



CONSULTANT IN PUBLIC HEALTH

LEADING IN SEXUAL HEALTH AND PUBLIC
HEALTH STRATEGY

2026

September

A FEW WORDS FROM DR ANJAN GHOSH, DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC HEALTH

Thank you for your interest in this critical and senior public health role in my top team.

We are at an exciting point, working in partnership with other council directorates, district and borough councils, the NHS, and other stakeholders, focussing on narrowing the gap in health inequalities across our population and creating a credible programme of system wide prevention. Additionally, we are working in partnership with the NHS Integrated Care System in implementing the Kent and Medway Integrated Care Strategy, which is also Kent's Joint Local Health and Wellbeing Strategy.



As a member of my senior management team, you will be integral in leading and driving the successful delivery of the public health strategy for Kent.

As a member of my senior management team, you will be integral in leading and driving the successful development and delivery of these strategies as well as the council's strategic plan, which has a strong focus on the health and wellbeing of Kent's population, an emphasis on the importance of demand management, and prevention and the authority's role in helping the population make lifestyle choices to help achieve their potential.

We are keen to work with an exceptional individual who has the energy, ideas and ambition to make a sustained difference to the people of Kent; someone who shares our commitment to improving the quality of life of our residents and is able to maximise their impact through working in partnership across the council, with the NHS, voluntary sector and other organisations.

Kent is the largest non-metropolitan local authority in the country and with a population of over 1.6 million, it provides an exciting opportunity to impact on population health at scale. It is also a great place to work for with a number of additional benefits on offer including a staff recognition and pay award scheme, excellent coaching and mentoring initiatives, extensive managerial training opportunities and a staff rewards scheme.

Apply

For an informal discussion, please contact Rebecca Martin at Panoramic Associates (our recruitment partner) on 07418378189.

To apply, please submit your Curriculum Vitae and personal statement via the link below:
Panoramic Associates

Applications close at midnight on Sunday 11 October 2026 and interviews will take place on Friday 6 November 2026.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

JOB DESCRIPTION PUBLIC HEALTH CONSULTANT LEADING IN SEXUAL HEALTH AND PUBLIC HEALTH STRATEGY

Employing organisation	Kent County Council
Job Title	Consultant in Public Health lead for Sexual Health and Public Health Strategy (Full time, Permanent)
Directorate	Adult Social Care and Public Health
Unit/Section	Public Health
Grade	KSN (£95,739 - £113,463)
Responsible to	The post holder will be dually accountable: Managerially to the Director of Public Health: professionally to Kent County Council
Working arrangements	Hybrid working with office site base as Sessions House, Maidstone, Kent

PURPOSE OF THE JOB

On behalf of KCC, the postholder working with the Director of Public Health improving the health and wellbeing of residents, reducing inequalities in health outcomes and protecting local communities from public health hazards (infectious diseases and environmental threats). The postholder will contribute to public health priorities, working with the Director of Public Health in the leadership of public health, and the delivery of public health improvement, health protection and health intelligence in Kent and the discharge of local authority public health functions.

The main portfolio areas for this post are an all-age remit for sexual health which includes delivering the wider strategic vision for sexual health, commissioned sexual health services, aligned sexual health services across the interface with the NHS, strategies and innovations to improve access to sexual health services especially in order to tackle inequalities and inequity, working with schools and other educational institutions to improve awareness of sexual health services, reproductive and sexual health education, and the further development of primary care services. In addition to this, the post-holder will support the Director of Public Health with an increasing body of strategic work around broader Public Health interests and priorities.

The post holder will be responsible for, and accountable to the Director of Public Health for an annual budget of over £17 million, which is one of the largest single budgets in Public Health in Kent, and one of the largest allocations towards sexual health in the country.

MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Lead on the development of needs assessments and contribute to strategic documentation, commissioning recommendations and evaluations and review of clinical practice for local populations and services.
- Work with, promote and maintain relationships with a wide range of complex stakeholders with differing needs in a changing environment to deliver change in health status and clinical practice, encouraging collaborative working between stakeholders by way of formalised care and referral pathways.
- Lead on the development and delivery of a credible plan to improve health and wellbeing of communities in Kent County Council and reduce health inequalities, especially in the areas of the portfolio.
- Lead on incorporating the prevention agenda, designing and setting a robust evaluation and monitoring framework to ensure that it is making an impact on the urgent care side.
- Provide expert public health advice and leadership to support and inform an evidence-based approach within ethical frameworks for commissioning and developing high-quality, equitable services, across primary, secondary and social care, and across sectors including local authorities, voluntary organisations, etc.
- Responsible for development, implementation and delivery of national, regional and local policies, developing inter-agency and interdisciplinary strategic plans and programmes, with delegated Board or organisational authority to deliver key public health targets.
- Develop and utilise information and intelligence systems to underpin public health action across disciplines and organisations, leading collation, and interpretation of relevant data.
- Contribute to public health research, and/or commission research audits/projects, and/or undertake research or audit.

MAIN DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- The postholder will be responsible for the direct line management of a small team, matrix management of a team of commissioners, as well as participating in the matrix management of other staff members as and when required.
- The postholder will be expected to participate in the KCC staff and professional appraisal scheme and department audits and ensure appraisal and development of any staff for which he or she is responsible and be accountable for the management of staffing resources and department budgets.
- The postholder will act as an authorised signatory, and as the delegated portfolio budget holder will monitor and contribute to the formulation of department/service budgets and financial initiatives.
- Deliver to agreed budget and income targets.
- Contribute to on-call arrangements for emergency planning/health protection as appropriate depending on local arrangements.
- Experience dependent and where possible to provide support with those entering Public Health Kent on the training programme for Foundation Year Doctors/SHOs/Specialist Registrars in Public Health Medicine and Public Health Specialist Trainees as appropriate and to the training of practitioners and primary care professionals within the locality.
- Pursue a programme of CPD/CME, in accordance with Faculty of Public Health requirements, or other recognised body, and undertake revalidation, audit or other measures required to remain on the GMC/GDC Specialist Register or the UK Public Health Register or other specialist register as appropriate.
- Contribute to the public health 'core offer' to the Kent and Medway Integrated Commissioning Partnership.
- Any other responsibilities and requirements that may arise according to the business requirements of the department and council, as determined by the Director of Public Health.

CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITIES

All corporate directors, directors and senior managers have an explicit responsibility to deliver the collective agenda of the council. These are fundamental elements of their role, not an addition and are summarised as follows:

Whole Council

- Seek to improve the lives of residents in Kent.
- Act as corporate parent to the council's looked-after children.
- Take an active role in promoting and ensuring the council's responsibilities for safeguarding are met.
- Understand, communicate and contribute to the delivery of KCC's strategic aims.
- Meet statutory obligations.
- Advise elected members and support the democratic process.
- Promote the council brand and enhance the overall reputation of the council.
- Understand and monitor the measures of performance, including customer insight, which define successful outcomes for KCC services.

Integration of Services

- Focus resources where they have the biggest impact.
- Deliver services that are flexible and adaptable.
- Integrate services within KCC and work with partner agencies to ensure a seamless customer experience.
- Fully and inclusively engage all staff in the delivery of services, demonstrating the council's leadership values and competencies.

CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITIES

Embedding Commissioning and Engaging relevant markets

- Establish an outcome-focused organisation.
- Meet the financial regulations and standing orders of KCC.
- Challenge the status quo.
- Ensure all services are delivered with appropriate reference to the market.
- Proactively and continuously seek to improve service delivery.
- Proactively manage risk to avoid inertia whilst not exposing the council to needless and avoidable challenge or loss.
- Overcome professional and service silos to achieve the county council's objectives.

Managing Change

- Understand and support the local authority's overall change agenda.
- Deliver required outcomes of service specific-change on time and to budget.
- Understand the quality of staff, support their development, nurture those with talent.
- Identify the skills for the future and the level of staff through robust workforce planning.
- Deliver to agreed budget and income targets.

