

## CHAPTER 2: The roles and responsibilities of the social worker

Code of Ethics of the British Association of Social Workers, [www.basw.co.uk](http://www.basw.co.uk) a comprehensive analysis of the standards of professional social work practice, including respect for human rights of service users, obligations to society, and issues concerning use of compulsory powers.

S. Nathanson, *What Lawyers Do—A Problem Solving Approach to Legal Practice* (Sweet & Maxwell, 1997)—if you want to look at the world through a lawyer’s spectacles, this is readable and informative. Don’t worry that it may be out of date; the core issues covered don’t change.

J. Dickens, ‘Risks and responsibilities—the role of the local authority lawyer in child care cases’ (2004) *CFLQ* 16(1): 17. This article discusses key sticking points in the relationship between local authority lawyers and social workers. It suggests that awareness of each other’s multiple and competing responsibilities will improve inter-professional relationships.

R. Bailey Harris and M. Harris, ‘Local authorities and child protection—the mosaic of accountability’ (2002) *CFLQ* 14(2): 117. This article, although now some years old, is particularly helpful in unravelling a difficult area of law. For a more recent analysis, see ‘Rights versus Duty’ (2007) *New Law Journal* 157: 1002–3.

J. Morrell and R. Foster, *Local Authority Liability* (Jordan, 2009) has useful chapters covering liability for social service functions.

D. Nolan ‘Negligence and Human Rights Law: The Case for Separate Development’ *Modern Law Review* 1<sup>st</sup> March 2013 for a discussion about the convergence of the law of negligence and human rights law.

K. Greasley, ‘A Negligent Blow to Children at Risk: *MAK and RK v United Kingdom* (European Court of Human Rights)’ (2010) *Modern Law Review* 73(6): 1026.

We recommend getting into the habit of looking at—and acquiring—the texts of the major pieces of legislation relevant to your area. These can be easily found by searching electronically using the title of the Act. Cases can also usually be found through the same process.