

Children's Commissioning Manager

Salary Range: £47,394 - £54,222

Grade: Level 4 Zone 2

Location: 5 Pancras Square

Reports to: Julia Mills & Dionne Usherwood (job share)



About the role

- To be the lead commissioner responsible for a portfolio of work, with a primary focus on improving and maintaining Play (out of school childcare) and holiday activities including for disabled children and young people, alongside holding a range of other smaller health and/or social care focussed portfolios for children. The role includes setting the strategic direction for your portfolio areas and working in partnership with our VCS organisations delivering in the borough and with a range of Council teams (the portfolio may change over time responding to the needs of the service).
- Manage the delivery of commissioned services ensuring these are effective and efficient and aligned to Camden Council's strategic objectives.
- Develop and implement commissioning plans for priority areas, which include clear objectives and outcomes to ensure planned outcomes and assurance standards are met.
- Obtain feedback from children, young people and families to assess the quality and effectiveness of services and identify changes to improve quality and outcomes and ensure that the quality and performance of provision meets the needs of local CYP and their families
- Work closely with relevant colleagues to implement changes to contracts to improve quality and/or deliver better value for money.
- Provide input to relevant boards and committees to ensure representation of themes within your portfolio.
- Co-produce processes and systems with parents, carers and young people, with the voice and experience of families at the centre of what we do, ensuring all necessary consultation with parents, children and young people, and all stakeholders is undertaken.

The things you'll achieve

- You'll ensure services in your portfolio are meeting the needs of Camden's children and families – tracking and monitoring equitable access, performance and delivery outcomes for different population groups and family feedback
- You'll identify ways to address any inequalities in access or experience across the services in your portfolio, hearing from and working with parents/carers, children and young people
- You'll build and develop strong multi-agency partnerships between Local Authority, NHS and voluntary sector partners
- You'll track and monitor spend, ensuring services offer value for money and are delivered within budget
- You'll work closely with procurement colleagues and with local families to steer and support robust procurement and contracting processes that secure top quality services for Camden's children and young people

About you

Experience

- Experience of working in a social care, education, health or other agency, providing or commissioning services to children, young people and their families. Experience in or strong knowledge of commissioning social care or early help services for children is an advantage.
- Knowledge and experience of commissioning and negotiation
- Experience of working collaboratively and in partnerships across agencies to deliver improved outcomes for children and young people
- Experience of writing and presenting policy and strategy, to a wide range of stakeholders including senior leaders to inform others about relevant issues and recommend appropriate future action.
- Experience of successful project management and delivery of agreed outcomes and improved performance within specified timescales.

You have

- The ability to present complex information about projects, initiatives and services to a wide range of stakeholders including service users and their families, education providers, and social care teams
- You are able to develop a constructive relationship and dialogue with children and young people and their families to help develop appropriate and responsive services
- The ability to nurture key relationships and maintain networks internally and externally and support collaborative working across all relevant partners
- Analytical skills to ensure commissioning activities continue to be responsive to need.
- Financial/budget management skills to ensure best value is achieved within resources available

Other important information...

People management

No line management responsibilities, some matrix management may be necessary

Work environment

Your work environment will be a mixture of working from our main offices at 5 Pancras Square in Kings Cross and from home. You are expected to spend some time every week working from the office, and also meetings at external organisations and community spaces. There may be a requirement to attend evening meetings or other out-of-hours events on occasion; reasonable notice will be given under these circumstances.

Who you will be working with

You'll be part of a supportive and closeknit team of commissioners who lead a wide range of portfolios of public health and core council funded services for children. You'll report to a Strategic Commissioning Manager in the team. The role works closely with colleagues across Camden's children's services as well as a wide range of NHS and VCS organisations.

The application process

The application process will involve an interview with a panel of colleagues. The shortlisting will be based on the assessment of skills and experience and candidates are asked to provide evidence against these in their personal statement. If shortlisted, you will receive some interview questions ahead of the interview to help you prepare.

Who we are

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.

Asking for Adjustments

Camden is committed to making our recruitment practices 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

