

Specialist Volunteer: Role Description

This is a very interesting role for someone who has expert knowledge in a particular area of health and social care. You will offer your expertise as resource for the purpose of guiding Healthwatch Newham in their objectives. Specialist volunteers carry out a range of tasks, listed below, such as linking with relevant key decision-makers in order to influence service delivery. They also facilitate collaborative partnerships with external organisations.

Key Tasks

- To represent Healthwatch Newham on committees and working groups in their specialist area health and social care
- To develop effective relationships with providers and commissioners to influence service development/improvements or to commission new services
- Keep up to date with knowledge of the sector
- Collect information about developments within their sector to share with Healthwatch Newham
- Attend regular meetings with Healthwatch Newham to assess reports on issues/concerns and trends and to plan action to be taken
- Promote Healthwatch Newham positively in all their work
- Write reports of work undertaken, meetings attended and issues identified
- Attend meetings and events, sometimes outside normal working hours and days
- Identify opportunities for Healthwatch Newham to work in partnership with other organisations

Key skills and requirements for the role

- Up to date knowledge of a specialist area of social care or health
- Ability to work in an evidence based manner
- Able to build constructive relationships with partnerships, networks and organisations
- Good communication skills
- Tact and diplomacy
- Good writing skills
- IT skills, email, word etc
- Team working
- Appreciates need for confidentiality & able to maintain this
- Able & willing travel around the Borough of Newham
- Benefits of volunteering
- An opportunity to maintain & use your specialist skills and knowledge for the benefit of Newham residents
- Opportunity to represent and promote your specialism
- Travel costs incurred will be reimbursed
- Support & feedback from friendly & committed Heathwatch staff
- Induction & training provided

How to apply:

Please complete the volunteer application form available on our website. Successful applicants will be interviewed and references plus a DBS (criminal record) check may be required (free, organized by us). We look forward to hearing from you!

<u>To discuss this role please contact</u>:

Kate Hennessy Volunteer & Projects Worker: 0203 866 2951 or email: kate.hennessy@mac.com