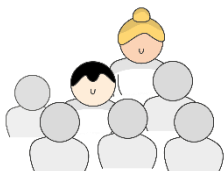


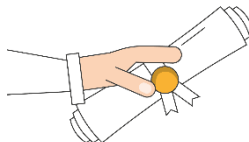
APPLICATION PACK

Procurement and Contract Management Officer One year fixed term

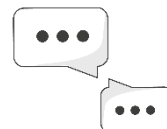
Recruiting



Training



Supporting



Improving outcomes for children and young people

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INTRODUCTION FROM THE NATIONAL CONVENER



Dear applicant,

Thank you for expressing an interest in working with Children's Hearings Scotland.

As an organisation that works within the Children's Hearings System, we are passionate about making a positive contribution to improving the outcomes of Scotland's children and young people.

Our vision is of a hearings system where everyone works together. This makes sure that all children and young people are loved, cared for and protected and that their views are heard, respected and valued. We are currently rolling out a range of projects that will see us transform the way we work, helping us to achieve our vision. It is a truly exciting time to join Children's Hearings Scotland.

It is an enormous privilege to lead this organisation, and we are committed to shaping a modern Children's Hearings System that meets the needs of Scotland's children and young people.

Good luck with your application.

Elliot Jackson
National Convener and Chief Executive Officer



ABOUT US



Children's Hearings Scotland recruits, trains and supports around 2,500 skilled volunteer Panel Members who sit on children's hearings and make decisions with and for vulnerable children and young people across Scotland.





WHAT IS THE CHILDREN'S HEARINGS SYSTEM?

Scotland's unique Children's Hearings System are legal meetings set up because there are concerns about the wellbeing or care of an infant, child or young person. Their problems are addressed in a legal tribunal where Panel Members, recruited and trained by Children's Hearings Scotland (CHS), decide on the best outcome for the child involved while upholding and promoting their rights.



WHAT WE DO AT CHS

Children's Hearings Scotland (CHS) **recruits, trains and supports** around 2,500 Panel Members across Scotland who are supported by regional Area Support Teams (AST). Panel Members make legal decisions with, and for, children and young people in children's hearings and AST members provide support and guidance to these Panel Members locally. You may have heard of us being referred to as the Children's Panel too.

CHS is led by our National Convener and Chief Executive, Elliott Jackson.





The Children's Hearings System has been in operation in Scotland since 1971, in 2020, Scotland made **The Promise**. The Promise is that Scotland's children and young people will grow up loved, safe and respected.

Reform of the Children's Hearings System is leading to a number of changes.

- We are strengthening our support structures for volunteers.
- Scottish Government is delivering legislation that brings all under 18s into the Children's Hearings System to comply with United Nations Conventions.
- CHS and partners are working with the Scottish Government, and The Promise Scotland, to deliver the widest range of changes to the Children's Hearings System since it was created.

