



Wednesday 17th November

#SWA21



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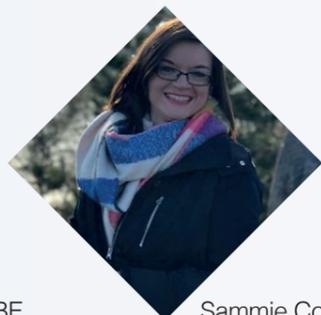
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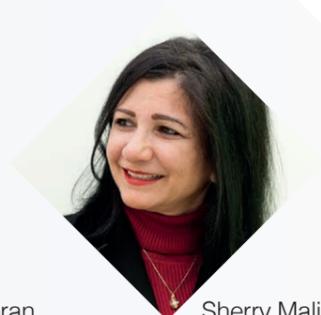
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Welcome to the Social Worker of the Year Awards 2021

We're thrilled to bring back the Awards to recognise outstanding and committed practice delivered by social workers during the past 18 months.

Against a background of societal and political upheaval, social workers continue to do as they have always done – create meaningful relationships so they can work collaboratively with people to achieve meaningful positive change in their lives.

This year we have pared down to 12 categories to better serve the online format. The nominations demonstrated the breadth and depth of the profession, the creative practice which has evolved in the face of challenges and the inspiration and difference social workers can make to individuals, their profession and wider society.

This year will be our first virtual awards ceremony, owing to the ongoing uncertainty around Covid-19. But we plan to bring all our 2021 and 2019 winners back together in person this coming March, for a special celebration at the Houses of Parliament. We can't wait to see you all in person again.

For those of you who are new to the Awards, we'd like you to know that they are run by an independent charity of the same name – the Social Work Awards Ltd – on a not-for-profit basis. The charity is run by a board of 12 Trustees who are, have been or are training to be social workers (from directors to students and everything in between) and people with lived experience. The money we raise from event sponsorship is used to pay for the full annual awards programme, including the Awards event and Parliamentary Reception.

The generous sponsorship we receive allows the Awards to thrive and reach more people than ever, share inspiring practice, and positively promote the profession nationally and locally in England. So, we give heartfelt thanks to long serving and new sponsors without whom the Awards would not be possible.

A big thank you to each and every member of the 45-strong independent online judging panels who gave their time to read and shortlist nominations, share their expertise and take part in rich discussion at the judging panels to choose Gold and Silver Winners for 2021.

We were privileged to be joined by young care leavers from Cafcass and Click Plus (Children Living in Care Council, London Borough of Wandsworth) who took part in judging across the categories, sharing their insight. Thank you to each young person who gave their time and contributed so eloquently. And a special mention to the independent judging panel for the Social Justice Advocate Award 2021, comprised solely from people with lived experience.

As ever, our greatest thanks go to our winners, finalists and all the social workers who are taking small steps and big strides towards positive change every single day. The passion, commitment and dedication shown by the nominees and by thousands of you on a daily basis continues to inspire. Congratulations on your remarkable achievements in testing times.

Board of Trustees, Social Worker of the Year Awards

A special thanks to our Sponsors

Headline Sponsor



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Category Sponsors



Thank You Sponsors



Running order

Thank you for joining us for the 2021 Social Worker of the Year Awards Ceremony

Here's an outline of what you can expect during the celebrations

The Awards is expected to last approximately two hours.

- ◆ Welcome
- ◆ Student Social Worker of the Year
- ◆ University of the Year
- ◆ Newly Qualified Social Worker of the Year
- ◆ Practice Educator of the Year
- ◆ Mental Health Social Worker of the Year
- ◆ Social Justice Advocate Award
- ◆ **Interval (with Manchester Survivors Choir)**
- ◆ Team of the Year (including MDTs)
- ◆ Team Leader of the Year
- ◆ Social Work Employer of the Year
- ◆ Children's Social Worker of the Year
- ◆ Adult Social Worker of the Year
- ◆ Overall Social Worker of the year

