

# Job Description

Post title: Director of Public Health

Service area: Public Health

Grade: CO2

Accountable to:

- professionally to the Council (and the OHID/DHSC Regional Director of Public Health)
- managerially to the Chief Executive of Islington Council

Key relationships:

- Executive Member (portfolio holder)
- Corporate Management Board
- Local NHS bodies
- UK Health Security Agency
- Office for Health Improvement and Disparities
- Health and Wellbeing Board
- Local Resilience Forum
- NHS England
- The public and the press

## Our ambition

We're determined to make Islington more equal. To create a place where everyone, whatever their background, has the opportunity to reach their potential and enjoy a good quality of life.

We also have an ambitious goal – to be the best council in the country – with every employee clear about the part they play and inspired, focused and supported to give their very best.

We want to build an organisation where employees feel valued, inspired and empowered to help us achieve our goals and provide the best services possible to our residents.

## Our values and behaviours

'Be Islington' is about setting a clear challenge about what it means to be an Islington employee and sets the standard for every new recruit.

We ask our employees to 'Be Islington' – playing their part in working together for a more equal borough and to always be collaborative, be ambitious, be resourceful, and be empowering ('CARE').

## Our commitment to challenging inequality

We are committed to tackling inequality, racism and injustice and creating a more equal borough for all. In order to do this, we need to set the example by being a fair employer and creating a workplace environment which is free from discrimination, racism and inequality. Our approach needs to be proactive, consistently learning to create a more equal workplace and foster a culture which empowers all staff to challenge inequality.

Equality is at the heart of what we do. We want to celebrate and embrace our differences by:

- Ensuring our workforce is representative of the people we work on behalf of, our residents

- Creating equitable working environments and diverse teams
- Understanding our residents in order to design and deliver services that help tackle inequality and improve life chances for our residents
- Getting to know people and their differences
- Interpreting issues and concerns from a cultural perspective and address situations or problems from the points-of-view of multiple cultures

## Job summary

The Director of Public Health (DPH) is the system leader for improving the health and wellbeing of residents, reducing inequalities in health outcomes and protecting local communities from public health hazards (infectious diseases and environmental threats). As such, the Director of Public Health is a statutory chief officer of the authority and the principal adviser on all health matters to elected members, officers and partners, with a leadership role spanning health improvement, health protection and healthcare public health. Section 73A(1) of the NHS Act 2006, inserted by section 30 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, gives the Director of Public Health responsibility for:

- all of their local authority's duties to improve public health
- any of the Secretary of State's public health protection or health improvement functions that they delegate to local authorities, either by arrangement or under regulations – these include services mandated by regulations made under section 6C of the 2006 Act, inserted by section 18 of the 2012 Act
- exercising their local authority's functions in planning for, and responding to, emergencies that present a risk to public health
- their local authority's role in co-operating with the police, the probation service and the prison service to assess the risks posed by violent or sexual offenders
- such other public health functions as the Secretary of State specifies in regulations
- producing an independent annual report on the health of local communities

In order to deliver their responsibilities on behalf of the residents of Islington, the DPH will need to be a visible system leader in the health and wellbeing partnership arrangements. The DPH will be expected to use all the resources at their disposal to ensure that the local public health system is able to tackle the full range of determinants of health affecting communities in Islington, to improve population and planetary health. Working with local communities, they should be able to inspire development of innovative solutions that support improvements in health and wellbeing and reduction in health inequalities whilst at the same time maintaining the confidence of Councillors and government.

## Key responsibilities

The fundamental purpose of the postholder is to provide the leadership to drive improvements in the health and wellbeing of the residents of Islington, to reduce inequalities in health outcomes and working in collaboration with UKHSA to protect local communities from threats to their health through infectious diseases, environmental and other public health hazards. In delivering the key responsibilities described below, the postholder is expected to demonstrate a high level of expertise in the Faculty of Public Health Competencies ([Appendix A](#)) and the person specifications.