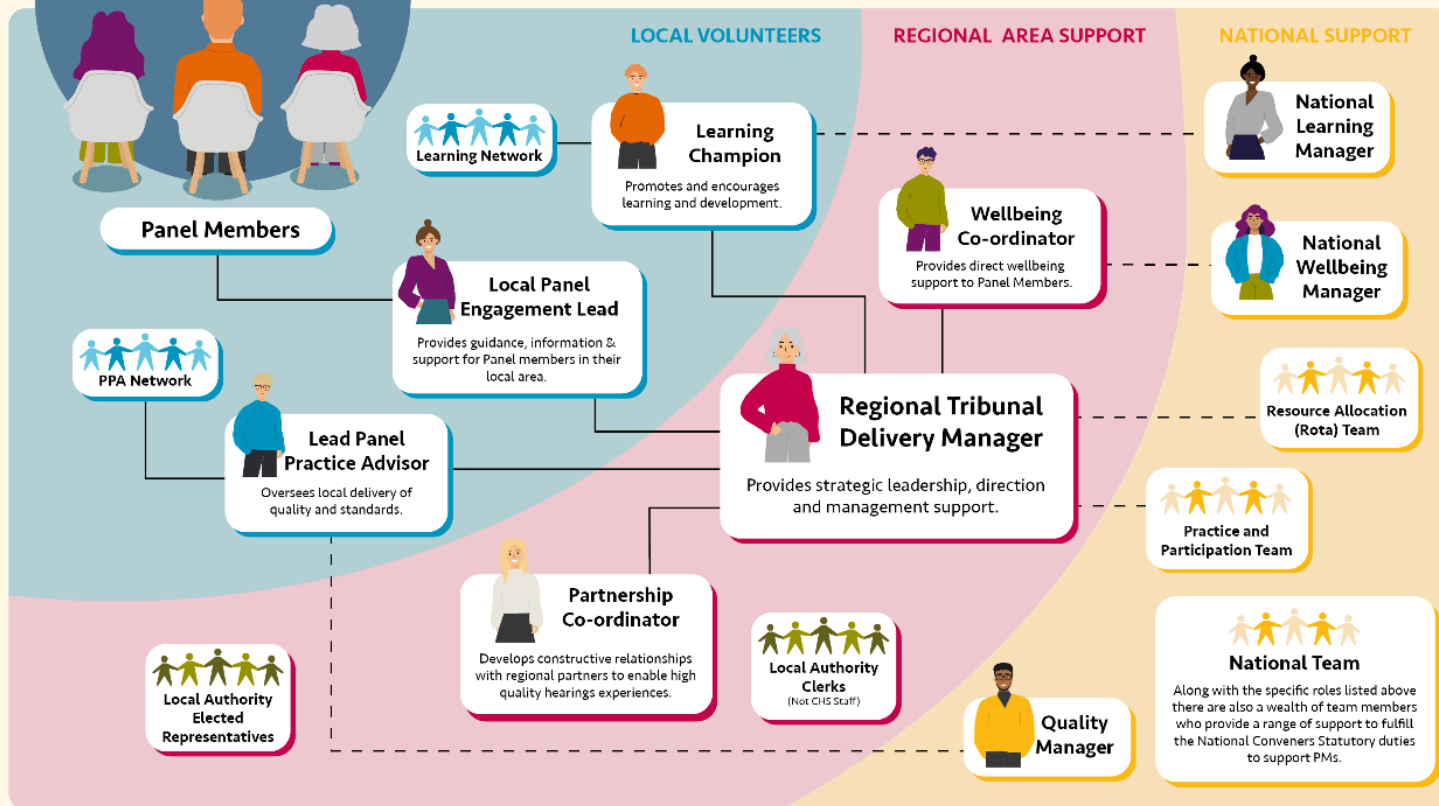
All this helps ensure we have the right structures along with the skills, knowledge and expertise required to make some of the most difficult and transformative decisions about children's lives and futures.

Although this is a lot to take on, it's done with a singular goal - improving the lives of infants, children and young people.

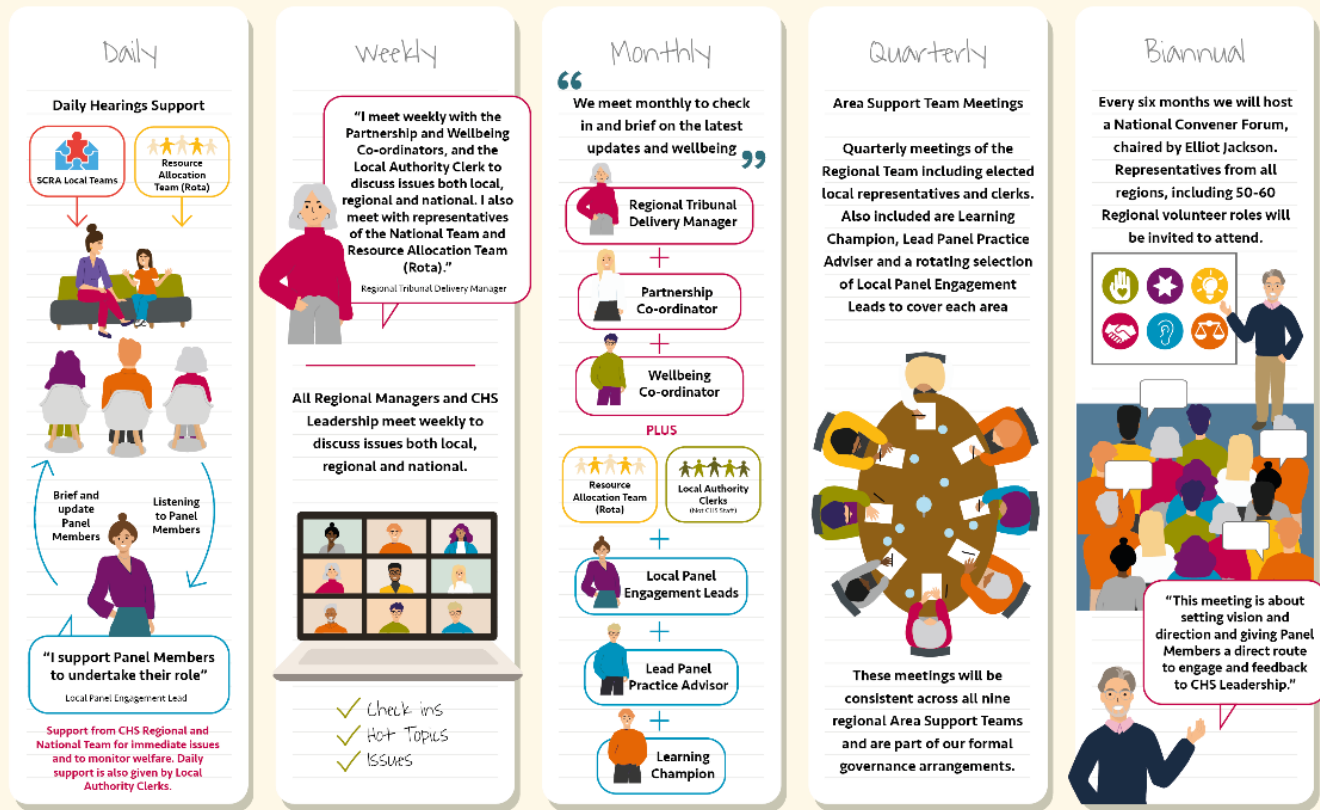
Together, we will deliver on that promise to make Scotland to be the best place to grow up. As a Panel Member, you can be part of it too.

