

## Assistant to the Executive – Adult Services and Public Health

**Primary departmental Links:** Principal link to Adults' Health and Care with engagement across all departments of the County Council, as required. Additionally, links to partner organisations, as well as service user representative groups are key to this role, as determined by the Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health.

### Key outcomes:

The essence of the role is to help co-ordinate political engagement and to provide political advice and support to the County Council in its work to fulfil adult social care and public health statutory responsibilities as set out in the following primary pieces of legislation:

- The Care Act 2014
- The Mental Capacity Act 2005
- The Mental Health Act 1983
- The National Health Service Act 2006
- The Health and Social Care Act 2012.

The need for robust and effective political engagement is critical as the Department seeks to manage ongoing demand and cost pressures, embrace the potential offered by new technology, and respond and recover from the Covid-19 pandemic. Navigating these challenges and opportunities within an increasingly complex partnership landscape is central to ensuring the County Council continues to deliver positive outcomes for Hampshire's adult population, including some of our most vulnerable residents. This post will provide capacity to support political engagement on these areas within the County Council, across Sectors (particularly the NHS and Voluntary and Community Sector) and with Hampshire's communities.

### Key Functional Areas:

- To support the Executive Member in the discharge of their statutory role for all areas relating to social care for adults including: older people, people with physical disability, people with learning disability, people with mental health support needs, carers and ancillary services – as well as a broad duty relating to safeguarding adults.
- To support the Executive Member in carrying out their public health remit, including: work to improve the health and wellbeing of everyone in Hampshire, commissioned services that support residents from birth to adulthood, public health leadership to NHS commissioners and work to protect residents from infections, outbreaks and other hazards, such as chemicals.
- To support the development of, and maintain political links with, key partner organisations such as other local authorities across Hampshire and the Isle of

Wight, NHS organisations, health and care providers and Voluntary and Community Sector bodies.

- Assist in maintaining and developing partnership arrangements, engagement and communication with key local community and service-user led organisations. This includes ensuring positive engagement and support for key agendas, including co-production and user engagement and *Making Safeguarding Personal*.
- Participate in the Hampshire Safeguarding Adults Board, working with partners to safeguard adults, and deputise for the Executive Member as appropriate – recognising the role does not have an Executive function.
- Assist the Executive Member, Leader and wider Cabinet colleagues in making representations as appropriate on areas of regional and national policy development including, for example, anticipated health and care reforms.
- Assist the Executive Member as required to communicate the County Council's position with regards to health and social care matters, as agreed through established corporate communication processes and channels.
- Support the Executive Member in areas of policy development as instructed. This may include, but not be limited to:
  - Learning and applying lessons from Covid-19.
  - Further development of the County Council's strategic partnership arrangements with Health.
  - Safeguarding Adults.
  - Strengthening the voice of service users, their families, carers and wider communities in the co-design and development of health and care services.

Contrary to the Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health, the Assistant to the Executive is not a statutory role and the post does not carry Executive decision-making powers. However, importantly, it does provide political support and advice to the Executive Member for Adult Services and Public Health and, as required, to the Leader and other Executive Members.

### **Scale of financial gearing/ impact of work undertaken:**

The role encompasses a broad range of statutory services spanning both Adult Social Care services and Public Health functions. This includes circa 3,500 directly employed staff and many tens of thousands more staff operating across some 1,000+ partner and provider services.

The Department has a gross revenue budget of some £520m in 2021/22, which continues to come under increasing demand and cost pressures. The Department faces a further £40.6m shortfall by 2022-23 which must be met on top of the £99.034m required savings between 2017-2021. This role will play an important part in supporting the County Council's interface with its stakeholders and the public to ensure that decisions on what the Department can and cannot provide in the future are informed by the views of residents and service users. This applies equally to engagement on new ways of working, as the County Council seeks to maximise the positive innovations galvanised by the pandemic.