

Kent County Council

Job Description: Public Health Officer

Directorate:	Chief Executive Department
Unit/Section:	Public Health
Grade:	KSG
Responsible to:	Public Health Specialist

About us

Kent County Council's Public Health team commissions a wide range of services to improve the health and wellbeing of Kent residents, including sexual health services, drug and alcohol services, health visiting, school nursing, mental health promotion and weight management.

We are seeking a motivated and dynamic individual to support the coordination and delivery of our Whole Systems Approach to healthy weight Programme. This is a unique opportunity to drive meaningful change in obesity prevention through system-wide partnership and collaboration.

Job Purpose

The Public Health Officer will lead and coordinate the local delivery of the Whole Systems Approach (WSO) to Healthy Weight Programme. Working across sectors, the postholder will collaborate with a wide range of partners to implement agreed priorities, promote healthy weight, and reduce health inequalities.

The role focuses on creating healthier environments by improving access to healthy and nutritious food, supporting increased physical activity, and addressing wider determinants of health. The postholder will coordinate delivery across key priority areas, including food environments and community-based initiatives, while supporting the implementation of local and countywide strategies to prevent obesity and advance the wider public health agenda.

Key Responsibilities

- Lead and coordinate delivery of the Whole Systems Approach (WSO) to Healthy Weight within a designated locality, ensuring priorities and action plans are implemented and monitored.
- Build and maintain strong partnerships across local authorities, NHS, voluntary, community, and private sectors to drive system-wide change.
- Support initiatives that improve access to healthy, affordable, and sustainable food including collaboration on planning, policies, licensing, and local food programmes.
- Lead or support delivery of projects on healthy weight, food, and physical activity, including stakeholder engagement, events, partnership working and overall public health agenda.

- Use data and evidence to inform planning, monitor impact, and produce reports, ensuring all work supports reducing health inequalities and promoting healthier lifestyles.

Footnote: This job description is provided to assist the job holder to know what their main duties are. It may be amended from time to time without change to the level of responsibility appropriate to the grade of post.

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Person Specification: Public Health Officer

The following outlines the criteria for this post. Applicants who have a disability and who meet the criteria will be shortlisted.

Applicants should describe in their application how they meet these criteria.

	CRITERIA
QUALIFICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Degree or equivalent qualification in Public Health, Nutrition, Health Promotion, Community Development, or a related discipline.• Programme management qualification (or willingness to work towards one).
EXPERIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Experience in public health, health improvement, local government, or a related field, with evidence of contributing to delivery of programmes or initiatives achieving defined outputs and timelines.• Proven ability to build and sustain multi-agency partnerships, demonstrated through active participation in cross-sector forums and delivery against shared objectives.• Experience delivering or supporting healthy weight, obesity prevention, or community wellbeing programmes, with measurable outcomes such as increased engagement, reach, or service uptake.• Strong understanding of health inequalities, behaviour change, and wider determinants of health, evidenced through delivery of targeted interventions for priority populations.• Experience using data and evidence to inform planning, implementation and evaluation, with ability to monitor performance and demonstrate impact through key indicators and reporting.• Excellent communication and organisational skills, evidenced by successful stakeholder engagement, delivery of events or workshops, and production of clear reports and briefings.
KEY SKILLS AND COMPETENCIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Excellent written, verbal, and interpersonal communication skills, with the ability to engage, influence, and build strong relationships with diverse stakeholders.• Strong partnership working, community engagement, and facilitation skills, delivering effective collaboration and shared outcomes across sectors.• Analytical and problem-solving skills, with the ability to interpret complex information and data to inform practical, evidence-based solutions.• Effective project and programme coordination skills, including strategic planning, organisation, and delivery to agreed deadlines and priorities.• Strategic thinking with a strong operational focus, including political

	<p>awareness, negotiation skills, and a clear commitment to reducing health inequalities and promoting equity and inclusion.</p>
<p>KNOWLEDGE</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good understanding of public health principles, including obesity, wider determinants of health, and health inequalities. • Knowledge of national and local public health priorities, strategies, and policy context. • Understanding of partnership working and whole systems approaches to improving population health. • Awareness of data protection, confidentiality, and information governance requirements. • Ability and willingness to travel across Kent to support programme delivery.
<p>BEHAVIOURS AND KENT VALUES</p>	<p>Kent Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are brave. We do the right thing, we accept and offer challenge • We are curious to innovate and improve • We are compassionate, understanding and respectful to all • We are strong together by sharing knowledge • We are all responsible for the difference we make <p>Our values enable us to build a culture that is:</p> <p>Flexible/agile - willing to take (calculated) risks and want people that are flexible and agile</p> <p>Curious - constantly learning and evolving</p> <p>Compassionate and Inclusive - compassionate, understanding and respectful to all</p> <p>Working Together - building and delivering for the best interests of Kent</p> <p>Empowering - Our people take accountability for their decisions and actions</p> <p>Externally Focused - Residents, families and communities at the heart of decision making</p>