

## Community Outreach Officer Job Vacancy

Are you an effective communicator and able to work proactively as part of a team, but also use your initiative to undertake projects independently?

Healthwatch Bedford Borough is looking to recruit a Community Outreach Officer on a part-time permanent basis (22.5 hours per week), who will be adept at relationship building with a diverse range of people from the local area and will be able to create and maintain accessibility for the public and our stakeholders.

The ideal candidate should have good organisational skills and be able to manage a varying workload efficiently.

We are a small, friendly, and innovative team committed to high standards of service delivery and making sure the needs of local people are met. We work hard to empower people, give them a powerful voice, and offer a platform to facilitate positive change encompassing our values.

We are looking for applicants who have a passion for health and social care, and especially welcome people with lived experience, insight and understanding of different backgrounds, cultures, and lifestyles as we believe that this will equip staff to deliver a high standard of care to local people.

Healthwatch Bedford Borough is committed to being a diverse organisation and we aim to ensure our workforce and Healthwatch Advisory Board is reflective of the population and communities we serve. We believe that having colleagues from a range of backgrounds and life experiences enriches and adds value to the outcomes we have set out to achieve. We are committed to the promotion of equality, diversity, and inclusion, and ensure we are meeting EDI (Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion) standards all the way from our recruitment stage throughout the career journey of our employees by being accessible, having fair, inclusive practices, and support, and by celebrating our staff in the workplace.

As a Community Outreach Officer, you will spend most of your time out and about, speaking to people and working with local communities, groups, and organisations. You will work with the Healthwatch Bedford Borough team and wider ECS (ENGAGING COMMUNITIES SOLUTIONS) network, including volunteers, to develop a vibrant programme of creative activities, events and projects which will provide opportunities for local people to influence the development and shaping of health and care services.

This is an incredible opportunity for a pro-active person to have a direct impact on shaping health and care services in Bedford Borough that will improve the lives of local people not just now, but for future generations.

There may be opportunity to increase the contracted hours on a yearly basis dependent on additional funding for project work in line with the post responsibilities.

If you are awesome at striking up conversations and passionate about empowering people, then this may be the role for you. To request an informal discussion about this role, please email: [elizabeth.learoyd@weareecs.co.uk](mailto:elizabeth.learoyd@weareecs.co.uk)

**Closing date:** Friday 29 September 2023. N.B., should we receive a high volume of applicants; we may close this vacancy earlier.

Interviews will take place on Friday 6 October 2023.