

**Job Description**

**Job Title:** Public Health Practitioner

**Salary Grade:** Grade 8 (£33,799 - £37,849)

**SCP:** 31-35

**Job Family:** Organisational Support

**Job Profile:** OS4

**Directorate:** Joint Commissioning and Public Health

**Work Environment:** Civic Centre, mainly office based

**Reports 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.

1. **Key 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 the Healthy Weight, Place and Policy programme of work, ensuring that:

* Implementation of the Whole System Approach Framework is utilised in the planning, delivery and evaluation.
* Delivery of the objectives within the City Plan and the priorities areas of the Health and Wellbeing Board are achieved.
* A Healthy Weight Partnership is established to lead the implementation of a population-based approach to improving healthy weight.
* A Healthy Weight Declaration is adopted by the Council.
* A healthy weight environment is promoted to maximise green space, thus creating environments that promote healthy weight through policy, planning and place-based initiatives.
* A healthy food environment is maximised through policy, planning and place-based initiatives.

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:

1. 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.
2. 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.
3. Provide advice and guidance to Council officers and other stakeholders in relation to identified public health programmes and commissioned services.
4. 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.
5. Ensure that evidence-based practice is promoted and that organisations are influenced to deliver and embed a range of public health programmes.
6. 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.
7. 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.
8. Undertake effective community, public and stakeholder engagement activities to inform public health programmes.
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. Write and contribute to reports which will vary in length and complexity, summarise reports and disseminate their findings.
12. Present complicated and /or sensitive information and issues to non-specialist and specialist audiences.
13. Work with colleagues within the Council, partner organisations and public health networks to share and develop practice in relation to improving health and wellbeing.
14. Support public health capacity building and workforce development in the development and delivery of public health programmes.
15. 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.
16. **Statutory Requirements**

The post holder will:

* Comply with the principles and requirements of the Data Protection Act 1998 and the General Data Protection Regulation (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 in 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.
* Promote and implement the Council's Equality Policy in all aspects of employment and service delivery.

1. **Ways of Working**

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.*