- a) Support the Chief Executive and Councillors in developing and delivering the Council's strategic agenda

- b) Be the chief officer and principal adviser on public health to the Council, local communities and local partners
- c) Operate strategically as a member of the corporate management/executive board and across the Council influencing policy and practice.
- d) To deliver commission, and or deliver services which are effective, value for money and meet quality standards.
- e) To act as a leader across the local system of public services, influencing change and enabling a culture of continuous improvement in health and wellbeing, innovation and evaluation.
- f) Utilise the public health resources imaginatively and cost effectively across all domains of public health in order to improve health and wellbeing of local communities and reduce inequalities in health outcomes.
- g) Accountable for both the shaping and delivery of the Health and Wellbeing agenda taking account of the national agenda and benchmarking (using the national outcomes frameworks; public health, NHS and social care).
- h) Deliver an independent annual report on the health and wellbeing of local communities for publication by Islington Council to stimulate debate and/or action by the Council and partners.

In delivering the responsibilities outlined above, the postholder and their team will undertake the following tasks:

### **1. Strategic Leadership**

- Delivery of a system to support surveillance, monitoring and evaluation of health and wellbeing and inequalities in health outcomes of local communities (including an easily accessible Joint Strategic Needs Assessment System)
- Ensure all activity undertaken by the Council takes account of both, the need to reduce inequalities as well as the requirements of the Equality and Diversity Act.
- To ensure scientific principles are applied to assessing need, exploring interventions and assessing progress of the Council's strategic agenda.
- Ensure as a core member of the Health and Wellbeing Board and in partnership with the wider Islington Council partners and the public, the development of plans to enable local communities become healthy, sustainable and cohesive
- Ensure a programme of action (both within and outwith the Council) to impact on the wider determinants of health that will promote improvements in health and wellbeing of local communities and reduction in health inequalities.
- Provide assurance that the health protection system for local communities is fit for purpose
- To work closely with Directors responsible for people (children, vulnerable communities and older people) to ensure to develop, implement and maintain a "fit for purpose" integrated strategy which meets the needs of local communities and is cogent with the national approach.
- Collaborate across organisational boundaries to ensure communities in Islington benefit from population health and care programmes (development of sustainable transformation plans 2016-20).

### **2. Directorate Specific Accountabilities**

- To be an advocate for improving health and wellbeing and reducing health inequalities
- Exercise the statutory responsibilities including the delivery of the mandated services
- To advise Islington Council on its statutory and professional public health obligations.

- Work with the UKHSA Centre and NHS England to ensure local communities are protected from infectious disease threats (including food and water borne disease, pandemics, etc) and environmental hazards
- Ensure the development and delivery of a credible plan to improve health and wellbeing of communities in Islington and reduce health inequalities.
- Ensure that the Council has implemented its EPRR responsibilities and through Co-chairing of the Local Health resilience Forum, that partner organisations (UKHSA, OHID, NHS England and the ICSs) have delivered their EPRR responsibilities.
- Work in partnership with ICSs and Directors of Social care to take responsibility for Population Health and Care; including oversight and promoting population coverage of immunisation and screening programmes
- Provide public health advice (the core offer) to ICSs supporting the commissioning of appropriate, effective (based on evidence), and equitable health services.
- Support the Health and Wellbeing Board to deliver its statutory duty to promote integration for the benefit of local communities
- Collaborate across local authority boundaries to ensure residents of [LA name] benefit from population health and care programmes (the Sustainable Transformation Plans which apply from 2016 to 2020).

### **3. Resource Management**

- To be accountable for the budget including reporting on the use of the public health ring fenced grant.
- To manage Council resources (People, property, information and finance) imaginatively and efficiently.
- Manage public health staff and ensure that they are able to influence in such a way as to ensure health and wellbeing in its fullest sense is central to Islington.

### **4. Commissioning**

- Ensure services for improving health and wellbeing of local communities are commissioned within the Council policy for procurement and monitoring system and are responsive to the needs of the communities in Islington and over time.
- To set the framework for standards for commissioning and delivery; including the promotion of innovative approaches and appropriate risk management systems which are responsive to performance challenges.
- To ensure scientific principles of evaluation underpin all commissioning and delivery, of health and wellbeing services.

### **5. Advocacy**

- Develop a constructive relationship with the media and the public, within the context of the Council Communications policy.
- To use the Faculty of Public Health, the LGA, the ADsPH, UKHSA and other channels to advocate for the public's health.

# Management arrangements

The Director of Public Health will be professionally accountable to the Council (and Secretary of State for Health through UK Health Security Agency) and managerially accountable to the Chief Executive of the Local Authority. An initial job plan will be agreed with the successful candidate and reviewed annually.