Finalists

Student Social Worker of the Year 2021

Supported by Dorset Council

Abigail Davey

Anglia Ruskin University

Carrie Evans

University of Lancaster / Frontline

Justine Bishop

University of Warwick

Lucy Collier

University of Winchester

Sarah Mail

Kingston University

University of the Year 2021

Supported by Torbay Council

Bournemouth University

Durham University

Newly Qualified Social Worker of the Year 2021

Supported by Waltham Forest Council

Anna O'Brien

Hull City Council

Christine Norman

Dorset Council

Finn Jarvis

Gloucestershire County Council

Florina Rice

Devon County Council

Guy Blacklock

Warwickshire County Council

Marie-Anne Holland

Cafcass

Michelle Pullen

Shropshire Council

Rosemarie Connor

Devon County Council

Practice Educator of the Year 2021

Supported by BASW

Anne Cooper

Gloucestershire County Council

Claire Skilleter

Norfolk County Council

Elaine Sharpe

Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council

Laura Lowe

Dorset Council

Peter Walker

Worcestershire County Council

Mental Health Social Worker of the Year 2021

Supported by Essex County Council

Daniel Wilding

Livewell Southwest

John Leavy

Achieving for Children

Kevin Waggott

Northumberland County Council

Rebecca Owen

Somerset County Council

Tulane Chiarletti

Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust

Social Justice Advocate Award 2021

Supported by BASW

Aedan Wolton

Chelsea and Westminster Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Cynthia Minett and Eniola Obikoya

Gloucestershire County Council

Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children Team

Norfolk County Council

Vivian Okeze-Tirado

West Sussex County Council

Wayne Reid

British Association of Social Workers (BASW)

Sensory Support Team

Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council

Team of the Year 2021 (including MDTs)

Supported by UNISON

Eden Valley Hospice and Jigsaw Children's Hospice

Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council and Royal Derby Hospital

Integrated Discharge Team

Derbyshire County Council, Derby City Council and Royal Derby Hospital

Keeping Families Together

Darlington Borough Council

Leaving Care Service

Derbyshire County Council

Preparation for Adulthood

Bradford Council

Team Leader of the Year 2021

Supported by Devon County Council

Amanda Haylock

Portsmouth City Council

Diane Fossey

Richmond and Wandsworth Councils

Kudakwashe Kurashwa

London Borough of Hillingdon

Sam Roper

Knowsley Council

Zakia Bouyis Loughead

Birmingham City Council

Social Work Employer of the Year 2021

Supported by Sanctuary Personnel

Essex County Council

Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

Children's Social Worker of the Year 2021

Supported by Children's Social Work Matters (CSWM)

Alexandra Capitani

Coventry City Council

Liam Mills

Portsmouth City Council

Marissa Langley

Surrey County Council

Paige McMahon

Derbyshire County Council

Adult Social Worker of the Year 2021

Supported by Wandsworth Borough Council

Chris Vass

Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council

James Thomas

London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Lucy Law

Essex County Council

Melanie Noel

Essex County Council

Natasha Karmali

London Borough of Hillingdon

A message from Lyn Romeo, Chief Social Worker for Adults

As always, it was pleasure and an honour to re-join the independent judging panel which reviews nominees, discusses the impact of social work and comes together to agree category winners.

Both the judges and the winners represent voices from across this hugely varied profession, highlighting exceptional compassion, dedication and acts of social justice, big and small.

As well as working with people, their families and communities to support them to live the best possible lives, with fair and equal access to the right care and support, social workers also juggle meeting the needs of their own families and themselves. Something which has been amplified and tested during the pandemic.

There is no doubt it has been an exceptionally trying time for so many people, but here you all are, the social workers of England, stepping up to support and enable people to make good choices, to take steps forward and bring people to a place beyond coping, towards hope and self-worth when they may have lost these things.

So, let's take time to reconnect with each other and celebrate what you've achieved. Be inspired by the resilience, creativity and compassion you've shown and the very real difference this makes to people every day.

