



CANDIDATE PACK

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE AND EDUCATION

Sefton Council



Starfish

WELCOME TO SEFTON!

Sefton is a vibrant local authority that is already on a journey of aspiration and ambition as it works towards delivering its exciting Vision 2030. This journey is shared with our partners and communities as we strive to ensure Sefton is a confident and connected Borough.

Having recently published our economic strategy which builds on significant investment in the borough, we want to use this opportunity as a lever to further develop services to support communities.

The Council has also invested significant funding in children's services and adults social care and with several new senior officers joining us and an incredible workforce across the authority we feel confident about our journey. We are proud of our workforce, and with our strong track record of partnership working and place leadership, the Council is in the best possible place to meet the challenges and opportunities ahead.

Welcome To Sefton video: [Click Here](#)

WELCOME

Dear prospective candidate,

I am delighted that you are considering applying to become Sefton Council's next Director of Children's Services (DCS).

A detailed Applicant Pack is available to help give you an understanding of what makes Sefton so special, what makes our organisation such a great place to work and what our aspirations are for our communities and our partners.



I'll try not to repeat too much of what's available in the Applicant Pack, but I just wanted to let you know that I'm thrilled you're thinking of joining our team at such a crucial time.

If you've done your research, you'll know that this is a challenging time for Sefton's Children's Services. In May 2022 Ofsted announced that following an inspection in March 2022, Sefton's Children's Services was rated as "Inadequate", and a commissioner was appointed by Government.

Since then, a tremendous amount of work has gone into producing our robust improvement plans. So many positive changes have been implemented, but of course, there is still much to do.

We have the foundations in place to build on and deliver our improvement plan for Children's Services. Improving our service has never just been about improving our Ofsted rating, it's about making sure children benefit from the best services possible, making sure they are safe, protected and inspired to reach their full potential.

Could you be the person to navigate the service through the choppy waters of our improvement journey? You'll be leading a dedicated workforce, with a budget of nearly £70 million, improving quality and practice and embedding a culture that creates the environment where all our staff feel inspired and empowered to lead positive change, where continuous improvement is at the forefront of people's minds and where people are motivated to constantly learn and improve.

If this sounds like the job for you, and you feel you can hit the ground running, then I look forward to receiving your application.

Best wishes

Cllr Ian Maher
Leader of Sefton Council

ABOUT THE ROLE

Executive Director, Children's Social Care and Education

Salary: £123,677 (more available for an exceptional candidate)

We are on a journey of improvement in children's services and are currently seeking an Executive Director for Children's Social Care and Education who will lead our transformation work, bringing vision, ambition and drive to these vital services. We recognise we have challenges to overcome and you will play a key role in what is a supportive and established executive leadership team, working with partners and colleagues to shape the borough and improve outcomes for all our communities.

We are investing a further £20m into the transformation of children's services which means we will have increased our budget by 85% over the last 4 years. With strong political support and a committed workforce, our ambition and aspiration for our children and families is paramount; we have significantly increased our management capacity and have a relentless focus on supporting good practice. Our relationships with our educational, health and voluntary sector partners is strong but we recognise that we can do more to improve, so someone with partnership experience in these areas would be welcomed.

We are investing in our workforce and are promoting opportunities to our under-represented groups. We value equality, diversity and inclusion and are focused on increasing the diversity of our workforce, particularly the number of Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic, Disabled and LGBTQ+ people, so that our teams reflect the communities in the area we serve.

Our new Executive Director must therefore be able to lead, influence and motivate people successfully through change, whilst maintaining a strong performance culture. You will help us develop integrated services with our education, health and voluntary sector partners, and ensure that the voice and experience of children is at the heart of all that we do.

This is a corporate post directly managed by the Chief Executive, and corporate leadership is an essential element of this role. Hence, the postholder will need to support the delivery of the new corporate plan and ensure that it is aligned with the vision for children's services.



KEY CHILDREN'S SERVICES LINKS:

Children's social care: [Click Here](#)

CYP Plan: [Click Here](#)

Key strategies: [Click Here](#)

Children's Improvement Plan Phase 2: [Click Here](#)

Education excellence strategy: [Click Here](#)

Sefton Safeguarding Children Partnership: [Click Here](#)

Ofsted reports: [Click Here](#)



ABOUT THE COUNCIL

The Council is composed of 66 Councillors with one-third elected annually (three years in every four) for a term of four years.