The Director of Public Health will:

1. Manage c.85 staff (plus trainees) including direct line management duties, recruitment, appraisals, disciplinary and grievance responsibilities
2. Manage budgets including significant grant funding
3. Be expected to take part in on call arrangements for communicable disease control/health protection as appropriate depending on local arrangements
4. Ensure appropriate management and support for Specialty Registrars (in Public Health)

Please see Public Health directorate structure chart ([Appendix B](#)).

# Professional obligations

Professional responsibilities will be reflected in the job plan. The Director of Public Health will be expected to:

1. Participate in the organisation's staff and professional appraisal scheme and ensure participation of all staff members.
2. Ensure quality improvement (and clinical governance) programmes are an integral component of the public health approach in the Council.
3. Contribute actively to the training programme for Foundation Year Doctors/Specialty Registrars in Public Health as appropriate, and to the training of practitioners and primary care professionals within the locality.
4. Pursue a programme of CPD, in accordance with Faculty of Public Health requirements, or other recognised body, and undertake revalidation or other measures required to remain on the GMC/GDC Specialist Register with a license to practice or the UK Public Health (Specialist) Register or other specialist register as appropriate.
5. Practise in accordance with all relevant sections of the General Medical Council's Good Medical Practice (if medically qualified).
6. Agree any external professional roles (Educational Supervisor, Appraiser, etc.) and the time required to deliver those roles with the Council.

# Leadership

As a member of the council's management team, to contribute proactively to the collective leadership for the council, working collaboratively with Members, services across the council, partners and stakeholders to deliver the council's objectives and priorities.

To drive positive cultural change, embodying and promoting the values and behaviours of the council and empowering staff to reach their full potential. Ensure that the performance and development framework is effective for all staff.

To lead on and ensure the effective implementation of corporate initiatives and transformation programmes that cut across the whole or part of the council's activities.

## Resources and Financial Management

Ensure effective Financial Management, cost controls and income maximisation in an ever-changing environment, fluctuating demands and priorities. Ensure resources are well managed and effectively deployed to the best possible effects assuring value for money in all activities.

## Compliance

Ensure legal, regulatory and policy compliance under GDPR, Health and Safety and in area of your specialism identifying opportunities and risks and escalating where appropriate.

## Budget responsibilities

Management of significant grant funding

## Work style

Flexible/Office-Based at 222 Upper Street

# Person specification

You should demonstrate on your application form how you meet the essential criteria. Please ensure you address each of the criteria as this will be assessed to determine your suitability for the post.

Assessment Guide

A = Application

I = Interview

T = Test

## Essential Criteria

### Qualifications

Essential criteria	Criteria description	Assessed by
1	<p>In line with <a href="#">legislation</a>, inclusion in the GMC Full and Specialist Register with a license to practice/GDC Specialist List <b>or</b> inclusion in the UK Public Health Register (UKPHR) for Public Health Specialists at the point of application</p> <p><i>If included in the GMC Specialist Register/GDC Specialist List in a specialty other than public health medicine/dental public health, candidates must have equivalent training and/or appropriate experience of public health practice.</i></p> <p>Public health <b>specialty registrar applicants</b> who are not yet on the GMC Specialist Register, GDC Specialist List in dental public health or UKPHR <b>must provide verifiable signed documentary evidence that they are within 6 months</b> of gaining entry to a register at the date of interview.</p>	A/I
2	<p>If an applicant is UK trained in Public Health, they must ALSO be a holder of a Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT) or be within six months of award of CCT by date of interview.</p> <p>If an applicant is non-UK trained, they will be required to show evidence of equivalence to the UK CCT.</p>	A/I
3	<p>MFPH by examination, by exemption or by assessment, or equivalent.</p>	A/I
4	<p>Must meet minimum CPD requirements (i.e. be up to date) in accordance with the Faculty of Public Health requirements or other recognised body.</p>	A/I

### Experience

Essential criteria	Criteria description	Assessed by
5	<p>Understanding of NHS and local government cultures, structures and policies.</p>	A/I
6	<p>Understanding of social and political environments.</p>	A/I

