

Gareth Peters

Independent Social Worker & Adult Social Care Consultant

Cambridge, United Kingdom | 07914 259219 | enquiries@gpetersisw.com | Social Work England: SW32290

Professional Profile

Experienced independent social worker and adult social care consultant specialising in Mental Capacity Act assessments, Court of Protection welfare matters, safeguarding, complex risk analysis and adult social care practice.

I bring over 25 years' experience across learning disability, autism, mental health and safeguarding services, including senior leadership roles within local authority adult social care. My practice combines legal literacy, defensible professional reasoning, clear written analysis and extensive experience of complex multi-agency decision-making.

Through GPeters Independent Social Work Ltd, I provide independent, balanced and analytically robust reports for solicitors, public bodies and other instructing parties, with work capable of withstanding professional and legal scrutiny.

Specialist Practice & Professional Standards

Areas of specialist practice	Professional standards and assurance
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Mental Capacity Act assessments• Court of Protection welfare matters• COP3 capacity evidence and COP24 witness statements• Best interests analysis and decision-specific reasoning• Complex safeguarding, risk and self-neglect• Executive functioning difficulties• Learning disability, autism and mental health• Multi-agency dispute resolution	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Social Work England registered - SW32290• ICO registered - ZC078834• Professional indemnity insured• Enhanced DBS• UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 compliant• Privacy statement available on request• Safeguarding statement available on request

Professional Experience

Independent Social Worker & Adult Social Care Consultant - GPeters Independent Social Work Ltd (2026 - Present)

- Provides specialist independent social work services for solicitors and instructing parties, including Mental Capacity Act assessments, safeguarding analysis and Court of Protection related work.
- Prepares clear, evidence-based reports with explicit analysis of relevant information, practicable support, functional ability, risk, least restrictive options and best interests considerations.
- Maintains independent professional judgement, proportionate records, data protection compliance and transparent communication with instructing parties.

Operations Manager - Mental Health Services - East Sussex County Council (2025 - Present)

- Leads service improvement work in high-volume mental health duty services, with a focus on workflow, risk management, prioritisation and defensible decision-making.
- Supports operational assurance, performance oversight and practice improvement across adult mental health social care pathways.

Adult Services Front Door Manager - Haringey Adult Social Care (2025)

- Managed a high-volume and high-risk adult social care front door service, supporting timely triage, safeguarding responses and proportionate statutory decision-making.
- Worked across operational, safeguarding and partner interfaces to improve consistency, flow and professional accountability.

Head of Operations and Partnerships - Mental Health and Learning Disability - Suffolk County Council (2023 - 2025)

- Held senior operational responsibility for mental health, learning disability and autism services, including integrated partnership arrangements and complex statutory practice.
- Provided leadership and assurance in relation to safeguarding, Court of Protection welfare matters, risk management, service quality and multi-agency decision-making.
- Led service change and improvement activity within a financially constrained adult social care environment.

Lead Service Manager - Cambridgeshire County Council Learning Disability Partnership (2018 - 2023)

- Led integrated learning disability social care services and worked closely with health partners on complex care, risk, safeguarding and statutory decision-making.

- Provided service leadership for Court of Protection welfare applications, Mental Capacity Act practice and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards interfaces.
- Supported practitioners and managers with complex case analysis, legal literacy and defensible recording.

Adult Safeguarding Manager - Cambridgeshire County Council (2017 - 2018)

- Developed safeguarding policy, thematic audits, independent management reviews and assurance activity across adult safeguarding practice.
- Supported improvement in safeguarding decision-making, risk analysis and multi-agency learning.

Education & Qualifications

- Report Writing for Expert Witnesses - Bond Solon
- Operational Manager Level 5 Diploma - Peterborough City College
- Mental Health Approved Social Worker Qualification - Anglia Ruskin University
- Diploma in Social Work - Anglia Ruskin University

Instruction Focus

Available for independent Mental Capacity Act assessments, associated reports, Court of Protection welfare work, COP24 witness statements, safeguarding analysis and adult social care consultancy. Fees and timescales are confirmed at the point of instruction according to complexity, documentation requirements and court deadlines.