Sefton's political composition:

Labour	45
The Liberal Democrat and Progressive Alliance Group	8
Conservative	5
Lydiate, Maghull, Aintree and Lunt Community Independents	3
Independents Group	2
The Southport Councillors Group	2
Vacancies	1
Total	66

The Leader of the Council is Cllr Ian Maher [Click Here](#) and there is more information about the Cabinet here: [Click Here](#)

KEY LINKS AND DOCUMENTS:

Plans and policies: [Click Here](#)

The Sefton economy: [Click Here](#)

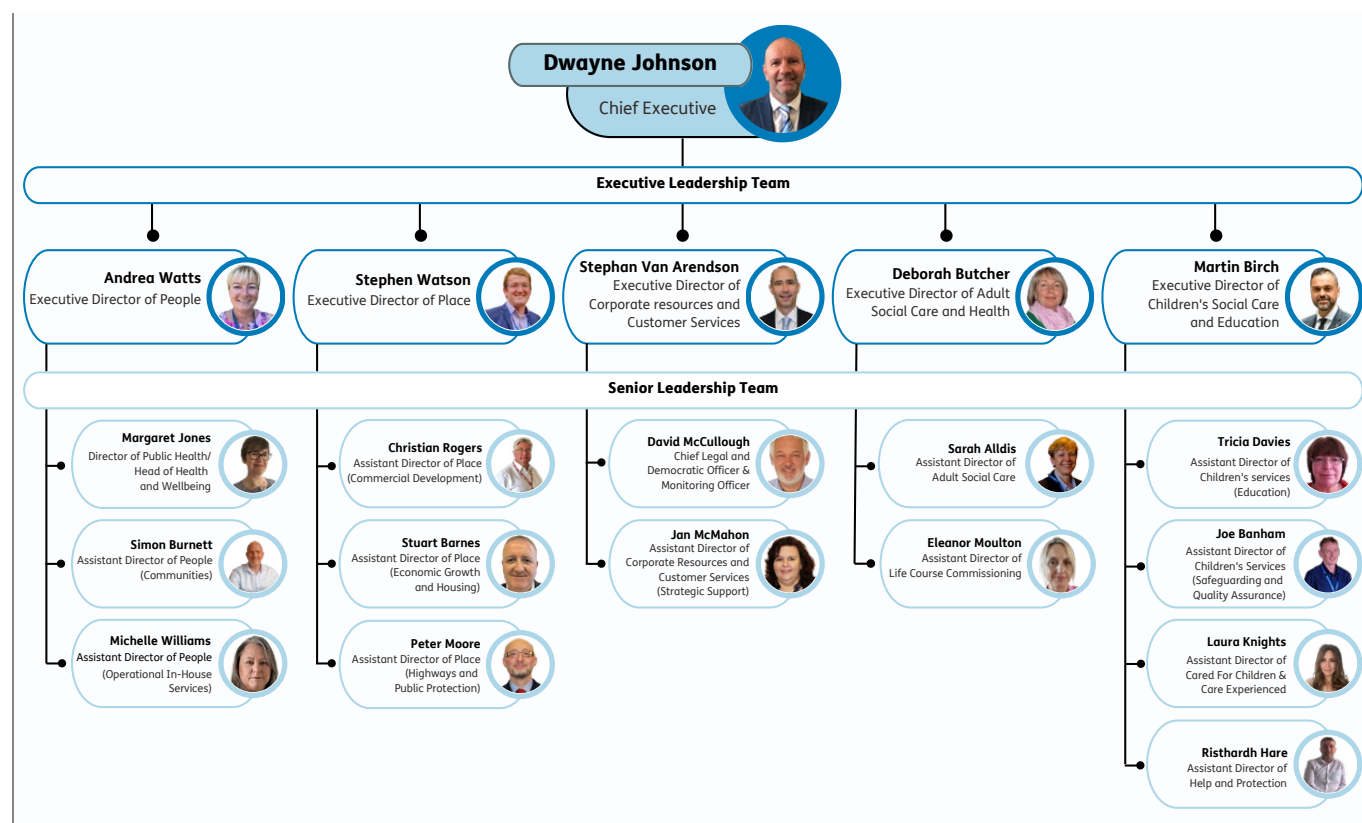
Council budgets: [Click Here](#)

LGA Peer Review – Sefton's self-assessment /position statement 2022: [Click Here](#)

LGA feedback report 2022: [Click Here](#)