Lyn Romeo
Chief Social Worker for Adults



A message from Isabelle Trowler, Chief Social Worker for Children and Families

The Social Worker of the Year Awards are an important opportunity to recognise the contribution of so many dedicated, passionate, and caring social work professionals. The last 18 months have been a challenging time for everyone, for a variety of reasons, however, I have been awed by the effort that social workers across the country have taken to ensure that vulnerable children and their families continue to receive professional, compassionate, and practical support.

As a member of the social work profession, I know how passionate our profession is about making a positive difference to the lives of the children and families we support and I thank you, very much, for all you do to achieve this every day.

This year the awards have the theme of 'Reconnection and Recognition', which is a poignant reminder to look back and recognise all that you have achieved whilst looking forward to the future as we continue to strive to do better. I have found it refreshing to reconnect with the social work community in person over the last couple of months and I hope that as you reconnect with the communities you support and with each other, you feel invigorated and refreshed by the change.

Isabelle Trowler
Chief Social Worker for Children and Families





We are proud to be headline sponsor of the Social Worker of the Year Awards.

The level of passion and commitment shown in this profession is something to celebrate and we will do all we can to help social workers gain the recognition they deserve.

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Sanctuary Personnel

As we all reflect on the year that has been, it seems only fitting that I start with an open letter by saying a heartfelt thank you to the entire social work community.

Thank you, not just for unreservedly embracing the Social Worker of the Year Awards, but for the incredible work that you continue to dedicate your life to. For without you, I cannot even begin to imagine how so many vulnerable people would have otherwise fared during the last 18 months.

You have shown resilience, resourcefulness, unrelenting compassion and kindness despite the untold pressures on you as an individual. Every single one of you can stand tall, knowing that your support makes a positive difference.

As sponsors of the 'Outstanding Contribution during Covid-19' and 'Social Work Employer of the Year' categories, I am left humbled. Hearing how so many of you have overcome frontline challenges with bravery and creativity to help those at their most vulnerable will always stay with me.

So, in what is an extraordinary year for the Social Worker of the Year Awards, I would like to raise a virtual toast to celebrate an incredible profession full of resilience and hope.

There is nothing more powerful than when a diverse community of professionals comes together, and this year's 10th Social Worker of the Year Awards highlights this. While social work can often feel relentless, it is the looking out for one another that makes a real difference, which is abundantly clear in so many of the award submissions.

This year's virtual event is about acknowledging that while the pandemic has pushed the social work community to the brink, it has not broken its spirit and determination.

With this in mind, I would like to finish by saying "thank you" to you all; you are all amazing!

James Rook

Chief Executive Officer, Sanctuary Personnel





BASW offers services that protect, support and develop your social work career, and supports you to shape the profession and our context.

BE PROTECTED £5 million of professional indemnity insurance. *Please note: students members are only covered for professional placements.**

BE REPRESENTED Get advice from BASW Advice and Representation, a team of qualified social workers, for professional and regulatory help. Opt in to the Social Workers Union from £2.08 per month for full, tailored employment help and protection services.*

BE PROGRESSING Develop your career. Learn about the latest social work practice developed by and for social workers. Log your CPD from a range of free or discounted training, online resources and events.

BE INFORMED Professional Social Work (PSW) magazine – the UK's only printed social work magazine – delivered free to your door ten times a year. Member-only free access to selected resources online.

BE ETHICAL BASW's Code of Ethics along with a full range of guidance and policies, upholds the highest professional standards and practice.

BE SAVING Save up to 75% on social work journals and books as well as discount shopping deals at major retailers. Plus heavily discounted and free CPD and events. 50% discount on student membership for first post-qualifying year.*

BE SUPPORTED Free Professional Support Service – offering essential space and support for members to talk and think through issues, including Covid 19. Apply for financial support grants for education, hardship or international work.

BE RECOGNISED Show your commitment to professional practice and use MBASW after your name.