Footnote: This job description is provided to assist the job holder to know what their main duties are. It may be amended from time to time without change to the level of responsibility appropriate to the grade of post.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

PERSON SPECIFICATION: Public Health Consultant leading in Sexual Health and Public Health Strategy

Qualifications	Inclusion in the GMC Specialist Register/GDC Specialist List/UK Public Health Register (UKPHR) for Public Health Specialists or within 6 months of CCT at the date of interview
	Applicants must meet minimum CPD requirements (i.e. be up to date) in accordance with Faculty of Public Health requirements or other recognised body
	Masters in Public Health
	Member of the UK Faculty of Public Health
Experience	Experience of working within a Project Management methodology
	Experience in the successful implementation of changes within both the department, and in public health practice
	Experience of supervision, operational management, training staff and managing resources within public health functions
	Experience of managing both staffing and commissioning budget
Skills and Abilities	Ability to develop and implement PH strategy at a high level and apply this to the leadership of the workforce, ensuring that strategy is communicated at all levels
	Excellent oral and written communication skills and the ability to present detailed information to employees and stakeholders at all levels and through a variety of means, including dealing with the media
	Ability to maintain a detailed focus in all aspects of work to ensure that all information sources are understood and acted upon according to PH strategy
	Able to prioritise work according to PH strategy, and work well against a background of change and uncertainty, responding appropriately to unplanned and unforeseen circumstances

Knowledge	Ability to design, develop, interpret and implement policies in accordance with strategic direction and environmental changes
	High level of understanding of epidemiology and statistics, public health practice, health promotion, health economics, health care evaluation and highly developed analytical skills using qualitative and quantitative data
	Understanding of social and political environment, the NHS, local authorities and social services
	Knowledge of methods of developing clinical quality assurance, quality improvement and evidence-based clinical and/or public health practice
Behaviours and Kent Values	Kent Values: • We are brave. • We do the right thing; we accept and offer challenge. • We are curious to innovate and improve. • We are compassionate, understanding and respectful to all. • We are strong together by sharing knowledge. • We are all responsible for the difference we make.

APPENDIX 1: FACULTY OF PUBLIC HEALTH COMPETENCIES

(Based on the 2022 PH Specialty Training Curriculum)

Use of public health intelligence to survey and assess a population's health and wellbeing

To be able to synthesise data from multiple sources on the surveillance or assessment of a population's health and wellbeing and on the wider environment, so that the evidence can be communicated clearly and inform action planning to improve population health outcomes.

Assessing the evidence of effectiveness of interventions, programmes and services intended to improve the health or wellbeing of individuals or populations

To be able to use a range of resources to generate and communicate appropriately evidenced and informed recommendations for improving population health across operational and strategic health and care settings.

Policy and strategy development and implementation

To be able to influence and contribute to the development of policy as well as lead the development and implementation of a strategy.

Strategic leadership and collaborative working for health

To use a range of effective strategic leadership, organisational and management skills, in a variety of complex public health situations and contexts, dealing effectively with uncertainty and the unexpected to achieve public health goals.

Health Improvement, Determinants of Health and Health Communications

To influence and act on the broad determinants, behaviours and environmental factors influencing health at a system, community and individual level to improve and promote the health of current and future generations. To be proactive in addressing health inequalities and prioritising the most vulnerable or disadvantaged groups in the population.

Health Protection

To identify, assess and communicate risks associated with hazards relevant to health protection, and to lead and co-ordinate the appropriate public health response. To understand how those risks associated with hazards relevant to health protection may be influenced by climate change and environmental degradation currently and in the future.

Health and Care Public Health

To be able to improve the efficiency, effectiveness, safety, reliability, responsiveness, sustainability and equity of health and care services through applying insights from multiple sources including formal research, health surveillance, needs analysis, service monitoring and evaluation.

Academic public health

To add an academic perspective to all public health work undertaken. Specifically to be able to critically appraise evidence to inform policy and practice, identify evidence gaps with strategies to address these gaps, undertake research activities of a standard that is publishable in peer-reviewed journals, and demonstrate competence in teaching and learning across all areas of public health practice.

