

Job Title: South West Regional Health Lead

Grade: Dorset Grade 14 £54 495 – 60589

Location: South West Region

Reports to: SW SEND Coordinator and PEP

Contract Type: 0.5 fixed term 1 year secondment available

DBS Check: Required (Basic)

Purpose and Impact

The Regional Health Lead will provide strategic leadership and coordination of health networks building and strengthening communities of practice. The aim being to strengthen the integration of health services and the SEND system and supporting health colleagues' knowledge and understanding of key reforms in Childrens Social care.

This role is pivotal in driving improvements in multiagency SEND work ensuring alignment with national health reforms, local priorities, and fostering collaboration across health, social care, and education sectors. The role will work with partners to ensure children and young people with SEND receive timely, effective, and joined-up support.

The post holder will lead regional networks offering universal and targeted support to local area partnerships and advising on how to align education, health and care priorities. The post holder will represent the region in national forums.

This is a regional role with strategic responsibilities across multiple localities, requiring high-level coordination, cross-boundary collaboration, and the ability to influence practice at scale. The postholder will lead on the implementation of policy and practice across diverse settings, engage with a wide range of stakeholders including national bodies, and provide expert guidance to local teams. The role demands advanced leadership, systems thinking, and the ability to manage complex, multi-agency initiatives.

Key Responsibilities

- Lead strategic planning and delivery of the SW SEND plan.
- Establish and maintain a regional health network involving ICSs, NHS trusts, local authorities, and other partners.
- Promote high-quality, person-centred health services, with a focus on inclusion and equity.



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- Ensure co-production with partners and communities in shaping health services.
- Develop and monitor performance, planning, and budgetary frameworks in the region.
- Ensure compliance with statutory duties and emerging national health policies.
- Build strong relationships across primary, secondary, and community health providers.
- Collaborate with national bodies on delivery planning and progress reporting.
- Provide expert advice to senior leadership teams.
- Represent the region at strategic health forums and working groups.
- Manage regional health grants and ensure effective allocation and monitoring of resources.
- Maintain high standards of data quality and information governance.

Supervision and Management

- Line managed by SWSEND coordinator and PEP.
- Matrix management of project teams across the region.

Person Specification

Essential Criteria

Qualifications:

- Master's level or equivalent specialist training in public health, healthcare management, or related health field.
- Evidence of ongoing professional development.
- Leadership or management qualification or equivalent experience.

Experience:

- Professional qualification in health (e.g., nursing, therapy, public health).
- Experience working in children's health services and/or SEND and/or children's social care.
- Knowledge of the SEND Code of Practice and health commissioning processes.
- Knowledge of child protection processes desirable
- Proven track record of improving health outcomes and service quality.
- Experience in strategic co-production with CYP and parents/carers.
- Experience managing multidisciplinary teams and complex health projects.
- Demonstrated success in leading change and transformation initiatives.

Skills and Knowledge:

- In-depth knowledge of SEND, health legislation, policy, and integrated care systems.



- Strong understanding of local government and multi-agency working.
- Excellent communication, negotiation, and interpersonal skills.
- Demonstrable leadership competencies including emotional intelligence and decision-making.

Behaviours and Values

- Responsibility
- Respect
- Recognition
- Collaboration (One Team)

Other Requirements

- Ability to travel across the region regularly.
- Flexibility to manage conflicting priorities and tight deadlines.
- Subject to a Basic DBS check.