BE INDEPENDENT A bespoke membership for self employed social work professionals. Access Social Work Employment Services – competitively priced exclusive umbrella service for BASW members*. Be listed as a specialist in our directory.

BE CONNECTED Meet like-minded colleagues, through branches, events and special interest and other groups to share ideas, discuss practice, policies and develop our profession together. Join our community of social workers online – through Twitter, Facebook and LinkedIn.

BE HEARD The powerful voice of over 22,000 members, building the strength and influence of social work and calling for urgent action on issues that really matter. Be active in campaigns. Join one of our member committees, groups and networks to shape policies.



BASW
England

The professional association for
social work and social workers

BASW is the independent professional association for social work.

Join online at www.basw.co.uk

* Terms & Conditions apply – for full details visit www.basw.co.uk

British Association of Social Workers

BASW England is proud to be a Corporate Sponsor of Social Worker of the Year Awards 2021. The last 18 months have been incredibly challenging for the individuals and communities we serve and work with. You have continued to provide incredible support and services, day and night, pre and during the pandemic. We continue to shine a light on the fantastic work that you do – thank you.

These Awards celebrate the shared qualities, skills, knowledge, and professionalism of social workers. Your kindness, compassion, creativity, innovation, unshakeable tenacity, commitment, and steadfast focus as you champion the needs of children, families, adults and communities in our society is to be commended.

We celebrate the social work profession in all its rich diversity and its connectedness. From students and newly qualified social workers starting out on their social work careers, to educators, researchers, generic and specialist practitioners, professional leaders and experienced social workers dedicated to working in direct practice.

We are one profession; a global profession with a rich history and a lifetime of stories and exceptional accomplishments to be celebrated.

BASW England applauds the contributions of every social worker in the profession and will be celebrating your exceptional work and professionalism by sponsoring Practice Educator of the Year and the Social Justice Award in this 2020/2021 pandemic year.

We understand the importance of the connections you foster and keep. Connections between you and your colleagues, the people you support, your communities and the organisations that provide you with the foundation to help you simply 'get on with the job'.

In the sponsorship of these awards, BASW pledges to work tirelessly to continue support you and to promote the social work profession.

As the only independent UK professional social work membership organisation, BASW provides support to social workers, the opportunity to network with colleagues across the UK and internationally. We provide continuous Professional Development, toolkit resources and guidance, professional support services and work hard lobbying government on the issues that matter to you.

We are committed to anti-racism, anti oppressive practice and the active promotion of equality and diversity.

Children's Social Work Matters' (CSWM) is our programme to attract and support Children's Social Workers and improve social work practice and delivery with all our local authorities in Yorkshire and the Humber, working together as one big children's social work team through inclusive and innovative approaches. It's also about improving the understanding, image and value of children's social work as a profession. Read more at <http://www.childrensocialworkmatters.org>.

Maris Stratulis

National Director, BASW England



Children's Social Work Matters

Here at Children's Social Work Matters (CSWM), we recognise the value and vital role that our children's social workers have in protecting and improving the lives of children and their families.

CSWM is our programme to attract and support Children's Social Workers and improve social work practice and delivery with all our local authorities in Yorkshire and the Humber working together as one big children's social work team through inclusive and innovative approaches. It's also about improving the understanding, image and value of children's social work as a profession.

Across our region, we continue to work hard nurturing and supporting our Children's social work workforce. As well as seeing staff grow in confidence and resilience, our investment in staff through local and region-wide training and development, flexible working arrangements and offering good career progression opportunities, is improving our delivery of modern-day practice and our ability to make a difference in children's and families' lives.

We're giving our social workers a voice in our 'Improving Lives' campaign and through their COVID-19 social work diaries to demonstrate the value and positive impact that their work is having on the lives of children and families in their support.

