

Job Description and Person Specification

Job details

Job title:	Public Health Principal: Health Protection
Grade:	SM1
Reports to:	PH Consultant in Health Protection
Directorate:	Adults, Communities & Wellbeing
Service area:	Public Health

Purpose of the job

- Provide in depth knowledge of one or more areas of public health, including specifically, Health Protection and its impact on, and relationship with, other areas of Public Health.
- Provide expert public health guidance on relevant public health matters, specifically health protection, and take an active role in training, staff development and research.
- Provide high-level technical skills, such as project management and the ability to analyse data and apply research to practice to support and inform the public health team and specifically the delivery of the public health protection work programme.
- To ensure a cohesive council and countywide partnership response to emergencies that have potential to threaten people's lives, including fires, road, rail or aviation accidents, incidents at major events , chemical spills, communicable disease outbreaks, or severe cold or hot weather.

Principal responsibilities

The post holder will be expected to demonstrate an appropriate level of expertise across the core public health competencies and to contribute to the implementation of relevant national and local policy and recommendations, ensuring that population health principles and approaches are at the heart of local transformation to secure improved health outcomes including prevention of ill-health and reduced health inequalities.

In addition, the post holder will manage and be responsible for, a portfolio of public health programme areas, and the associated staff and resources, and will lead on Health Protection and any other key topic areas as required by the Director of Public Health, while contributing to the wider public health agenda and supporting the Public Health Team as a whole.

1. Lead place-based public health and develop community safety/resilience, this includes providing highly specialist advice and expertise on public health protection policy and practice to individuals and organisations across all sectors, ensuring evidence-based action across the county that takes account of the latest thinking, research and practice.

2. Lead, develop and sustain strategic partnership work that spans organisational and professional boundaries including local authorities, NHS organisations, voluntary organisations and independent sector and deliver strategic and operational health protection objectives of the Public Health Team. This will enable the post holder to co-ordinate multi-agency activities for the prevention of communicable disease and non-infectious environmental hazards, leading on the local implementation of national programmes as appropriate such as those for the prevention and control of individual infectious disease such as tuberculosis and hepatitis C.
3. Maintain and develop an effective system for the surveillance of communicable disease and environmental hazards in Northamptonshire and ensure that the local surveillance system feeds into regional and national surveillance.
4. Provide expert advice and leadership to support and inform evidence-based approaches to communicable disease control and for dealing with non-infectious environmental hazards, working in potentially contentious and hostile environments where barriers to acceptance may exist. This also includes contribution to the formulation and communication of evidence based strategic public health plans.
5. Be responsible for leading on the development, commissioning, evaluation and quality assurance of services to reduce the impact of communicable diseases and environmental hazards to health and for preparing and adjusting action plans in line with changing needs, organisational changes and changing geographical boundaries. Monitor and report on the performance, quality and effectiveness of local health systems for protecting health.
6. Be responsible for the development, preparation, embedding and testing of multi-agency response plans to provide resilient and effective responses to public health incidents, outbreaks and emergencies including pandemic influenza.
7. Support the research, development and assessment of evidence-based systems and standards for health protection activity, such as infection control or immunisation, to ensure continuous improvement across Northamptonshire.
8. Coordinate multi-agency programs of work to develop and enhance community resilience and place based public health.
9. Support the response to outbreaks and other emergencies to as part of the council's responsibilities under the Civil Contingencies Act and other related legislation.

General responsibilities applicable to all jobs

1. Demonstrate awareness/understanding of equal opportunities and other people's behavioural, physical, social and welfare needs.
2. Comply with the Council's policies and procedures including (but not limited to) safeguarding, financial regulations, promotion of equalities, customer care, agreed audit actions and health and safety (ensuring that reasonable care is taken at all times for the health, safety and welfare of yourself and other persons).
3. Carry out any other duties which fall within the broad spirit, scope and purpose of this job description and which are commensurate with the grade of the post.

This job description reflects the major tasks to be carried out by the post holder and identifies a level of responsibility at which they will be required to work. In the interests of effective working, the major tasks may be reviewed from time to time to reflect changing needs and circumstances. Such reviews and any consequential changes will be carried out in consultation with the post holder.



**North
Northamptonshire
Council**

Person Specification

Attributes	Essential criteria	Desirable criteria
Education, Qualifications and Training	<p>An undergraduate degree in a numerate / science discipline or equivalent work experience in the field of either: Nursing, Health Sciences, Chemistry, Biology, or similar</p> <p>A Master of Public Health or equivalent</p> <p>Registration, or willing to work towards registration with the UK Public Health Register (UKPHR) at an appropriate level</p>	<p>Diploma in Health Emergency Planning</p> <p>Professional Qualification in Management</p>
Experience and Knowledge	<p>Understanding of epidemiological analyses and management of place-based Public Health projects.</p> <p>Knowledge of data security and confidentiality issues, for example compliance with the Data Protection Act 1998</p> <p>In depth knowledge of health protection:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring the safety and quality of food, water, air and the general environment • Preventing the transmission of communicable diseases • Emergency response including managing outbreaks, radiation and chemical hazards and the other incidents which threaten the public health. <p>Experience of communicating information to clinical and non-clinical staff, external partners and the public. High</p>	<p>Experience of managing outbreaks and incidents.</p> <p>Experience in line management, staff development and training (development of others in information skills) - A willingness to further develop and lead others in adapting to change (Ability to provide coaching and mentoring to other public health staff, including as part of their formal professional development).</p> <p>Experience of producing scientific publications, presentation of papers at conferences, seminars etc. (Peer reviewed publication of method, analysis and conclusions).</p>

Attributes	Essential criteria	Desirable criteria
	<p>level of analytical capability, including ready familiarity with statistical methods and limitations (Conscientious and proven team worker with the ability to engage with people at all levels).</p> <p>Experience of writing in a range of styles from brief summaries through to in-depth technical reports (Excellent ability in transforming data and research into delivery, inspiring change across clinicians and the wider workforce).</p>	
Ability and Skills	<p>Knowledge and experience of standard computer software (Microsoft Office).</p> <p>Report writing skills.</p> <p>Data collection, analysis, epidemiological analysis and presentation.</p> <p>The ability to manage and/or work on a number of concurrent projects.</p> <p>Able to act independently, with some guidance from line manager.</p>	<p>Excellent interpersonal and communication skills with the ability to influence and negotiate.</p> <p>Knowledge and experience of specialist computer software, such as Statistical & GIS systems.</p>

Attributes	Essential criteria	Desirable criteria
Equal Opportunities	Ability to demonstrate awareness/understanding of equal opportunities and other people's behaviour, physical, social and welfare needs.	
Additional Factors		