Professional, personal and ethical development

To be able to shape, pursue actively and evaluate your own personal and professional development, using insight into your own behaviours and attitudes and their impact to modify behaviour and to practise within the framework of the GMC's Good Medical Practice (as used for appraisal and revalidation for consultants in public health) and the UKPHR's Code of Conduct.

Integration and application of competencies for consultant practice

To be able to demonstrate the consistent use of sound judgment to select from a range of advanced public health expertise and skills, and to use them effectively, working at senior organisational levels, to deliver improved population health in complex and unpredictable environments.

CONSULTANT IN PUBLIC HEALTH LEADING IN SEXUAL HEALTH AND PUBLIC HEALTH STRATEGY

IMPORTANT: This person specification contains changes introduced in amendments made to the NHS (Appointment of Consultants) Regulations for England, Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales which came into force during 2005.

Education/Qualifications	Essential	Desirable
Inclusion in the GMC Specialist Register/GDC Specialist List/UK Public Health Register (UKPHR) for Public Health Specialists	×	
If included in the GMC Specialist Register/GDC Specialist List in a specialty other than public health medicine/dental public health, candidates must have the equivalent training and/or appropriate experience of public health medicine practice	×	
Public health specialty registrar applicants who are not yet on the GMC Specialist Register/GDC Specialist List in dental public health/UKPHR must provide verifiable signed documentary evidence that they are within 6 months of gaining entry at the date of interview; all other applicants must provide verifiable signed documentary evidence that they have applied for inclusion in the GMC/GDC/UKPHR specialist registers [see shortlisting notes below for additional guidance]	×	
Applicants must meet minimum CPD requirements (i.e. be up to date) in accordance with Faculty of Public Health requirements or other recognised body	×	
MFPH by examination, by exemption or by assessment		×
Personal qualities		
Strong commitment to public health principles	×	
Able to prioritise work, and work well against a background of change and uncertainty	×	
Adaptable to situations, able to handle people of all capabilities and attitudes	×	
Commitment to teamwork, and respect and consideration for the skills of others	×	
Self-motivated, proactive, and innovative	×	
High standards of professional probity	×	

Experience	Essential	Desirable
Project management skills	×	
Staff management and training	×	
Practical experience in facilitating change	×	
Budget management skills	×	
Training and mentoring skills		×
Scientific publications, presentation of papers at conferences, seminars etc		×
Skills		
Strategic thinker with proven leadership skills	×	
Excellent oral and written communication skills (including dealing with the media)	×	
Effective interpersonal, motivational and influencing skills	×	
Ability to respond appropriately in unplanned and unforeseen circumstances	×	
Good presentational skills (oral and written)	×	
Sensible negotiator with practical expectation of what can be achieved	×	
Substantially numerate, with highly developed analytical skills using qualitative and quantitative data	×	
Computer literate	×	
Ability to design, develop, interpret and implement policies	×	
Resource management skills	×	
Knowledge		
High level of understanding of epidemiology and statistics, public health practice, health promotion, health economics and health care evaluation	×	
Understanding of NHS and local government cultures, structures and policies	×	
Knowledge of methods of developing clinical quality assurance, quality improvement and evidence-based clinical and/or public health practice	×	
Understanding of social and political environment	×	
Understanding of interfaces between health and social care	×	
This position is subject to a criminal records disclosure check	Yes	

SHORTLISTING NOTES

1. Applicants in training grades

1.1 Medical and dental applicants

All medical/dental applicants must have Full and Specialist registration (with a license to practice) with the General Medical Council or General Dental Council (GMC/GDC) **or be eligible for registration within six months of interview.** Once a candidate is a holder of the Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT), registration with the relevant register is guaranteed.

Applicants that are UK trained must ALSO be a holder of a Certificate of Completion of Training (CCT) **or be within six months of award of CCT** by date of interview demonstrated by a letter from their Training Programme Director (TPD).