And that's why, this year, we are proud to sponsor the Children's Social Worker of the Year Award category for the first time. Congratulations to every one of you who are being recognised for your contribution and achievements and to social workers across the country who all deserve recognition for the hard work they do with children and families all year round – particularly in these challenging times where you've had to adapt and work differently to continue to support families and keep children safe. On behalf of all of us in Yorkshire and the Humber, thank you!

Read more at <http://www.childrensocialworkmatters.org>

Mel John-Ross

Executive Director Children's Services at Barnsley Council and lead DCS for CSWM



Devon County Council

Here in Devon every single person working in social care across adult and children's services has given their all over the last 18 months, like never before, and that has been the case across the country and beyond.

We have seen so many wonderful examples of dedication and innovation of practice; so much learning, sharing and collaboration, in adults and children's social care.

We are delighted to be able to continue our sponsorship of the Social Worker of the Year Awards and particularly an award for team leadership and teamwork; this has always been at the very heart of our work and so important over the last 18 months.

In Devon we have developed our team wellbeing resources and support at the most testing period in most of our careers. We know just how important team leaders are in building and developing a culture of support and resilience that can positively impact staff wellbeing. We've seen many great examples of teams supporting each other like never before to maintain connections and culture.

When we are still so busy and working in restricted ways, it can be difficult to stop, reflect and celebrate what we have achieved, but it's important that we do, and that we do it collectively.

This is our opportunity to say thank you to every team leader across every adult and children's service in the country for all your continued hard work, you're brilliant.

Congratulations for all that you are achieving, thank you and enjoy the virtual award ceremony.

Councillor Andrew Leadbetter Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Schools
Councillor James McInnes Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care & Health Services



Children's
Social Work
MATTERS

YORKSHIRE & THE HUMBER

Children matter. Children's Social Work Matters.

It's a simple statement, but one that every Children's Social Worker wholeheartedly believes. It's what unites us in our daily endeavour.

This is why the 15 local authorities across Yorkshire and the Humber have joined forces in a collaborative way. Collectively we are tackling the misconceptions of CSW, raising the image of the profession, improving social work practice and attracting more people in to a career in this challenging yet extremely rewarding role.

See how our 'Improving Lives' campaign and COVID-19 social work diaries are improving the image of social work or to check out the [jobs](#) currently available in our region visit us at

www.childrensocialworkmatters.org



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Devon
County Council

devon.gov.uk/workingfordevon

Dorset Council

Dorset is a great place to live, work and train. We value our employees and our social work practice is now thriving with the next generation of social workers flourishing here. Our ambition is to recruit and retain the best student and newly qualified social workers, supporting them into a strong career with opportunities to learn, grow and develop.

We are an employer of choice and have some of the lowest caseloads in the country. Our Social Work Academy is going from strength to strength. Created in 2020, it's a collaboration between Adult's and Children's Social Services, to support the professional development of our social care team and create a **Centre of Excellence** for social work in Dorset. It's important to us that our social workers thrive in their career, that's why we want to give them everything they need to make their career plans happen. We want a workforce that is brave, agile and innovative. A workforce that listens, learns and celebrates success.

As well as transforming services together through our ongoing improvement journey, we are investing in Dorset's future focusing on excellent support delivered in the right place at the right time. Everything we do centres around what matters to people, focussing on what they can do rather than what they can't. We are working collaboratively with the people we support, their families, carers, providers, the community/voluntary sector and colleagues to develop more resilient, supportive and inclusive communities. Communities that thrive, where families are supported to be the best they can be, and we deliver better outcomes for residents, making sure people live fulfilling lives in Dorset.

Dorset Council is extremely proud to be the sponsor of "Student Social Worker of the Year". We recognise and celebrate how social workers improve the lives of children, adults and families.

To find your next role in Dorset, visit www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/jobs



Essex County Council

Welcome everyone to what is now a firmly embedded annual event in the Social Work calendar! So much has changed in the last 20 months since Covid has impacted the lives of everyone across the globe.

It is strangely reassuring that we continue to come together to celebrate social work, albeit in a virtual world. In Essex we will be celebrating in style with our own live celebration where we will stream the social work awards so we will very much be with you all to enjoy this evening.