Essential criteria	Criteria description	Assessed by
7	Excellent oral and written communication skills (including dealing with the media) including to present to mixed audiences and the media.	A/I
8	Practical experience in facilitating change.	A/I
9	Budget management skills.	A/I
10	Understanding of the public sector duty and the inequality duty and their application to public health practice.	A/I
11	The normal duties of the role may involve travel on a regular or occasional basis. It is a condition of employment that the role holder can exercise satisfactory travel mobility in order to fulfil the obligations of the role. For those journeys where an alternative form of transport is unavailable or impracticable the role holder will be required to provide a suitable vehicle.	A/I

## Skills

Essential criteria	Criteria description	Assessed by
12	<p><b>Leadership</b></p> <p>Establishing and promoting a clear public health vision which is coherent with the business strategy and the political vision for the and consistent with Government policy and takes account of social and economic trends. This is about role modelling through their own actions the types of behaviours expected of others in creating a high performing public health culture.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Developing an effective PH team with appropriate skill mix to enable the Authority to deliver its full range of PH responsibilities</li> <li>• Developing effective relationships with elected members to ensure a coherent PH vision and operational plan</li> <li>• Work with fellow directors to enable/ensure public health perspective/principles underpin all aspects of LA delivery</li> <li>• Work with communities and media to ensure needs of local communities are made explicit and addressed by the H&amp;WB</li> <li>• Deliver the independent report of the DPH in such a way as to compel all members of the H&amp;WB to take action</li> </ul>	A/I
13	<p><b>Community and population focus</b></p> <p>It means working together to a common agenda and objectives with a shared purpose and common values, always looking for ways to improve access to services by communities and individuals. This is seen by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actively seeking to understand the communities that are served and promoting and demonstrating an active commitment to meet their needs</li> <li>• Setting new standards for innovation in commissioning and delivery of services that anticipate and exceed expectations</li> </ul>	A/I



Essential criteria	Criteria description	Assessed by
	<p>Engaging with a wide range of stakeholders and partners to gather and evaluate information and make collaborative judgements and decisions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Making timely and where needed, difficult decisions for the benefit of the people of Islington.</li> </ul>	
14	<p><b>Results Focus</b> Co-development of a model of health with local stakeholders (including local communities) and the metrics to support; taking account of Public Health Outcomes Framework, the NHS Outcomes Framework and the Social Care Outcomes Framework. This is seen by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acknowledging and working with ambiguity and complexity, making significant decisions where no precedents exist</li> <li>• Ensuring a best practice performance culture is developed and sustained</li> <li>• Setting, communicating and monitoring stretching organisational objectives and objectives</li> <li>• Pro-actively identifying corporate, directorate and service risks, and ensuring action is taken to mitigate them</li> <li>• Formulating risk management plans and creating a positive health and safety culture</li> </ul>	
15	<p><b>Improvement and Change</b> Developing and sustaining a culture of innovation and creativity underpinned by evaluation, where employees are engaged and have the desire to do things better, more efficiently and effectively to improve performance. This is seen by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Taking risks and moving into unchartered territory while taking accountability for results and failures</li> <li>• Welcoming the inevitable mistakes as part of the creative process</li> <li>• Suggesting the unthinkable to stimulate alternate ways of thinking</li> <li>• Focusing team performance on the achievement of outcomes that will maximise the resources available</li> <li>• Finding new ways of securing or deploying significant amounts of financial resource to meet new objectives</li> <li>• Advocating and role modelling the use of evaluation techniques to support innovation</li> </ul>	
16	<p><b>People Development</b> Knowing and managing the strategic talent requirements for the organisation. It is about promoting and encouraging a culture where people focus on developing themselves and others to deliver improvement while developing careers. This is seen by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Holding direct reports accountable for people development generally and specifically for releasing high performers for personal development</li> </ul>	