1.2 Non-Medical Applicants in training programme

All non-medical applicants must be registered with the UKPHR or be within six months of registration at the date of the interview. Applicants must provide proof (letter of confirmation from their TPD or the CCT) at interview.

2. Applicants in non-training grades

Applicants that are non-UK trained, will be required to show evidence of equivalence to the UK CCT.

Applicants from a medical background will be expected to have gained full specialist registration with the GMC through the Certificate of Eligibility for Specialist Registration (CESR) route.

Applicants from a background other than medicine are expected to have gained full specialist registration with the UKPHR at the point of application.

Employers are advised that individuals should not take up consultant in public health posts (including DPH posts) until such point as they have gained entry to the GMC Specialist Register/GDC Specialist List in dental public health/UK Public Health (Specialist) Register. Although applicants will be able to provide documentary evidence that an application is in progress, no guarantee can be made as to the outcome of an application to the GMC/GDC/UKPHR specialist registers. The exception to this is when the candidate holds the CCT.

The above guidance applies to applications for both general and defined specialist registration with the UKPHR. Individuals with defined specialist registration are eligible for consideration for shortlisting for, and appointment to, consultant posts including those at DPH level. In all appointments, employers will wish to ensure that an applicant's areas of competence meet those required in the person specification.

GENERAL CONDITIONS

Local authority employers should add the following as appropriate to their policies and procedures.

Terms and conditions of service

Authorities may:

- (a) Use health service medical and dental contracts for all applicants.
- (b) Use health service medical and dental consultant contracts for doctors and dentists and Agenda for Change contracts for other specialists (but this is not recommended after the introduction of statutory registration).
- (c) Use local authority conditions modified to reflect professional obligations.

On call arrangements

The post-holder may be expected to be on call for health protection and public health and to participate in the communicable disease and environmental hazards control and emergency planning arrangements for Kent County Council. Suitable training will be provided for those who need it in discussion with the UK Health Security Agency. The post holder should be trained in EPRR and be able to support their organisation's responsibilities as a Cat 1 responder (including participation in STAC or other rotas depending on local arrangements).

Indemnity

As the post-holder will only be indemnified for duties undertaken on behalf of Kent County Council the post-holder is strongly advised to ensure that he/she has appropriate professional defence organisation cover for duties outside the scope of the Kent County Council and for private activity within Kent County Council. For on call duties provided to other organisations as part of cross cover out of hours arrangements the Kent County Council has confirmed that those organisations will provide indemnity for the post-holder. These arrangements may differ across the four countries.

Flexibility

The post-holder may, with their agreement - which should not reasonably be withheld - be required to undertake other duties which fall within the grading of the post to meet the needs of this new and developing service. The employing organisation is currently working in a climate of great change. It is therefore expected that all staff will develop flexible working practices both within any relevant local public health networks and at other organisational levels as appropriate, to be able to meet the challenges and opportunities of working in public health within the new and existing structures.

Confidentiality

A consultant has an obligation not to disclose (other than in accordance with GMC guidelines) any information of a confidential nature concerning patients, employees, contractors or the confidential business of the organisation.

Public Interest Disclosure

Should a consultant have cause for genuine concern about an issue (including one that would normally be subject to the above paragraph) and believes that disclosure would be in the public interest, he or she has a duty of candour and should have a right to speak out and be afforded statutory protection and should follow local procedures for disclosure of information in the public interest.

Data protection

If required to do so, the post-holder will obtain, process and/or use information held on a computer or word processor in a fair and lawful way. The post-holder will hold data only for the specified registered purpose and use or disclose data only to authorised persons or organisations as instructed in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Health and safety

Employees must be aware of the responsibilities placed on them by the Health & Safety at Work Act (1974) and its amendments and by food hygiene legislation to ensure that the agreed safety procedures are carried out to maintain a safe condition for employees, patients and visitors.

