

# Service Director Adults and Health - Commissioning, Assurance and Workforce





## Why Wakefield?

It's an incredibly exciting time to be thinking about joining Wakefield. We're a stable Council with a bright future, taking responsible decisions so that we are sustainable, and continuing to provide great services to our communities.

We've got a fantastic reputation for being well-run. Our emerging Wakefield District Plan will set out our shared aspirations for the next decade, giving us a comprehensive framework to coordinate work across the local public, private and voluntary sectors.

And our 2025-26 Budget is putting us on a path to having a right-sized organisation, no ongoing dependency on reserves, and to make sure we're able to look to the future with confidence.

We've got an incredible workforce. An open and supportive culture where challenge is welcomed. And we're a place that likes to get things done.

Joining us you'll have the opportunity to work in a place which is creative and diverse, exciting and ambitious. To make a lasting impact so that our district is a better place to live and work in. And to be part of a high-performing leadership team who are modernising how our Council works.

If you think you can play a key role in helping us to realise these ambitions, continue reading to find out more about being our Service Director Adults and Health – Commissioning, Assurance and Workforce.

**Tony Reeves**

**Chief Executive**



## About Wakefield

We are a district of over 350,000 people with a diverse range of city, urban and rural communities.

We've huge strengths in our health and care, manufacturing and logistics, and arts and creative sectors. All part of our £8 billion economy.

We're proud of our heritage of making and creating. Our place at the heart of Yorkshire and the Leeds City Region which makes our connectivity by road or rail hard to beat. And our 10,000 local businesses.

We're home to some great attractions. We've got Pontefract Racecourse and Hemsworth Water Park. The internationally recognised Hepworth Gallery, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, and National Coal Mining Museum. And we've got two Super League teams, Wakefield Trinity Wildcats and Castleford Tigers.

Our 16 local nature reserves mean we've got more than anywhere else in West Yorkshire. 70% of our district is greenbelt. That makes our area a great place both to live and work.

And we've a growing regional profile as a key part of the West Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority.

## About Wakefield Council

We're one of the five metropolitan Councils in West Yorkshire. And one of ten districts within the wider, thriving Leeds City Region.

We've got a great team of over 5,000 staff who help us to deliver a wide range of services. Including supporting the education of our young people, caring for vulnerable children and adults, and providing support to residents when they most need it.

We invest in our places, maintain local highways, and make sure we keep our communities safe and clean.

We've 63 elected Councillors who oversee and scrutinise how we provide vital public services for our communities.

Labour's Cllr Denise Jeffrey is our Council Leader. Decisions are taken by our Cabinet, appointed by the Leader and comprised of Councillors from our majority political group. And our cross-party Scrutiny Committees look at how we're delivering for local people.

They scrutinise work in our Children and Young People, Adults and Public Health, Regeneration, Environment and Economic Growth, and Transformation Directorates. Those sit alongside a strategic Chief Executive's Unit.





## About You

- We're looking for an experienced leader who is extremely visible in how you engage with staff, lead by example, and inspire our large, dedicated workforce to deliver for our communities.
- With experience of working at a senior leadership level in Adult Social Care in a large organisation, you'll be able to embed a strong culture to improve care quality, safeguard adults, and build great relationships with the wider care sector and other partners.
- You'll have an excellent knowledge of commissioning in adult social care and health, including up-to-date knowledge of integrated commissioning and service delivery frameworks. And an excellent understanding of regulatory frameworks, quality assurance, and performance management, including CQC frameworks.
- Your consistent approach to innovation will help us to continually look for ways to provide better care across Wakefield and help to get the best possible value for money in everything we do as part of our budgetary processes.
- You have a track record of working in a complex health and care system. Your collaborative approach drives positive relationships with partners, including the ICB, where integrated commissioning arrangements are in place or need to be established.
- You'll have a strong background in workforce planning and will be able to produce our Adult Services Workforce Strategy so that we have the right skills across all of our services and can address recruitment and retention challenges.
- With significant experience of working in a political environment, and a detailed knowledge of the services in Adults and Health, you'll be able to horizon-scan on the strategic, policy and operational context in the Directorate and in Local Government.
- Your great negotiation and financial management skills will help us to safeguard public money at all times, set the Council on a path to sustainability, ending our reliance on reserves, and move forward with growing confidence.
- You will thrive as you deliver transformational change. You'll be continuously identifying ways we can improve based on best practice, how we can solve problems of all types and scales, and be prepared to think differently every day.
- You share our ambition to deliver great services and place users at the centre of our service design. You will build a culture of great customer service by designing our performance indicators around the needs of the people we care for and their families.



## About The Role

- You'll provide strategic direction, leadership and advice on all matters relating to Commissioning, Performance, and Workforce Development. In this work you'll lead on CQC Inspection preparedness, support wider inspections, and develop system assurance frameworks that monitor and measure performance in our services.
- You'll support statutory requirements to be met, provide quality assurance which demonstrates sustained improvement against performance targets, and help us to effectively manage risk, putting robust risk management arrangements in place.
- Leading on Wakefield's Performance Management Framework and our Business Intelligence function, you will help set our strategic direction across Adult Social Care and transform how our services work.
- As the senior responsible officer for all aspects of social care commissioning and contract management, you'll have a vital role in making sure we deliver safe, quality care. Your leadership on our commissioning strategy will help us respond to emerging issues so that we deliver the best outcomes for people in our care, carers, and families.
- You'll play a leading role in our health and care partnership, continuing to integrate local services and working with health partners on joint frameworks to make sure Adult Social Care plays a prominent role in new partnership models.
- You will support our transformation programme for adult social care and health services in Wakefield, aimed at maximising independence for service users, modernising how we work, and achieving better outcomes through strength-based practice.
- Reporting into the Corporate Director for Adults and Health, you will play an active and influential role in our Directorate Management Team, supporting our response to emergencies and putting robust business continuity arrangements in place.
- You'll work in a political environment, including with the Leader of the Council and Cabinet Members to provide strategic advice. And will share timely information with Councillors and senior officers on all matters relating to adults and health.
- The role is politically restricted post under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989. And requires the post holder to take part in the Council's Emergency Response Rota.



## What We Offer

- We're offering a competitive starting salary for our Service Director Adults and Health – Commissioning, Assurance and Workforce of **£100,255**.
- A generous annual leave allowance starting from **31 days a year**.
- You will automatically become a member of the **Local Government Pensions Scheme**, which is managed by the West Yorkshire Pension Fund.
- We work flexibly. This includes **hybrid working** and **flexible working** patterns.
- We have **family friendly policies** which include shared parental leave, foster and kinship carer leave and working carer leave.
- A commitment to your ongoing **professional development**. We offer a significant range of learning opportunities for staff throughout their careers. But most of all you'll be supported to deliver as part of a high-performing team.
- Expenses for relocation would be considered in line with our Removal & Disturbance terms and conditions
- Subsidised Public Transport Passes and City Centre Parking.
- Employee Assistance Programme with Spectrum Life.



## About The Process

If you are interested in applying, please submit your CV and a covering letter.

This needs to evidence how your previous experiences, skills and knowledge relate to the role and your motivation for applying.

The next stages for our recruitment process include;

- A closing date of Sunday 2 March.
- A technical interview with senior leaders in the Council.
- An assessment centre.
- An interview with elected members.

For further information, or to arrange a confidential conversation about this role, contact contact Amin Aziz on **07709 514141** or **amin.aziz@penna.com**.

You can also find out more about what working in Wakefield is like at <https://www.wakefield.gov.uk/executive-recruitment>.

