

## THE ROYAL COLLEGE OF NURSING OF THE UNITED KINGDOM

### JOB DESCRIPTION

**Job Title:** Lead Nurse Lived-Experience (18-month fixed-term)

**Department:** Practice Academy

**Reports to:** Head of Nursing Practice

**Key relationships:**

RCN members

Relevant committees

RCN Institute Academies

UK departments and colleagues

UK and country bodies

Other professional bodies and third sector organisations

**Hours:** 14 hours per week (0.4 WTE)

(Required to work flexibly to meet the requirements of the job. Occasional travel within the UK with occasional overnight stays and extended days required to fulfil the duties of the post)

**Grade:** F

**London Weighting:** £5,094 per annum (pro rata)

**Location:** RCN London HQ with hybrid working

### JOB PURPOSE

The post holder will play a crucial role in shaping the future of our Mental Health Programmes portfolio. The post holder will lead and inspire various Academy workstreams and collaborate with dynamic forums, networks, and key external stakeholders to ensure that the voices of patients and the public are heard and valued alongside our members.

This position is perfect for those looking to elevate their leadership abilities while gaining invaluable skills in clinical practice, national policy, communication, and educational innovation. Embrace the chance to work at the forefront of nursing excellence while maintaining a vibrant connection to your full-time role in practice or academia. Join us on this exciting journey to fundamentally transform how we integrate lived experience into nursing at the College.

## **KEY RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **1. Programme Leadership and Support**

- Demonstrate expert knowledge and skills in nursing and Patient and Public Involvement (PPI) within policy, practice, and education contexts.
- Maintain a comprehensive understanding of contemporary challenges faced by UK nurses, patients, families, and carers.
- Collaborate effectively with RCN colleagues across various departments, including academies, regions, and member committees, to ensure cohesive professional practice.
- Provide inspirational leadership to team members, ensuring the lived-experience perspective and PPI are integral to decision-making processes.
- With the leadership team, clarify and align the role's objectives with the Practice Academy's annual planning cycle, ensuring timely delivery of agreed outcomes.
- Champion lived-experience leadership and support within RCN Mental Health Programmes, fostering a culture that values diverse perspectives.
- Support the strategic and operational delivery of activities related to the mental wellbeing of the workforce, fostering the essence of anti-stigma through the inclusion and promotion of nursing staff's lived experiences.

### **2. Financial Responsibilities**

- Support the development and management of budgets for planned work per RCN Financial Policies and Standing Orders and Nursing Department process standards.
- Ensure that business and representation activities are identified and planned to enable the most effective use of resources.

### **3. Specific Role Responsibilities**

- Demonstrate agility and responsiveness in identifying and creating opportunities for RCN members and staff to collaborate with stakeholders in developing innovative solutions to address contemporary nursing and health and social care challenges, particularly those related to lived experiences.
- Employ effective project management practices to deliver and disseminate high-quality, evidence-based services and products for our customers and stakeholders. This includes creating UK and country-specific best practice standards, clinical guidelines, policy guidance, quality measures,

professional development programmes, knowledge summaries, practice development tools, position papers, and online briefings that reflect individuals' voices and experiences.

- When collaborating with members, ensure adherence to the RCN's corporate and governance policies, upholding the organisation's values and commitment to ethical practice.
- Proactively engage with the RCN Policy, Public Affairs, and Communications teams to effectively communicate and promote agreed RCN positions and initiatives. This will involve utilising diverse channels such as the media, professional journals, digital platforms, conferences, and other events to highlight the importance of lived experiences in shaping nursing practice and health services.

#### **4. Development Responsibilities**

- Utilise quality improvement and project management methodologies to integrate best practices, ensuring transparency and robust governance in the delivery of programmes and activities informed by lived experience.
- Demonstrate an unwavering commitment to personal and professional growth by staying updated with the latest evidence, changes in health and social care policy, and current best practices while maintaining compliance with NMC revalidation requirements.
- Actively engage as a key member of the department, participating in away days, regular team meetings, and other developmental initiatives that foster collaboration and innovation.
- Enhance your knowledge and skills to effectively support members through referral responses, forum assistance, website content development, and the provision of educational resources.

#### **5. Additional Responsibilities**

- Champion equity, diversity, inclusion and human rights and be responsible for contributing to achieving the commitments set out in the RCN Group equality, diversity and inclusion statement.
- Treat colleagues, members, customers and others with respect in line with our values and Our Respect Charter.
- Maximise all opportunities available to:
  - encourage member recruitment and promote the benefits of joining the RCN

- promote the RCN as the organisation that represents nurses and nursing, and that promotes excellent in practice and shapes health policies
- Support member ballot and industrial action activities when required.
- Comply with the RCN Data Protection Policy, Retention Schedule and department procedures to ensure personal data is always protected.
- Undertake any other duties as requested in line with the job role.

Job description updated by:  
Dr Stephen Jones, Head of Nursing Practice  
06.03.2025