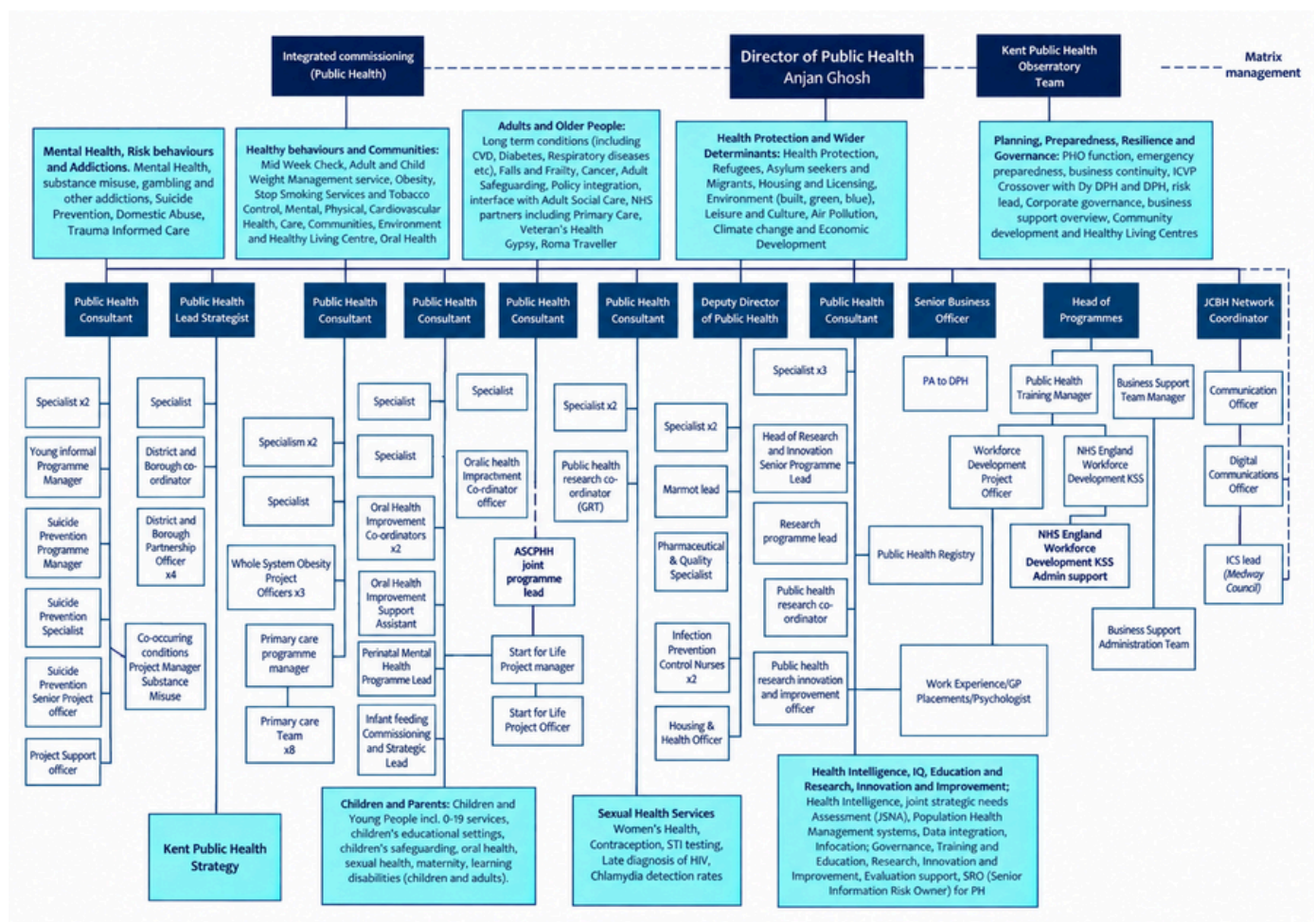
Smoking policy (amend as appropriate)

The employing organisation has a policy that smoking is not allowed in the workplace.

Equal opportunities policy

It is the aim of the employing organisation to ensure that no job applicant or employee receives less favourable treatment on grounds of gender, religion, race, colour, sexual orientation, nationality, ethnic or national origins or disability or is placed at a disadvantage by conditions or requirements which cannot be shown to be justifiable. To this end, there is an Equal Opportunities Policy in place and it is for each employee to contribute to its success.

