**Job Profile -** Strategy Portfolio Lead Children and Learning

**Job Title:** Strategy Portfolio Lead Children and Learning

**Job Grade:** Level 5, Zone 2

**Salary Range:** £53,897 to £65,350

**About Camden**

Camden is building somewhere everyone can thrive, by making our borough the best place to live, work, study and visit. Because we’re not just home to UK’s fast-growing economy. We’re home to the most important conversations happening today. And we’re making radical social change a reality, so that nobody gets left behind. Our vision for Camden is set out in our strategic plan We Make Camden. Here’s where you can help decide a better future for us all.

The Supporting People Strategy Team is seeking a Portfolio Lead to shape strategy, policy, improvement and transformation in key areas of work supporting our Children’s and Learning Directorate.

**The role**

The postholder will drive a strategy portfolio of work supporting our Directorate Management Team in delivering Children’s Services in Camden. This opportunity comes at an exciting time of change where the Council is focused on delivering our strategic vision, set out in We Make Camden. The Council is taking a mission-orientated approach to the delivery of its key ambitions for the borough. This postholder will contribute to that delivery, with a focus on delivering our Youth Mission as well as contributing to the Council’s work in delivering the Food and Diversity Missions which are fundamental to ensuring Children get the best start in life.

Local and National policy change are bringing exciting opportunities, with our Supporting People Strategy Team playing a significant role supporting the development and delivery of our Education and SEND Strategies, as well as our Resilient Families Framework, our Family Hubs programme and directing our inspection preparations. There is a strong emphasis on partnership working and energetic involvement in working with partner organisations and residents. We are also transforming the way our services operate and thinking about the impact of the recent national review of children’s social care.

**About you**

The requirements of the role are:

1. Extensive knowledge of the strategic challenges facing local places and of Camden the borough
2. Strong political awareness and judgement, with an ability to work with Council elected members and local MPs
3. Ability to design and deliver change in a complex environment, managing risk whilst bringing people together to tackle issues and make a positive difference for our residents
4. A strong desire to seek opportunities to use design tools in the delivery of change and redesign of services.
5. Ability to effectively support and manage people, being able to plan & prioritise the team’s workload
6. Ability to provide strategic advice on complex issues at board level to senior officers, elected members and partner organisations
7. Expertise to develop and test new ideas and learn, evaluating the outcomes and sharing the lessons learnt to help others and improve future plans
8. Prepared to be challenged by others and see these as opportunities to learn, develop ideas further and in collaboration
9. Strong empathy and understanding of other people and of local residents, providing opportunities to mobilise change – to listen, learn and support each other
10. Ability to examine problems, explore data, research and evidence to inform innovative policy development.

**Work Environment:**

The post holder will report to the Head of Strategy and be expected to deputise for them from time to time.

The role will form part of the Senior Management Team for the Supporting People Strategy Team which provides strategy, data and transformation support to two Directorates – Adults and Health and Children and Learning.

The post holder may be required to work with a variety of teams and in different workplaces. All staff work in an agile way in-line with Camden’s move to a paperless and flexible work environment. The role will co-locate with services when working on specific strategies and projects.

The post holder may be required to attend weekend and evening meetings.

**People Management Responsibilities:**

The role line manages several Principal and Senior Policy and Projects Officers, and Project Managers on their own projects or programmes of work for which they are responsible.

This will involve ensuring appropriate training and development opportunities are available for direct reports and contributing to a service wide training offer.

The role will embrace the ethos of a self-managed team, where resources are used flexibly to deliver agreed priority areas of work across the Supporting People Strategy Service.

**Relationships:**

The post holder will be expected to develop and maintain relationships at senior levels across the organisation, with elected members as appropriate, partner organisations, government departments and customers as dictated by the projects, roles and tasks they will be carrying out.

The role will have good relationships with external partners connected to strategic priorities including co-designing strategies and change and delivering joint programmes

The successful applicant will also work closely with the Executive Director for Children and Learning, delivering priorities which enable the Directorate to support services and the wider organisation to adapt and change to deliver on the goal of our citizens.

The role will also work across the wider strategy family, facilitating joint working to deliver cross-cutting work and supporting the delivery of corporate work.

**Over to you**

We’re ready to welcome your ideas, your views, and your rebellious spirit. Help us redefine our corporate services, and we’ll redefine what a career can be. If that sounds good to you, we’d love to talk.

**Is this role Politically Restricted?**

Some posts at Camden are politically restricted, which means individuals holding these posts cannot have active political role. For a list of all politically restricted roles at Camden click here.

**Diversity & Inclusion**

At Camden, we value and celebrate difference and encourage diversity in all respects. Our diverse workforce ensures we represent our communities to the best of our ability and enables us to make better decisions. Because of this, we particularly welcome applications from Black, Asian and those of other non-white ethnicities, those who identify as LGBT+, neurodiverse and disabled people.

**Agile working**

At Camden we view work as an activity, not a place. We focus on performance, not presenteeism. We create trusting relationships, we embrace innovation rather than bureaucracy and we value people. Collaboration is the Camden way, silo working isn’t.

At Camden we are proud to be one of Hire Me My Way’s inaugural campaign supporters. Hire Me My Way is a national campaign led by Timewise, designed to increase the volume of good quality jobs that can be worked flexibly in the UK (www.HireMeMyWay.org.uk). Hire Me My Way aims to treble the number of available good quality flexible jobs to 1 million by 2020.

**Asking for Adjustments**

Camden is committed to making our recruitment practices barrier-free and as accessible as possible for everyone. This includes making adjustments or changes for disabled people, neurodiverse people or people with long-term health conditions. If you would like us to do anything differently during the application, interview or assessment process, including providing information in an alternative format, please contact us on 020 7974 6655, at resourcing@camden.gov.uk or post to 5 Pancras Square, London, N1C 4AG

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