

**Job Description**

**Job title: Public Health Practitioner**

**Directorate:** Public Health and Joint Commissioning

**Grade:** Grade 8

**Responsible to:** Public Health Lead

**Purpose:**

* The post holder will provide public health expertise within the Council, partner organisations and the wider health and social care system.
* The post holder will lead on the development and implementation of an agreed range of public health programmes and lead the commissioning of an agreed range of public health services focusing on health inequalities and the social determinants of health, ensuring a focus across the life course.

**Main Duties and Responsibilities:**

* The post holder will play a key role in forging partnerships with and influencing all key stakeholders within their specialist area of responsibility. This will ensure the widest possible participation in the public health agenda to support the development and delivery of agreed public health programmes.
* The post holder will be responsible for key elements of the Council’s public health vision and City Plan, developing, implementing, monitoring and leading key public health programmes to reduce health inequalities and improve health and wellbeing. Through this role the post holder will make a substantial impact on the health and wellbeing of the population of Sunderland.
* The post holder will ensure public health programmes and commissioned services:
* Respond to the health needs and characteristics of the local population.
* Are safe, effective, evidence based, of good quality and offer value for money.
* Provide assurance to the Council in relation to performance and their contribution to public health outcomes, Council corporate outcomes and the outcomes of key partnerships.
* Are continuously improved and developed to deliver better health and wellbeing outcomes, quality and value and reduce health inequalities
* Develop and promote Sunderland as a healthy place.
* Are informed by engagement with the public, service users, priority groups and key stakeholders.
* The post holder will lead on tobacco control and the alcohol harm reduction agenda, ensuring that the post:
* Works alongside the Public Health Specialist to deliver on the National and Regional plans/ guidance, and objectives within both the City Plan and the Sunderland Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy
* Delivers a systemwide approach framework on tobacco control and alcohol harm reduction across Sunderland working with internal and external partners to implement the local Tobacco and Alcohol Action Plans
* Supports the implementation of tobacco control and alcohol harm reduction policies and pathways across the Health and Social Care system across Sunderland.
* Works with the Senior Public Health Practitioner to drive service improvement across tobacco control and alcohol harm reduction to ensure the local authority achieves its key performance indicators
* Leads the commissioning and contract management of the Sunderland Specialist Stop Smoking Service and other local tobacco services
* Supports the local authority in maintaining awareness of and compliance with range of existing tobacco and alcohol legislation and the delivery of an effective approach to Licensing as a Responsible Authority on behalf of the Director of Public Health
* Comply with the principles and requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR in relation to the management of Council records and information and respect the privacy of personal information held by the Council.
* Comply with the principles and requirements of the Freedom of Information Act 2000
* Comply with the Council’s information security standards, and requirements for the management and handling of information; Use Council information only for authorised purposes.
* Carry out duties with full regard to the Council’s Equality policies, Code of Conduct and all other Council policies.
* Comply with the Council’s Health and Safety policy, rules and regulations and with Health and Safety legislation.
* Comply with the principles and requirements in relation to the management of Council records and information ; respect the privacy and personal information held by the Council.

The following list is typical of the duties the post holder will be expected to perform. It is not necessarily exhaustive and other duties of a similar nature and level may be required from time to time. The post holder will:

* Lead defined public health programmes working in partnership to enable the development and delivery of interventions which impact on the health of the local population.
* Manage a range of public health programmes ensuring quality improvement and delivery are in line with the evidence base for health improvement, reduction of health inequalities and ill-health prevention.
* Provide advice and guidance to Council officers and other stakeholders in relation to identified public health programmes and commissioned services.
* Work with Public Health Consultants/ Specialists and Public Health Leads to ensure effective and efficient commissioning / joint commissioning of public health services and achievement of national performance indicators.
* Ensure that evidence-based practice is promoted and that organisations are influenced to deliver and embed a range of public health programmes.
* Lead the production of relevant chapters of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and undertake or contribute to consultation, equity audit, equality impact assessment, service review and evaluation, as required.
* Utilise a range of information sources to develop understanding of need to inform the design and commissioning of public health services and the development and delivery of public health programmes.
* Undertake effective community, public and stakeholder engagement activities to inform public health programmes.
* Develop specifications and contracts for services as required, working collaboratively with colleagues to ensure they meet all Council requirements, accurately reflect commissioning intentions and respond to relevant legislation, guidance and procurement regulations.
* Manage relevant public health contracts in accordance with agreed procedures, ensuring contract monitoring activity is effectively documented using different tools and key contract performance indicators, and ensuring outcomes and quality measures are monitored for compliance with specification requirements.
* Write and contribute to reports which will vary in length and complexity, summarise reports and disseminate their findings.
* Present complicated and /or sensitive information and issues to non-specialist and specialist audiences.
* Work with colleagues within the Council, partner organisations and public health networks to share and develop practice in relation to improving health and wellbeing.
* Support public health capacity building and workforce development in the development and delivery of public health programmes.
* Undertake such personal training and development as may be deemed necessary to meet the duties and responsibilities of the post and to contribute to the development of the public health team and wider public health workforce by contributing to CPD, teaching and training.

The post holder will adopt the Public Health Team’s agreed ways of working, as follows:

Respond to the needs of people in Sunderland;

* Our approaches will be informed by the needs of local people, addressing inequalities and be sensitive to changing needs throughout life. They will be person centred, linking seamlessly with other interventions and services across the City to deliver a holistic approach.
* Build on the strengths of individuals and communities
* We will recognise the many strengths within Sunderland and build upon them, taking an asset-based approach. We will develop public health capacity and capability, building on existing strong relationships in our communities.
* Work collaboratively to improve health
* We will continue to co-operate with other council departments and partners to take action to improve the health of local people and to make the healthy choice the easy choice.
* Use and develop the public health evidence-base
* We will use intelligence and appropriate research to inform our approaches. Where no evidence exists, we will evaluate the innovative interventions we undertake to further build the evidence base.
* Prioritise prevention
* We will prioritise prevention and we will advocate for primary, secondary and tertiary prevention within the wider health and social care system.

**Other Duties :**

The post holder must carry out their duties with full regard to the Council’s Equal Opportunities Policy, Code of Conduct and all other Council Policies.

The post holder must comply with the Council’s Health and safety rules and regulations and with Health and safety legislation.

The post holder must act in compliance with data protection principles in respecting the privacy of personal information held by the Council.

The post holder must comply with the principles of the Freedom of Information Act 2000 in relation to the management of Council records and information.

To comply with the principles and requirements of the Data Protection Act 2018 and GDPR in relation to the management of Council records and information, and respect the privacy of personal information held by the Council