STRUCTURE CHART



PURPOSE OF THE JOB

Kent County Council

Consultant in Public Health leading in Sexual Health and Public Health Strategy

£95,739 – £113,463

Kent is one of the largest local authorities in the UK, with a circa 1.7m population, 12 districts and boroughs, a coterminous NHS Integrated Care Board, and vibrant townships and communities. With a long and interesting history, and being the garden of England, it is also the gateway to Europe and in turn its gateway to the UK. With 350 miles of coastline and major coastal inequalities; we are the UK's first Marmot Coastal Region. We have two major universities and a medical school, and seven NHS Trusts operating in the county. In Kent size matters and working here gives a consultant in public the biggest possible canvas to work on, requiring the ability to operate simultaneously in depth and breadth across the portfolio.

We are at a very exciting juncture in our public health journey, having launched UK's first Marmot Coastal Region this year, to tackle coastal health inequalities, and are also in the process of helping to define what Neighbourhood Health can mean.

In all of this we need to ensure everyone in Kent, regardless of their age, has access to excellent sexual health services and is enabled to enjoy good sexual health and positive relationships. This is where you come in.

We are looking to appoint an innovative and forward-thinking Consultant in Public Health to join our highly regarded and well-resourced Public Health Division and help us to drive our exciting agenda forward.

We have a highly experienced, talented team working with our Director of Public Health including a Deputy Director as well as six additional Public Health Consultants all working to achieve the aspirations of our members for improving the health and wellbeing of the Kent population.

Kent Public Health is aiming to become a Centre of Excellence, undertaking a range of innovative activities in research, innovation and improvement, advanced analytics using integrated data and predictive modelling and offering an increased number of education and training placements for multiple professional groups such as Public Health Specialty Registrars, junior doctors and university students. We enjoy national recognition for several programmes including Public Health research linked with Europe.

We also have the Kent Public Health Observatory team (<https://www.kpho.org.uk>) who work collaboratively with Public Health colleagues and partners across the Integrated Care System to gather, analyse, and interpret complex data on population health and wellbeing. This insight supports strategic decision-making to ensure the most effective use of limited resources.

THE ROLE

The Consultant portfolio is:

AAC0002621: Consultant in Public Health leading in Sexual Health and Public Health Strategy

We are well integrated into the council, support the Kent and Medway Integrated Care System and have an overall Public Health budget of circa £95 million with a major focus on reducing health inequalities.

As part of this role, you will be responsible for the line management of a small team of public health specialists and other staff. You will also manage one of the largest portfolio budgets in the division of over £17 million for this area of the service, which is also one of the largest Public Health investments towards sexual health in the country.

This is a great time to join Kent – a great county to live in, with excellent schools, vibrant cities, golden beaches and stunning countryside, as well as excellent proximity to London. As the largest county council in the country, Kent is a very large canvas and there is a real opportunity to make a tangible difference.

CANDIDATES

You will need to be a UK-qualified Public Health Consultant (or within six months of qualifying) with a passion for tackling health inequalities and up for the challenge of working in a complex and diverse environment.

You could be newly qualified and seeking your first Consultant post or an experienced Consultant looking for an opportunity to make a real impact. As a passionate and motivated public health professional we welcome your interest in this role and your application.

You will be able to work in a hybrid format with a split between working from home with an office base in Maidstone and we are committed to flexible working: "Work that works for you and us – let's talk flexibility!"

NEXT STEPS

For a confidential discussion, please contact River Simmons on 07418377599 or Rebecca Martin 07418378189 at Panoramic Associates (our recruitment partner)

For more information and to apply, please visit: **Panoramic Associates**

Application closing date: midnight, Sunday 11 October 2026
AAC/Final Panel: Week commencing Friday 6 November 2026

Please note that the successful candidate will be required to participate in enhanced pre-employment screening undertaken by the county council.