

# Service Director – Adult Social Care Operations





## 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 – Adult Social Care Operations.

**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, leading by example and inspiring our large, dedicated workforce to deliver for our communities. You'll have a clear approach to workforce and succession planning.
- 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.
- 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'll have a proven track record of working in a complex health and care system. Your collaborative approach will drive positive relationships with our partners, our Councillors and senior officers, and across the wider care market.
- You'll have a strong background in providing clear strategic advice on health and care, enabling us to comply with relevant legislation, such as the Care Act 2014 and Mental Health Act 2007, and the governance arrangements set out in our Constitution.
- With significant experience of working in a political environment, and a detailed knowledge of the services in Adults and Health, you'll have a deep understanding of 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 listening to service users and adapting to meet their needs through engagement and co-production.



## About The Role

- You'll provide strategic direction, leadership and advice on adult social care operational delivery. That will support statutory requirements to be met, quality assurance which demonstrates sustained improvement against performance targets, and the effective management of risk to help us maintain readiness for inspection.
- Your oversight of social work services will include our Learning Disabilities, Mental Health, Localities and Safeguarding provision. And our Elderly Persons Homes, Reablement Services, Extra Care, Shared Lives, Day Opportunities, and Supported Living.
- You will lead and manage relevant strategic planning including our Adult Social Care Strategy and Corporate Performance Plan.
- You'll play a leading role in our health and care partnership, continuing to integrate local services and working with health partners to make sure Adult Social Care plays a prominent role in new partnership models.
- Your expert professional supervision will enable advice to be shared to connect people in our care with the support they need, make sure effective mechanisms are in place to safeguard vulnerable adults, and prevent the need for statutory intervention.
- Making sure effective systems are in place to manage and monitor performance across our Adult Social Care, you'll take an evidence-based approach to deliver against service targets and standards, with decisions underpinned by professional insights.
- 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 – Adult Social Care Operations **£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>.

