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| LAWYER – CHILDREN’S SERVICES  **SALARY GRADE: HBC10 (£7k market rate)** | Halton Borough Council  resourcing@halton.gov.uk |
| Working at Halton | |
| All our colleagues at Halton have made a positive commitment to delivering great outcomes for our communities. Whoever joins us will share that passion for outstanding service, and strongly align with the values which define our workplace culture:   * Working Together – building fantastic relationships with colleagues and customers * Continuous Improvement – Keeping great service delivery at the heart of everything we do * Personal Growth – Learning, growing and developing ourselves * Accountability – doing what we say we are going to do * Inspiring Leadership – positive roles models and leading by example   *To read more about our values, click* [*HERE*](https://haltoncouncilcareers.co.uk/values/)  **We are immensely proud that when asked what’s great about working for Halton, the most popular response from our workforce has been ‘*our colleagues’*.**  Aside from working with a great team, our employees have access to a fantastic range of benefits, including:   * A generous annual holiday allowance starting at 34 days per year (including bank holidays), increasing with long service * Membership of our defined benefit, salary-linked pension scheme with generous Employer Contributions * 3 x Salary Life Cover via Local Government Pension Scheme * Investment in your personal development * Free Car Parking at HBC sites * Flexible / hybrid working arrangements available * Car leasing schemes * Essential Monthly Car User Allowance   *For further information about all the benefits we offer, please click* [*HERE*](https://haltoncouncilcareers.co.uk/benefits/)*.* | |
| About the Job Our Legal Services Directorate ensures that Halton Borough Council and its interests are protected by providing legal, corporate, and constitutional advice, and support at all levels.  Legal Services provides a full range of services to HBC, advising on both contentious business, such as Children’s and Adults Social Care, Anti-Social Behaviour, prosecutions, licensing, contractual disputes, debt recovery, and non-contentious business, including planning, asset management work, and acquisitions.  Our Solicitor will provide legal and procedural advice and legal services in respect of all the Councils functions in the most cost effective and efficient way to secure Best Value for the Authority.  Our Solicitor will be instrumental in ensuring the service provided is of a consistently high quality, is client facing, and regularly meets with key clients, and external partners to discuss service delivery.  Our Solicitor will provide a meaningful contribution to the maintenance and development of Practice Standards across Legal Services.  More specific responsibilities include: | |
| * Undertaking criminal and civil advocacy and litigation work, in order to protect and further the Council’s objectives in the Courts, Tribunals and at Statutory Appeals and Inquiries. | |
| * Providing advice and guidance and other legal services as required to ensure that Directorates receive effective and high quality legal advice and services. * Identifying, researching, and anticipating the effects on service provision of new developments in the law to ensure that clients are able to deliver timely and responsive services. * Delivering training for Members, Officers and Legal Services staff and to participate in recognised national and regional group activities to improve understanding of legal and service issues and the quality of service provision. * Providing legal and procedural advice to the Council’s Boards, Committees, Panels and Groups of Meetings to ensure that policy and operational decisions are taken in the most effective and beneficial way. * Delivering legal advice to Officers and their staff to ensure that policy is formulated and operational decisions are taken on a sound legal basis. * Collaborating constructively with partner organisations and other stakeholders including internal services and colleagues. * Providing cover as and when necessary for all areas of legal work which are the responsibilities of Legal Services. * Adhering to the prescribed Practice Standards within Legal Services. * Complying with corporate/directorate HR practices. * Undertaking any other duties and responsibilities as may be assigned from time to time which are commensurate with the grade of the job. | |
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| About You | |
| You will have a recognised legal qualification as a Solicitor, Barrister, or Chartered Legal Executive.  In addition you will have:   * Preferably experience acquired in local government or similar environment of advising Officers/Clients, Members, and Committees. * Excellent oral and written communication and comprehension skills, including the capacity to negotiate, to draft complex legal documentation and advice often under time pressure while meeting deadlines, and to demonstrate an innovative, problem-solving approach to legal problems. * Advocacy, negotiation, and communication skills. * Experience of collaborative working with a range of stakeholders. * A proactive and collaborative approach to problem-solving and working within a team. * Experience of building strong working relationships with clients and internal teams. * A commitment to developing expertise in new specialisms as well as maintaining and practising existing advocacy skills. * Strong IT skills including Microsoft packages or equivalent (e.g. G Suite, Mosaic).   As this role involves regular travel across the borough and sometimes further afield, a driving licence and access to a vehicle are essential requirements. Where appropriate, reasonable adjustments will be made in accordance with the provisions of the Equality Act.  The Council and its schools are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and adults and expect all staff, workers and volunteers to share its commitment. | |
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