental or caring responsibilities. We also offer flexible working hours.

During the application process, all applicants have the opportunity to tell us about any adjustments or support they require so they are able to perform at their best. Any information you share with us during the application process is treated in confidence.

The recruitment process will fully comply with GDPR and other applicable laws.