HOW CHS SUPPORTS OUR PANEL MEMBERS

Behind every Panel Member that is making decisions for and with infants, children and young people, is a **Regional Area Support Team (AST)** to provide support, learning and wellbeing of Panel Members. The Regional Area Support Team (AST) is the operational group that manages the effective delivery of CHS's statutory functions in one of nine geographical localities across Scotland.



HOW WE WORK TOGETHER AT CHILDREN'S HEARINGS SCOTLAND



OUR VISION



Our vision is of a Children's Hearings System where everyone works together, making sure that all children and young people are loved, cared for and protected and their views are heard, respected and valued.

OUR VALUES



Our values sit alongside our vision and mission and are threaded throughout everything we do.



COMPLETING YOUR APPLICATION



Thank you for your interest in joining our team at Children's Hearings Scotland. We are also known as CHS.

This application form has been designed to ensure compliance with legislation and best practice. The processing of all information will be in accordance with the requirement of the [Data Protection Act 2018](#). The information you provide on your application form will only be used as part of the selection procedure and for any subsequent employment administration if your application is successful.

For further details on how your information will be handled please refer to our [privacy statement](#). If any part of the form is unclear, please contact us at jobs@chs.gov.scot.

We are striving to be an equal opportunities employer with a diverse workforce which is representative of the population we serve. We are committed to embedding a culture of equality and diversity into our organisation and ensuring that all job applicants and employees are treated fairly, without discrimination because of age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage or civil partnership status, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation or any other factor.

At the end of the application form you will find our Equal Opportunities Monitoring Survey which is intended to assist CHS in maintaining equal opportunities best practice and in identifying equality barriers for job applicants. We would be grateful if you would complete it.

Employees of CHS must adhere to a detailed Staff Code of Conduct. Key principles in this are that staff:

- act in the best interests of CHS
- are honest
- are selfless
- have integrity and respect

Prior to employment, all applicants will undergo pre-employment background checks in line with the Scottish Government's Baseline Personnel Security Standards.

We may contact previous employers, educational providers, fraud prevention bodies, local authorities and government agencies as part of this process. We may also use background screening companies.

Guidance on filling in the online application form

The form has been designed to help both the applicants and our resourcing team process applications quickly, efficiently and on a variety of devices. This application can be accessed on any device.

The application sections are detailed below. We advise you to read over them and have

your information prepared on separate document you can cut and paste from, such as your CV or covering letter. Once you start the application, you will not be able to save it and return to complete it at a later stage.

CHS does not accept CVs. Please ensure you include all relevant information on this form.

Section 1

- **Personal Information:** Please note that only your surname is required in full. Give only the initials of your first name(s).

Section 2

- **Education and Training:** This section asks about your education and job-related training. Please give us enough details to assess your attainments in relation to the post for which you are applying.
- Continue on a separate sheet if necessary. We need a minimum of three years' job-related or education history.

Section 3 to 7

- **Work Experience:** This section asks about your work experience with a separate section for each relevant role. We have supplied space for your most recent post as well as four previous roles.
- Please give as much detail as you feel gives us an accurate picture, both about the type of work you are/were doing and the responsibilities you have or have had. Please start with the most recent and share dates where possible.