Essential criteria	Criteria description	Assessed by
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Articulating the many long-term benefits of talent management and developing the talent pools required for succession</li> <li>Ensuring comprehensive workforce plans are in place</li> </ul>	
17	<b>Functional competencies</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstrates detailed knowledge of methods of developing clinical quality assurance, quality improvement and evidence based clinical and/or public health practice.</li> <li>Full and high level of understanding of epidemiology and statistics, public health practice, health promotion, health economics and health care evaluation. Develops service practices and ensures appropriate application. Provides advice on the more complex instances</li> </ul>	A/I
18	Detailed knowledge and experience in driving and assisting in the management of change in a variety of settings, proactively seeking opportunities to create and implement improved service effectiveness.	A/I
19	Detailed knowledge of personnel management. Carries out effective performance management of staff and demonstrates understanding of policies related to pay, capability, disciplinary matters and grievances. Plans department activities and use of staff resources effectively. Participates in workforce planning and training needs assessments.	A/I
20	Demonstrates knowledge of project management tools and techniques. Sufficient skill to develop and implement large scale projects, utilising and leading multi-skilled project teams.	A/I

## Special requirements of the post

Essential criteria	Criteria description	Assessed by
13	This role will require you to obtain satisfactory clearance from the Disclosure and Barring Service	N/A
16	This post is subject to the council's policy on pecuniary and personal interest	N/A
17	This post is designated as politically restricted	N/A

## Our accreditations

Our accreditations include: the Healthy Workplace award, Timewise, London Living Wage Employer, Disability Confident Committed, The Mayor's Good Work Standard, Stonewall Diversity Champion, and Time to Change.



# Appendix A

## Faculty of Public Health: competencies expected of all public health consultants / specialists

(Based on the 2022 PH Specialty Training Curriculum)

All consultants irrespective of their background are expected to be proficient in the competencies set out below.

### **I. Use of public health intelligence to survey and assess a population's health and wellbeing**

To be able to synthesise data from multiple sources on the surveillance or assessment of a population's health and wellbeing and on the wider environment, so that the evidence can be communicated clearly and inform action planning to improve population health outcomes.

### **II. Assessing the evidence of effectiveness of interventions, programmes and services intended to improve the health or wellbeing of individuals or populations**

To be able to use a range of resources to generate and communicate appropriately evidenced and informed recommendations for improving population health across operational and strategic health and care settings.

### **III. Policy and strategy development and implementation**

To be able to influence and contribute to the development of policy and lead the development and implementation of a strategy.

### **IV. Strategic leadership and collaborative working for health**

To use a range of effective strategic leadership, organisational and management skills, in a variety of complex public health situations and contexts, dealing effectively with uncertainty and the unexpected to achieve public health goals.

### **V. Health Improvement, Determinants of Health, and Health Communication**

To influence and act on the broad determinants, behaviours and environmental factors influencing health at a system, community, and individual level to improve and promote the health of current and future generations. To be proactive in addressing health inequalities and prioritising the most vulnerable or disadvantaged groups in the population.

### **VI. Health Protection**

To identify, assess and communicate risks associated with hazards relevant to health protection, and to lead and co-ordinate the appropriate public health response. To understand how those risks associated with hazards relevant to health protection may be influenced by climate change and environmental degradation currently and in the future.

### **VII. Health and Care Public Health**

To be able to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, safety, reliability, responsiveness, sustainability and equity of health and care services through applying insights from multiple

sources including formal research, health surveillance, needs analysis, service monitoring and evaluation.

### **VIII. Academic public health**

To add an academic perspective to all public health work undertaken. Specifically, to be able to critically appraise evidence to inform policy and practice, identify evidence gaps with strategies to address these gaps, undertake research activities of a standard that is publishable in peer

reviewed journals and demonstrate competence in teaching and learning across all areas of public health practice.

### **IX. Professional, personal, and ethical development**

To be able to shape, pursue actively and evaluate your own personal and professional development, using insight into your own behaviours and attitudes and their impact to modify behaviour and to practise within the framework of the GMC's Good Medical Practice (as used for appraisal and revalidation for consultants in public health) and the UKPHR's Code of Conduct.

### **X. 10. Integration and application for consultant practice**

To be able to demonstrate the consistent use of sound judgment to select from a range of advanced public health expertise and skills, and to use them effectively, working at senior organisational levels, to deliver improved population health in complex and unpredictable environments.

The DPH as a public health leader is expected to have both the technical expertise as well as the ability to use those techniques to both, lead and support the development of complex solutions to improve the health and wellbeing of local communities. In addition, they are expected to have skills and the attitudes to be able to present the results of applying their technical expertise so that they are understandable and stimulate actions by a range of individuals and organisations.

# Appendix B

## Public Health directorate structure chart

