



Job description			
Job title	Director (Adult Social Care and Commissioning)		
Grade	Director Band		
Directorate	Health & Social Care		
Service/team	Adult Social Care and Commissioning		
Accountable to	Executive Director (Health and Social Care)		
Responsible for	Head of Service – Together We Care Head of Adult Social Care Head of Whole Life Commissioning Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Service Manager – Service Development		
JE Reference	B1014	Date Reviewed	March 2026

Purpose of the Job

You will lead and direct the Council’s adult social care ensuring that services are high-quality, person-centred and delivered efficiently. You will drive the transformation of adult social care by developing and implementing new, integrated models of delivery that improve outcomes, achieve efficiency savings and strengthen resident experience. You will provide clear leadership to the Whole Life Commissioning team to ensure robust, evidence-based commissioning across the full life course.

You will set the strategic direction for adult social care in line with the Council’s transformational agenda, translating this into effective operational plans. You will ensure the Council meets its legal, statutory and political responsibilities while delivering required savings and proactively managing risk. You will also lead the cultural and practice changes needed to embed new ways of working successfully across the service.

The post holder will have corporate and service specific responsibilities as outlined within this Job Description.

This is not a comprehensive list of all the tasks, which may be required of the post holder. It is illustrative of the general nature and level of responsibility of the work to be undertaken.

Duties and Responsibilities

Service Specific



Responsible for leading improved outcomes in Adult Social Care and Whole Life Commissioning by raising Standards, Quality and Performance with specific responsibility for: -

1. Strategic Leadership & Direction

- Lead and direct the delivery of all statutory duties under the Care Act, Mental Health Act, and Mental Capacity Act
- Ensure robust safeguarding arrangements are in place to protect vulnerable adults from abuse and neglect
- Oversee the transformation of Together We Care Services, ensuring the service is positioned to effectively support adults with complex needs
- Lead, direct and manage the strategic development, transformation and delivery of adult social care services with a focus on early intervention and prevention, maximising independence and person-centred care
- Lead the delivery of the Adult Social Care Transformation Plan, ensuring value for money within reducing resources.

2. Commissioning & Market Management

- Lead joint strategic commissioning across Adult's, Children's, and Public Health ensuring seamless transitions and integrated pathways
- Shape the market for care and support ensuring that services and support locally are of the type that people want and need
- Ensure sufficiency and sustainability in the market for care and support, maintain strong provider relationships and manage market risks including mitigating the risk of provider failure and responding in the event of service failure or interruption
- Commission services for children in collaboration with the Executive Director (Children)
- Work with the Director of Public Health and the wider Public Health Team to commission preventative services that reduce health inequalities and manage long term demand on health and social care services
- Lead integrated commissioning initiatives with NHS partners and Integrated Care Boards (ICBs)
- Maximise external funding, partnership resources and opportunities to enhance service delivery.

3. Leadership of People, Culture & Practice

- Provide effective professional leadership to Heads of Service, ensuring high standards, performance management and professional development.
- Lead cultural, workforce and practice change, creating the conditions for innovation and challenging poor performance.



4. Inspection & Regulatory Leadership (CQC)

- Lead the Council's preparation for Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspections across Adult Social Care and other in-house regulated services, ensuring the service meets statutory requirements and delivers high-quality, safe and person-centred outcomes
- Lead the co-production of the Council's refreshed Self-Assessment document, oversee the maintenance of all collated evidence and ensure new evidence is gathered as needed, and direct a programme of continued 'inspection readiness' to support staff and other stakeholders in their preparations
- Ensure that the Whole Life Commissioning Team, Adult Social Care, the Safeguarding and Quality Improvement Service, Together we Care Services and wider Council Teams contribute effectively to inspection preparations
- Coordinate the organisational response during inspections, acting as the senior lead for CQC engagement, and ensure that post-inspection actions and improvements are implemented, monitored and embedded across all services.

5. Financial & Resource Management

- Maintain robust budgetary monitoring controls and ensure effective, efficient use of resources.
- Be accountable for achieving agreed savings and efficiencies across Adult Social Care.

6. Performance, Planning & Governance

- Ensure consistent planning, monitoring, evaluation and review frameworks that align with Council requirements and statutory duties.

7. Partnership Working & System Leadership

- Cultivate productive relationships with Public Health, ICBs and the wider NHS to promote independence, enablement and quality of life.
- Maintain effective relationships with partners, stakeholders and providers to improve outcomes.
- Chair the Section 75 Management Group and ensure robust oversight of pooled budget arrangements (including the Better Care Fund), ensuring resources are appropriately aligned to shared priorities that will achieve the best possible health and social outcomes for adults in Knowsley
- Lead the development of place-based integrated services, with a focus on early intervention and prevention, supporting people at home and in their communities, and harnessing data and digital opportunities to improve outcomes
- Engage with national and regional policy networks, including the Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS), ensuring



local practices align with national standards including through participating in wider Sector-Led Improvement activity

Duties and Responsibilities

Corporate

1. Strategic Leadership & Direction

- Provide strategic leadership across the Council, ensuring priority initiatives are delivered in line with the Knowsley Council Plan 2025–2030 and the Knowsley 2030 Strategy.
- Lead a transformational approach to service delivery, including strategic resource decisions, demand management and the development of new operating models.
- Provide visible, unified and clear leadership across the organisation.
- Work with the Executive Director (Health and Social Care), Corporate Management Team, Elected Members and partners to deliver the shared vision for Knowsley.

2. Partnership & System Leadership

- Develop and sustain strategic partnerships at local, regional and national levels.
- Work within the Knowsley Better Together principles, strengthening cooperative working with stakeholders to maximise collective impact.
- Drive excellent customer service through collaboration with public, voluntary and private sector partners.

3. Governance, Assurance & Corporate Contributions

- Carry out corporate roles and assignments allocated by the Executive Management Team.
- Represent the Council in national, regional and local media, ensuring the Council's reputation is well managed.
- Provide a major contribution to the Council's change management processes, acting as an active 'change agent'.

4. Performance, Culture & Organisational Development

- Develop and embed a strong performance culture that delivers better outcomes for local people.
- Model and promote positive culture change across services, ensuring communication is clear, effective and transparent at all levels.
- Support Elected Members in fulfilling their roles as community leaders and ward members.



5. Inspection, Assurance & Quality

- Provide support for corporate and external inspections as required.

6. Corporate Parenting

- As part of your role with the Council, you share a collective responsibility to support and champion children and young people who are cared for by the Council and young people who are care experienced. Children and young people tell us that including this in all job descriptions “is good” because they want all Council employees to understand how important it is to “treat children in care and care experienced young people as they would their own”. We ask that you do this with the same commitment, care and ambition that any parent would, regardless of your job role or service area. Children and young people tell us that they want all Council employees to be “genuine”, helping to create a supportive environment, remaining alert to any worries and concerns, and ensuring that safeguarding is promoted and responded to appropriately.

7. Emergency Preparedness & Multi-Agency Response

- As a senior officer, support the Council’s emergency preparedness, response and recovery arrangements.
- Participate in relevant training and exercises, and attend Strategic, Tactical or Recovery Coordinating Groups with multi-agency partners when required.

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Knowsley Better Together – Staff Qualities



Health and Safety

- To use equipment as instructed and trained.
- To inform management of any health and safety issues which could place individuals at risk.

Data Protection and Information Security

- Implement and act in accordance with the Information Security Acceptable Use Policy, Data Protection Policy and GDPR.
- Protect the Council's information assets from unauthorised access, disclosure, modification, destruction or interference.
- Report actual or potential security incidents.