

ROYAL BOROUGH OF GREENWICH

JOB DESCRIPTION

DEPARTMENT	Health and Adults Services (HAS)	
SECTION	Public Health & Well-being	GRADE PO4
POST DESIGNATION	Local Authority Research Practitioner	

The Public Health department provides strategic, operational, analytical and commissioning functions in pursuit of the improvement in health and wellbeing of the population and the reduction in health inequalities. The department works in a collaborative way, engaging with departments across the council and with wider partnerships to address the social, economic, environmental, commercial and cultural determinants of health and wellbeing.

Purpose of Job:

As Local Authority Research Practitioner, the postholder will work within the Public Health team and DGC Cities (the Council's research and innovation company) to build our research community and identify health and care research opportunities across the local authority. This role will help embed an evidence-based approach across the council and incorporate research into practice. The work will support a range of strategies across the council and focus on the principles of understanding the health needs of the population, addressing health inequalities, determining priorities for action and intervention and actively disseminating the findings to a wide audience. This post is also responsible to the NIHR Specialist Centre for Public Health and will play an active role in their networks and bring that learning back to the Council.

They will be responsible to the Head of Public Health Programmes for:

- I. Providing specialist support to embed research and evaluation in strategic and programme development across a range of public health services and activities, including commissioned services.
- II. Develop and support system wide research network including key partners across NHS, academia, community and delivery partners.
- III. Bring research expertise and rigour to the system creating an environment encouraging partnership research activities.
- IV. To build and maintain relationships with internal and external partners (throughout the public, private, voluntary and independent sectors) for the purpose of facilitating collaborative working relating to research activities.
- V. Identify research funding streams and grants to facilitate research activities and training, including scope for continuation of the LARP role.
- VI. Work with our neighbourhood teams and community leads to create a participatory research framework for the Borough which supports us to understand the impact of activities at neighbourhood level.
- VII. Actively promote, support and contribute to the activity of the Specialist Centre for Public Health.

Manages 0 directly managed staff

Manages 1-3 indirectly managed consultancy/contracting staff

Main Duties:

1. Provide specialist input and public health advice to officers across Council directorates to influence the research culture of the Council whereby more staff generate and use the best data and evidence for all decision making and there is increased staff confidence in research being 'everyone's business'
2. Support and advise the RBG Public Health Team around research and evaluation to build best practice in this area, to address through PH Department commissioning, procurement, and service development.
3. To work with the Integrated commissioning team and its provider network to develop a robust research and evaluation framework to support understanding of outcome based service delivery. To provide expertise advice to commissioned providers as required.
4. Build our research community and identify health and care research opportunities across the local authority and with core partners. This could include development of a community of practice or research champions across the system.
5. Develop a council research policy and associated procedures, based on engagement with council senior leadership and officers.
6. Actively promote, support and contribute to the activity of the Specialist Centre for Public Health. This includes: sharing of best practice across Local Authorities as part of a LARP network; linking with Public Health Engagement Leads (PHELs) and undertaking regular reporting to the SCPH (Newcastle University and partners) to support the evaluation of the LARP roles and demonstrate impact on research capacity and capability in Local Authorities.
7. Prepare reports and briefings for Members, senior management, programme boards and partnerships which include analysis of information
8. Maintain up to date data analysis skills and understanding of evidence based practice
9. Support other council departments or system and community partners in evaluating the impact of their policies and programmes on improving health outcomes, utilising knowledge and understanding of complex system and public health evaluation tools and evidence-base.
10. Effectively communicate information and insight to a variety of audiences using a variety of media, drawing on knowledge and understanding of evidence, and social marketing approaches, working alongside communication and engagement specialists within the Department, Council, NHS and VCS, extracting, interpreting, analysing and presenting data from various sources, and being able to precis and present complex policy and guidance.
11. Identify, and where appropriate, apply for external funding and contribute to partnership funding bids to improve population health and wellbeing outcomes
12. To represent the Council at regional and sub-regional groups, networks and events as required, including NIHR forums, OHID, London Councils and South East London Integrated Commissioning Board forums.

13. Direct and manage staff and financial resources effectively, to deliver the best outcomes for improving population mental health and wellbeing, within Council financial and human resources policies and frameworks
14. Where necessary for the job role or appropriate for continued development in the role, the post holder may be required to participate in training and development courses made available via the Council's Apprentice Levy funding and other mechanisms, including the UKPHR programmes.
15. Undertake employees investigations and appeals in line with RBG's policies and procedures.
16. To undertake all duties with due regard to the provisions of health and safety regulations and legislation, Data Protection/GDPR, the Council's Equal Opportunities and Customer Care policies.
17. To perform all duties in line with Council's staff values showing commitment to improving residents lives and opportunities, demonstrating respect and fairness, taking ownership, working towards doing things better and working together across the council.
18. You may be required to undertake alternative, additional or ancillary duties from time to time or transfer to another service department within the Council as the Council may reasonably direct to meet service user demand in the event of a crisis or emergency.
19. This post does not require a DBS
20. This post is predominantly office based, meetings with community organisations, statutory bodies, and commissioned services at their locations, and participation in community engagement events will be required several times a year.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Job Title	Local Authority Research Practitioner
Grade	PO4
Service/Section	Public Health
Directorate	Health and Adult Services

Shortlisting Criteria: Essential criteria assessed via application form should be used to shortlist.

Criteria	Essential/Desirable
Knowledge	
1. Degree in Public Health or relevant field or equivalent relevant qualification or demonstrable learning through experience and formal training, and evidence on on-going continuous professional development	E
2. Working knowledge of research methods relevant to public health, including statistical techniques and procedures, qualitative approaches, and associated software applications	E
Skills and abilities	
3. Strategic thinker with the ability to plan and deliver programmes across organisational boundaries	E
4. Resilient, flexible, adaptable with a high level of tactical and diplomatic ability	D
5. Creative and innovative in approach	D
6. Highly numerate, with skills and experience in the analysis and interpretation of data and evidence, and complex system evaluation. Strong verbal and written communication skills, with experience in disseminating information via written reports and presentations to a wide range of audiences in terms of both size and composition	D
7. Able to engage with and effectively influence partners and stakeholders at all levels, internally and externally, utilizing a range of media and approaches	D
8. Ability to adapt to manage conflicting priorities in a dynamic and changeable working environment	D
Experience	
9. Excellent organisational skills and experience of partnership working and partnership development, including ability to chair meetings, present research and project proposals, explain research findings, and build partner networks.	E
10. Experience of the research and funding landscape ideally in the UK. Evidence of successful applications for academic funding would be desirable.	D
Equal Opportunities	

11. Understanding of and commitment to the Council's equal opportunities policies and ability to put into practice in the context of this post.	E
12. Understanding of and commitment to achieving the Council's staff values and ability to put into practice in the context of this post.	E