2020 presented so many challenges but also so many opportunities for communities to come together to support each other and find ways of coping with the journey we have all been on: A spotlight has been placed and momentum gained on difference, diversity, equality and the need for us all to do more to ensure that every individual is respected, valued and cared for: We all have a responsibility to each other and the planet on which we live. These are very much the principles that are the foundation of social work practice.

Social Work is renowned for its hopeful optimism for change and while, perhaps, we all hoped and anticipated that life would have returned to more normality by now, we are definitely seeing signs that the future can be better if we continue to harness the resilience, commitment, love and care that so many have demonstrated.

In Essex we believe that social work is about 'hope and heart- and a lot of hard work'. We believe that 'with us you can'. We would like to thank all of you for your hope, heart and hard work and for your unwavering commitment to doing all you can to support vulnerable people in our communities. Take some time to appreciate the small (and huge) differences you make to the peoples lives you touch. Well done and enjoy the event.



Congratulations to all the finalists of the Social Worker of the Year Awards 2021

Dorset Council is extremely proud to be the sponsor of "**Student Social Worker of the Year**". We recognise and celebrate how social workers improve the lives of children, adults and families. Our social work practice is now thriving with the next generation of social workers flourishing here in Dorset as we support them into a strong career with opportunities to learn, grow and develop.

dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/jobs



Its been a hugely challenging year and one in which the Social Work Profession has demonstrated resilience, dedication, care, commitment and huge skill.

Essex sponsors the Social Work Awards because we believe it is important to recognise and show thanks for the incredible work social workers do everyday across the country in every sector.

The awards are an opportunity to highlight just a few people who have really stood out but for every one nominated, we know there are many more deserving of recognition and thanks.

This year we are sponsoring the award for the Mental Health Social Worker. Never have we been more aware of the challenges people face with their mental health and the support they need.

The impact of the pandemic on so many people will undoubtedly have placed further pressure on stretched services so we want to say thank you to all of you for the work you do.



Essex County Council

Torbay Council

Torbay Council is delighted to be sponsoring the 'University of the Year' category at this year's Social Worker of the Year Awards.

It's fitting that we are supporting a category that is helping to shape the social workers of tomorrow, especially as we take career development incredibly seriously.

We've made great progress on our improvement journey and recognise our greatest asset is our work force. Due to our expanded offer, we are becoming an employer of choice for both newly qualified and experienced social workers. Our in-house Learning Academy is enabling us to 'grow our own' and be actively part of the professional development of all our social workers – whatever stage of their career they are at. Linking with universities and seats of learning, we're creating a culture of innovation that represents a game-changing new investment in social worker development.

Through our highly skilled and trained workforce our children and their families are receiving the high-quality services they deserve and have a right to expect.

Our commitment to family-based solutions such as our restorative model which is complemented by a programme of formal training for our entire workforce and many of our partners, has strengthened our approach to Early Help implementation and prevention.

A shared vision supported by actively involved managers, a committed chief executive and councillors means we have built a true and strong partnership with those we work with across the statutory and voluntary sectors. Most importantly though, children remain at the heart of what we do.

We're excited to be part of the Social Worker of the Year Awards and wish all nominees the best of luck.

Nancy Meehan

Director of Children's Services, Torbay Council



UNISON

UNISON is very happy once again to be involved in this year's Social Worker of the Year Awards and to be presenting the team of the year award.

Over the last year social workers have responded with extraordinary effort to the challenges the pandemic has thrown at them. This has been on top of their normal vital work in supporting and protecting individuals and communities. We are really pleased that through these awards they are receiving some well-deserved recognition for the work they've done

As the UK's largest trade union for social workers and the wider social care workforce, we know the challenges social workers face and the differences they make to people's lives. As an organisation built on solidarity and togetherness, UNISON would like to pay tribute to the social work teams that practice effective team working on a daily basis. Great teamwork, alongside high-quality professionalism is at the heart of excellent public service and social work.

