

CURRICULUM VITAE
KATIE CHARLWOOD
Occupational Therapist | Care Expert | Expert Witness
BSc (Hons)
Located in Hertfordshire

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HCPC: OT31819

PROFILE

Experienced occupational therapist skilled in assessment, rehabilitation, and management of adults with complex needs in statutory, community, and private sectors. Clinical expertise includes cerebral palsy, brain and spinal injuries, amputation, orthopaedic and musculoskeletal conditions, neurological disorders, sensory impairments, and cancer.

Expert Witness since 2012, with certified expert witness training and sound understanding of her duties to the Court pursuant to CPR Part 35, accepting instructions from Claimant and Defendant solicitors. Providing objective opinion regarding care, occupational therapy and loss of services. Confident in conferences, joint discussions, and Court. She has compiled reports for cases in the UK, Channel Islands, and Europe.

Member of the Clinical Board at Fiona Johnson Ltd, contributing to policy and governance, workforce development and recruitment, and the training and mentoring of junior experts.

Combining expert witness practice with current clinical practice; providing occupational therapy services to private clients across the Southeast. Undertakes comprehensive functional assessments, identifies the impact of injury or condition on activities of daily living, translating functional limitation into proportionate care recommendations, justified through detailed reasoning.

Extensive experience in assessing, recommending and reviewing complex care packages, including 24-hour care, waking and sleeping night support, double-handed care, directly employed care arrangements, advising on carer-to-client ratios, care planning, risk management, environmental needs and primary carer support. She is also a qualified moving and handling trainer and assessor with extensive experience of specialist equipment and major housing adaptations to promote independence.

Strong background in case management, including the recruitment, training, supervision and management of privately employed care staff and provides clinical supervision and mentoring to practising case managers.

Senior management experience within adult social care services (occupational therapy and social work teams) for individuals with complex needs. Management of the integrated housing adaptations team, working with district councils and registered social landlords to deliver major housing adaptations and Disabled Facilities Grants.

In-depth knowledge of Care Act, Mental Capacity Act, Mental Health Act and NHS Continuing Healthcare. Experienced in advising on DWP disability assessments and disability benefits. Expertise of statutory versus private provision and proportional care packages. Lead professional in mental capacity assessments and best-interest decisions, working with deputies pre- and post-settlement. Effective liaison with solicitors, therapists, medical professionals, housing providers and statutory services where required.

RELEVANT QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

- BSc (Hons) Occupational Therapy
- Bond Solon Civil Expert Certificate
- CPR Part 35 Training
- Postgraduate Certificates (Cancer Care; Safeguarding & Personalisation)
- Moving and Handling – Train the Trainer

RELEVANT SKILLS/ SPECIALISMS

- Occupational therapy, Care & Loss of Services expert witness
- Functional assessment, rehabilitation, care needs analysis & coordination
- Moving and handling
- Housing adaptations & equipment eligibility
- Safeguarding & risk assessment
- Complex & 24-hour care packages
- Directly employed and agency care models
- Mental capacity assessments & best interest decisions advisor
- Statutory funding advisor

RELEVANT EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

2022 to date	Senior Associate Expert Witness & Clinical Board Member Fiona Johnson Limited
2023 to 2024	Associate Hospital Manager – Camden and Islington NHS Foundation Trust
2020 to 2021	Locum Manager NHS Hospital Discharge Service during Covid-19 pandemic
2012 to 2022	Case Manager & Expert Witness Harrison Associates
2013 to date	First-Tier Tribunal Member of the Social Entitlement Chamber and Mental Health Tribunal - Her Majesty's Courts & Tribunal Service
2015 to 2023	Registration Assessor & Fitness to Practise Tribunal Member for the HCPC

2012 to 2016	Integration Manager/ Subject Matter Expert supporting delivery of Integrated Care Strategic Vision across Hertfordshire
2022 to date	Senior Associate Expert Witness & Clinical Board Member Fiona Johnson Limited
2023 to 2024	Associate Hospital Manager – Camden and Islington NHS Foundation Trust

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

- Health and Care Professions Council
- British Association of Brain Injury and Complex Case Management
- Royal College of Occupational Therapist Specialist Section for Independent Practice
- Royal College of Occupational Therapist