Section 8

- **Supplementary Information:** Please detail any further experience or information relevant to the post for which you are applying, considering the information you have been given about the post, for example the job description or person specification. Try to ensure you are clear about how you meet the essential criteria listed.

Section 9

- **General Information:** You are asked to tell us if you are related to any member of CHS's staff or Board. This is to ensure compliance with CHS's Code of Conduct Policy.
- You are asked to tell us if you are currently eligible for employment in the UK. This is so that we can ensure compliance with the [Immigration Act 2014, Asylum and Immigration Act 1996](#) and the [Immigration, Asylum and Nationality Act 2006](#) which requires organisations to ensure individuals to whom they are offering employment

have permission to work in the UK. Please visit www.gov.uk/check-uk-visa if you are unsure of your status.

- If you are invited to interview, you will be required to produce such evidence.
- CHS works with vulnerable persons under the age of 18 and we are required by [The Protection of Vulnerable Groups \(Scotland\) Act 2007](#) to ensure that all of the staff we employ are suitable to work with persons under 18 or with their data. CHS is also an exempted body for the purposes of the [Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 \(Exceptions\) Order 1975](#).
- CHS must consider, prior to offering employment, any information of any spent and unspent convictions that may be relevant to the post for which you are applying. No unconditional offer of employment will be made until a satisfactory Protecting Vulnerable Groups (PVG) clearance has been received.
- If you are the successful candidate for the post, you will be asked to complete a pre-employment health questionnaire. This questionnaire will be screened by CHS' Occupational Health Provider, who may ask you to attend for consultation.
- Formal offers of employment will be made once CHS' Occupational Health Provider has assessed the individual as "fit to work" and where appropriate any reasonable adjustments have been implemented.

Section 10

- **References:** We request three professional references. References will only be taken up if you are shortlisted. Please indicate if you do not wish your referee(s) to be contacted at this stage.
- Please note that no unconditional offer of employment will be made until satisfactory references have been received.

Section 11

- **Declaration:** You are asked to declare the information you provided is true to the best of your knowledge. If you have any questions or concerns please contact us at jobs@chs.gov.scot.

Section 12

- **Equality Monitoring:** The information in this survey will be used for monitoring purposes only. Your responses are voluntary but the more information you supply, the more effective our monitoring of responses will be.
- This information will only be viewed by the CHS Resourcing Team and is not

connected to your application form and will not be used to identify you. It will not be seen by anyone involved in interviewing or shortlisting and will be stored securely in line with the principles of the Data Protection Act 2018.

- Monitoring will help to improve our recruitment processes and enable us to be as inclusive an employer as possible.
- Please select the most applicable option in the questions and complete the open boxes where relevant. We would be grateful if you would fill in this survey.

APPLICATION FORM



[Complete your application form now](#)

JOB DESCRIPTION



Reports to:	Finance Manager
Direct Reports	n/a
JD Last Updated	n/a
Role Last Evaluated	n/a

Overview of role

Deliver a professional, flexible and inclusive procurement service in line with CHS's Procurement Policy, to both internal managers and external suppliers. The post holder will ensure that CHS receives best value for money in the procurement of all goods, services and works to deliver an effective and efficient service. They will also be responsible for implementing and overseeing a contract management system across CHS.

The post holder will ensure full compliance with all relevant Public Sector regulations giving due regard to CHS's operational needs and requirements to ensure operational effectiveness is maximised and ensure CHS's procurement practices continually evolve to reflect new developments and best practice. The role will support the delivery of CHS's strategic aims, objectives and values, whilst ensuring compliance with national policies and will contribute to CHS's net zero targets and the Scottish Government's objective for sustainable economic growth and achievement of relevant National Outcomes.

MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITIES

- Delegated Purchasing Authority – individual contracts up to £50k
- Managing and influencing procurement spend of c. £2 million per annum
- Following effective competition, commit CHS to contracts
- Approval of Non-Competitive Actions – up to £10k per contract
- Excellent organisational and administrative abilities
- Good project management and negotiation skills
- Initiative and ability to work with minimal direct supervision
- The ability to foster and contribute to collaborative working
- Driven towards continuous improvement
- Ability to handle difficult or challenging situations

OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITIES

- Qualification in relevant discipline or equivalent experience
- Monitor, register and manage all commercial arrangements throughout CHS including keeping a register of all contractual engagement across CHS

- Knowledge of the application of Public Sector and National Legislation and experience of conducting complex procurement exercises
- Significant experience of purchasing and procurement in the public sector