We also applaud the social workers across the country who are taking a stand through UNISON against the wider challenges facing the profession like continued austerity, rising demand for services and growing caseloads. The fight for better working conditions and genuine development opportunities will result in better services for the public.

UNISON hopes that all the attendees have a fantastic evening.

Jon Richards

Assistant General Secretary, UNISON



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SAFE TO FOLLOW
THEIR DREAMS



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IS WHO THEY'RE
MEANT TO BE

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Annual salary	Monthly cost
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£2,001 - £5,000	£3.50
£5,001 - £8,000	£5.30
£8,001 - £11,000	£6.60
£11,001 - £14,000	£7.85
£14,001 - £17,000	£9.70
£17,001 - £20,000	£11.50
£20,001 - £25,000	£14.00
£25,001 - £30,000	£17.25
£30,001 - £35,000	£20.30
over £35,000	£22.50

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UNISON – essential cover for you
UNISON is proud to sponsor the
Social Worker of the Year Awards

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Waltham Forest Council

Here in Waltham Forest Council we understand the complex nature of the social work task; success is different for every family, and social workers are integral to families leading safe and happy lives. That's why we are proud to support the Social Worker of the Year Awards.

At the Council we put families at the heart of our strategy and are passionate about achieving outstanding outcomes for children and promoting independence for our adults and older people. The whole Council values our social workers as compassionate, highly skilled professionals. We are their strongest advocates, and we make Waltham Forest a safe and empowering place to practice.

To achieve our ambitions, we know we have to work hard and we have to keep trialling new and creative approaches to allow good social work to continually flourish.

We have invested £38m to improve and build new school places to support our Alternative Provision and Inclusion agenda in schools, are building a state-of-the-art Families and Homes Hub, have delivered 4,400 weeks of workplace apprenticeship time, have made £4m investment in our libraries and delivered a brand new Fellowship Square in the heart of the borough.

We are personally invested. Our Director and senior leadership team are highly visible and are passionate about early help and social care professions enabling the very best outcomes for children and adults who receive social care services. We embrace complexity and bring fresh approaches to old and familiar problems via self-reflection, devolved leadership, innovation and experimentation.

We are for our staff. We are for families. We are for Waltham Forest.



Wandsworth Borough Council

Thank you to every social worker that is making a difference; advocating and supporting children and families in our communities. There is nothing more important than our ability to build relationships with people; to show that social workers can support and improve lives for them and their families. It takes vision, compassion, hope, tenacity and skill to successfully build relationships with people who feel they may have been failed. That is what makes social work such an incredible profession; one that is passionate about making a difference, believing in the human value of vulnerable people and their right to live the best possible lives they can.

In Wandsworth, we know our social workers are our greatest asset in our work with vulnerable children and families. To help our social workers deliver their absolute best, we've developed our Outstanding Practice Framework. This recognises that as social workers we are privileged and to be able to see the difference that we are making in children and families lives.

We need strong and effective tools to help children and families achieve and thrive; the time to build relationships, hear their voices, understand the help they need and let this be the driving force for how we practice. We're thrilled to be the first council in London to implement Family Safeguarding which will see multi-disciplinary specialist practitioners co located within children social work teams: A whole family approach with the aim of keeping children safely within their families. Combined with high quality CPD opportunities and a brand new social work career progression framework, we're confident that we have all the ingredients to provide excellent social work to our communities.

Find out more: <https://www.wandsworth.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers/childrens-social-care-jobs/>

Nick Pendry

Deputy Director of Children's Services, Wandsworth Borough Council



Waltham Forest Council is a local authority in north east London named in 2019 as the Local Authority of the Year at the prestigious Municipal Journal Awards and was London's first Borough of Culture 2019.

Bursting with energy and opportunity, it is a place where people want to live, raise a family and start a business. We have passionate, dedicated staff who work hard for a healthy, safe, green and more equal Waltham Forest.

