

The **AHSN** Network

Job Title:	AHSN National Co-ordination Director
Hours:	37.5 hours per week
Pay Band:	Commensurate with current salary
Tenure:	Initial 1 year contract. Candidates interested in secondment possibilities are encouraged to apply.
Base:	London but with national travel
Accountable to:	AHSN Chief Officers Group

Background

AHSNs ensure that innovation is spread at “scale and pace” with consequent benefits for the health and wealth of individuals, communities, regions and the nation.

AHSNs support the vision in the ‘Five Year Forward View’ to create the conditions for proven innovation to be adopted faster in a more systematic way to improve patient outcomes.

AHSNs are a critical structure for aligning the NHS, universities and Industry, and work as ‘system integrators’ across these domains. Nationally, AHSNs have four areas of focus, which can be summarised as follows:-

- Focus on the needs of patients and local population to identify and address unmet health needs
- Build a culture of partnership and collaboration
- Speed up identification and adoption of innovation into practice
- Create economic growth through co-development, testing, evaluation and early adoption

Job Summary

The post holder is responsible for coordinating the development and work of the 15 AHSNs and overseeing the administration for the AHSN.

The role requires the ability to engage colleagues, in close collaboration with the Chair of the Network , very senior stakeholders at NHS England, NHS Improvement,

Public Health England, international stakeholders, Health Education England, national politicians and other stakeholders for whom the AHSN Network and its constituent bodies provide services.

Key Duties and Responsibilities

- Helping set strategic goals and meeting the objectives and targets set by the Chief Officers Network Board
- Performing a coordinating role, together with the Chair of the Network, in terms of being a single point of contact for key stakeholders at NHS England, NHS Improvement and other key national funding bodies
- Engaging with relevant stakeholders to enhance the reputation of the network, promote the importance of its work and develop new areas of work for AHSNs
- Engaging with stakeholders build constructive working relationships
- Working with Chairs and Chief Officers of the individual networks
- Engaging with key partner organisations eg NHS Confederation, NHS Providers to leverage synergies and enhance the reach and spread of AHSN work
- Lead the performance reporting function, collating information from 15 AHSNs to report to the appropriate funder and identifying synergies to enable individual AHSNs to improve their performance
- Identify and develop national and international opportunities for AHSNs to present their work
- Support the peer review process for AHSNs who are having difficulties meeting the terms of their licence
- Drafting high level communications documents for approval by the AHSN Network

Provision and supervision of an effective administration service for the AHSN Network and its various sub-groups e.g. Improvement Directors, Commercial Directors, Communications Network etc.

Person Specification

The post-holder will be a credible senior leader who has the ability to influence without becoming a 16th AHSN.

Essential experience includes

- strategy development and operational delivery in a major, complex, multi-stakeholder environment
- influencing at senior levels
- delivery of change management programmes
- work at a senior level in the health and care system
- expertise in consultation and negotiation
- senior level drafting of briefing and PR documents
- high level communication skills
- ability to be effective whilst taking a 'behind the scenes' approach
- discretion and ability to keep a confidence.
- experience of managing contracts
- experience of working in a system-wide role

Desirable skills and experience include

- knowledge of the remit and function of AHSNs
- experience of working across a number of health and care disciplines
- facilitation skills
- coaching experience