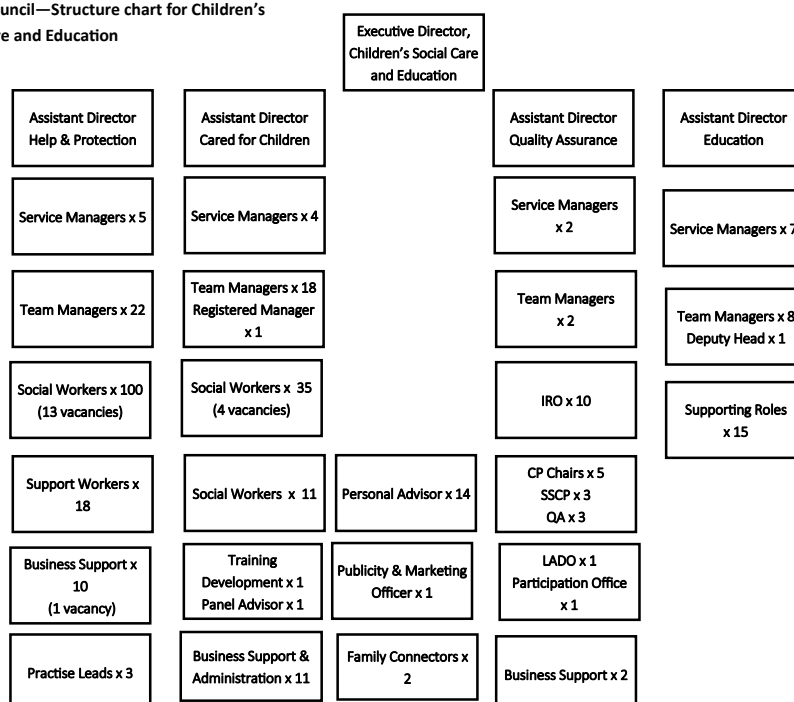


SEFTON COUNCIL SENIOR MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE



STRUCTURE CHART FOR CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE AND EDUCATION

Sefton Council—Structure chart for Children's Social Care and Education



OUR VISION AND CORE PURPOSE

During 2016 Sefton Council led on developing a new and exciting vision for the future of the borough.

Working closely with partners, businesses, private sector organisations, the voluntary, community and faith sector and the wider Sefton community, the aim behind the work was to understand and focus on what is important for the borough and its communities in the future.

'Imagine Sefton 2030' engaged with thousands of people, local businesses and potential investors to create a vision that collectively promotes shared prosperity, coordinated public investment, and a healthy environment and population.

Vision 2030 was agreed in November 2016, together with the Vision Outcomes Framework and Council's Core Purpose.

The Vision will guide long term planning - helping to stimulate growth, prosperity, set new expectation levels and to help focus on what is important for Sefton. The Core Purpose provides an outline to how the Council will contribute to achieving those ambitions set out in the Vision 2030. The Council's major change programme - the Framework for Change - will support us to begin this journey.

Vision And Core Purpose: [Click here](#)

Sefton's "One Council" values: [Click here](#)

ABOUT THE BOROUGH AND THE REGION

Sefton is the northern borough of the Liverpool City Region with more than 273,000 residents. Sefton is a confident and connected borough with 22 miles of stunning coastline and world class assets such as Aintree racecourse and Royal Birkdale golf course.

Spanning the busy Port of Liverpool, the famous Antony Gormley 'Another Place' installation at Crosby, attractive beaches and dunes, the distinct communities of Formby and Maghull, and the Victorian resort town of Southport, the diversity of the borough provides a unique mix of urban and natural settings.

Sefton is a diverse and exciting borough where people can enjoy a great work-life balance. With excellent transport links Sefton is well placed for accessing Liverpool, Greater Manchester and Lancashire.

Visit Sefton and West Lancs: [Click here](#)

Liverpool City Region: [Click here](#)

For latest news about Sefton: [Click here](#)

RECRUITMENT INFORMATION

For more information about this opportunity (including the role profile), please see <https://starfishsearch.com/jobs/sefton-ex-dir-csce/>, or contact Luke Judd at Starfish on 07435 270659 or via luke.judd@starfishsearch.com.

You will need to apply via this website by uploading your CV and a supporting statement (max four sides).

We would also be grateful if you would also complete the Equality and Diversity monitoring form on the online application process. This form is for monitoring purposes only and is not treated as part of your application.

Closing Date for applications:	9th April 2023
Technical Interviews (Microsoft teams):	10th or 11th May 2023
Assessment Centre:	25th May 2023
Final Interview:	26th May 2023