We are connecting people with jobs, working with our partners and residents to lead safe and healthy lives, creating 15 minute neighbourhoods, where people have access to quality housing, services and facilities they need in vibrant town centres, and providing confidence in our future by addressing inequalities so residents can access the same opportunities.

A place where you can be your authentic self at work and where your unique attributes, traits, characteristics, skills, experience and background are valued. Join us, visit bit.ly/WFrecruit to find out more.

We are all for Waltham Forest.

Waltham Forest Council is proud to support the Social Worker of the Year Awards



Our Social Workers are our greatest asset, together we will achieve the best outcomes for the people we serve in Wandsworth.

Children's needs are changing. So are we.

Find out more about working for Wandsworth Council, visit: wandsworth.gov.uk/jobs-and-careers

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Thank you to our judging panel

Abdullah
CLICK (Children Living in Care Council),
Wandsworth Borough Council

Adam
Family Justice Young People's Board, Cafcass

Angela Clarke
Hertfordshire County Council

Bindu Parmar
Team of the Year, Adult Services 2019

Carol Long
Durham University

Colum Conway
Social Work England

Cornelia Fuehrbaum
Cafcass

Dan Grimes
Newly Qualified Children's
Social Worker of the Year 2019

Dana Ashley
Innovate CYPS

Darren Shaw
Innovate CYPS

Dave Thomas MBE
Practice Educator and ASYE assessor

Djamila Aggabi
Practice Educator of the Year 2019

Dr Angie Bartoli
Nottingham Trent University

Eddie Dube
Somerset County Council

Ella Waughman
Newly Qualified Adult Social
Worker of the Year 2019

Ellah Kandi
Team of the Year, Adult Services 2019

Emma Blakemore
Innovate CYPS

Emma Cox
Championing Social Work Values 2019

Emma Moore
Cafcass

Fran Leddra
Interim Joint Chief Social Worker for Adults

Isaac Samuels
Think Local Act Personal

Jack Skinner
Team Leader of the Year, Adult Services 2019

Julie Roadnight
Team of the Year, Adult Services 2019

Karen Kirby
Creative & Innovative Practice 2019

Katherine Johnson
Hertfordshire Partnership University
NHS Foundation Trust

Katy Else
University of Plymouth

Laura
Family Justice Young People's Board, Cafcass

Liz Howard
BASW England

Louise Jones
Wandsworth Borough Council

Louise Pashley
Overall Social Worker of the Year 2019

Louise Walker MBE
Redcar and Cleveland Council

Lyn Romeo
Chief Social Worker for Adults

Mark Trewin
Rethink Mental Illness

Mary Carter
Student Social Worker of the Year 2019

Michael Shamash
Writer, academic and disability rights activist

Noel Beckett
Social Work Consultant

Sally Percival
Think Local Act Personal

Sarah
CLICK (Children Living in Care Council),
Wandsworth Borough Council

Sarah Blackmore
Social Work England

Sarah-Jane Smedmor
Dorset Council

Tehseen Kauser
London Borough of Hillingdon

Teresa Barrett
Adult Social Worker of the Year 2019

Thea Radburn
Mental Health Social Worker of the Year 2019

Vicci Livingstone-Thompson
Inclusion Gloucestershire

Zara Clench
Student and advocate for care experienced
young people



In memory of Michael Shamash

Michael Shamash was passionate about social justice and was a prominent disability rights activist. He was one of our judges on the Social Justice Advocate Award category this year and had supported the work of SWA in previous years.

Michael unexpectedly died on 23 September 2021 after a routine hip operation. Michael was 63. He leaves behind his 2-year-old daughter Lydia and his partner Helen.

Michael was a force of nature. Intelligent, witty, fiercely independent, he had a zest for life and his warmth and humour will be missed by all. He loved being a Dad to Lydia.



Michael with his daughter, Lydia, and partner, Helen



**social
WORKER
OF
THE YEAR
AWARDS** 2021

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