CORE ACTIVITIES

- Provide support and advice on a range of procurement matters and assess corporate, business and operational requirements to ensure procurement issues are identified at the earliest opportunity, focusing on managing risk, ensuring full compliance with legislation and achieving efficiencies and best value
- Manage and influence annual estimated procurement spend of c. £2m by developing, publishing and implementing CHS's Corporate Procurement Strategy, Annual Report, Policies and Procedures, ensuring compliance with all relevant legislation
- Lead on implementing CHS's Sustainable Procurement Action Plan and report progress to the Scottish Government and prepare CHS for the Procurement & Commercial Improvement Programme (PCIP) capability assessment
- Chair and lead meetings with CHS Managers to ensure that all contractual arrangements are in place, including major capital contracts and plan resources for future procurement competitions, ensuring Procurement Programme and Contracts Register are maintained and regularly reviewed and updated and ensuring CHS receives best value for money in terms of cost, quality and sustainability
- Deliver savings and benefits and meet annual savings target through improved procurement and working closely with customers to improve commercial management of contracts and suppliers
- Report to SLT, Board and Scottish Government on savings achieved, produce regular spend reports and statutory Annual Procurement Report, monitor spend vs budget and highlight and action areas of improvement, with emphasis on increasing CHS's contracted spend. Complete Procurement section of statutory Climate Change Report
- Provide procurement and contractual advice to all CHS Management, Budget Holders, Project Managers, external partners and suppliers, by building and maintaining good working relationships, contributing to User Intelligence Groups, promoting and developing procurement expertise across CHS in line with best practice and maintaining awareness of developments in legislation
- Lead on significant procurement projects, including regulated procurements, carry out benchmarking and market research, support the development of complex specifications, carry out and support tender evaluations and manage debriefing of suppliers, ensuring effective competition and contractual terms & conditions are agreed before awarding contracts or recommending acceptance to National Convener/Chief Executive and/or SLT where contract value require additional approval in line with delegated financial authorities
- Ensure inclusion of relevant and proportionate exclusion, selection and award criteria in procurement exercises, including Fair Work First, environmental, consideration of

Community Benefits, and where relevant complete a Sustainability Test, EHRIAs and Cyber Security assessments, taking account of Data Protection requirements

- Liaise with Public sector partners including the Scottish Government and where appropriate, represent CHS at relevant public sector procurement forums, including Cluster Group meetings, to ensure best possible outcomes
- Establish, maintain and monitor a register of all CHS contracts with a view, but not limited to contract value, contract length and relevant KPIs. Act as a 'gatekeeper' for all contract related queries for contractors as well as CHS national team staff

PERSON SPECIFICATION



PERSONAL EFFECTIVENESS COMPETENCIES

TEAMWORK AND COLLABORATION

- Initiate dialogue across teams and departments recognising that we have a shared responsibility to provide the best experience for our colleagues and wider stakeholders
- Recognise the value of every contribution and area of expertise within the organisation. This includes building links and networks across teams (internally and externally)
- Create a supportive team environment by listening and responding to others and creating opportunities for innovation and generation of ideas and actions

COMMUNICATION

- Be the SME in all matters relating to procurement and contracts and communicate policies and processes effectively to colleagues
- Respond to challenges as they arise
- Manage stakeholder expectations and be flexible, working with stakeholders to deliver results

PERSONAL INTEGRITY

- Motivated by values and getting on with the job
- Show resilience and perform to the highest standards
- Ability to use own initiative and to prioritise workload in high pressure environment

FUNCTIONAL/TECHNICAL COMPETENCIES

ANALYSIS

- Excellent numeric and problem-solving skills and full understanding of budgetary procedures with the ability to produce and interpret statistical information and reports
- Apply the approach to real problems and consider all relevant information
- Apply appropriate rigour to ensure a full solution is designed and achieves the business outcome

ENABLING AND INFORMING PROCUREMENT DECISIONS AND GOOD CONTRACT MANAGEMENT

- Manage service components to ensure they meet business needs and key performance indicators (KPIs)
- Describe procurement methodologies and how these are applied, supporting colleagues to work within the legislative frameworks
- Develop and manage the CHS contract management policy and procedures and support colleagues to implement them with rigour.

TRACK RECORD AND EXPERIENCE

- Proven track record of working in a similar procurement and contract related role

EDUCATIONAL ATTAINMENT/ QUALIFICATIONS

- Professional certification or qualification in procurement and/or contract management or similar is desirable

PROFESSIONAL BODY/MEMBERSHIP

N/A

OTHER REQUIREMENTS FOR THIS ROLE

None

Thank you for your interest in this position.