Role description for Community Researcher

Job title: Community Researcher

Reports to: Volunteer and Project Manager

Description of Healthwatch Islington

Healthwatch will give people a powerful voice locally and nationally. At a local level, Healthwatch Islington will work to help local people get the best out of their local health and social care services. Whether it's improving them today or helping to shape them for tomorrow. Healthwatch Islington is all about local voices being able to influence the delivery and design of local services. Not just people who use them, but anyone who might need to in future.

Healthwatch Islington's objectives are to:

Healthwatch Islington will improve the experience of residents using health and social care services in Islington by:

- Influencing health and social care based on evidence collected from the local community;
- Providing information to local people about health and care services;
- Being the local consumer champion;
- Visiting local services power to observe and assess the quality of publicly funded health and social care services.

The role of the Healthwatch Researcher is to:

- To use online research tools to find information relevant to the subject area
- To build a profile detailing and compiling the information you have found and highlight any links or outcomes.
- To present information in a clear and concise way.
- To share findings with Healthwatch Islington staff and volunteers.
- Be willing to participate in training and development.
- Adhere to Healthwatch Islington's Code of Conduct.
- Provide the Volunteer and Project Manager with regular updates.
- Maintain confidentiality in accordance to our Data Protection Policy.
- Understand Healthwatch Islington's aims and objectives (training will be provided)

Personal specification for Healthwatch Researcher:

- To be able to summarise relevant and important information.
- Pay attention to detail and accurately use spelling and grammar.
- Confident in using Microsoft Word and Internet Search sites and online libraries.
- Capable of understanding, deciphering and explaining jargon.

Benefits of the role:

- Access to Healthwatch Islington Training
- Supervision and support in the role
- Enhancing your research skills and gaining valuable experience in the field of healthcare (can we offer trainings to develop their research skills?)
- Having an impact on improving healthcare services, policies and practices
- We are part of the Tempo Credit Scheme and our volunteers earn credits when volunteering with us.
- Networking with other researchers

Time commitment required:

To be discussed with the Volunteer and Project Manager depending on the piece of research. (This opportunity will generally take place within 9am – 5pm, Monday – Friday. Days and times are flexible within these hours.)

What Healthwatch Islington will provide:

Training and Support:

Full training will be provided such as an Introduction to the Health and Social Care landscape, Safeguarding as well as Equality and Diversity Training. Induction and supervision will be provided by the Volunteer and Project Manager.

Expenses:

Out-of-pocket travel costs between home and the site of volunteering will be reimbursed along with other reasonable expenses (see expenses policy).

Recruitment Method:

All applicants should complete and return the Healthwatch Islington Volunteer Application Form by email or post to:

Gulum Sener, Project Coordinator, Healthwatch Islington, 6-9 Manor Gardens, N7 6LA

gulum@healthwatchislington.co.uk

07949 182687

We will require you to provide two references for this role.

If you have any queries about the role or application process, please do not hesitate to call or email Gulum Sener for further information.

Thank you for expressing your interest in joining Healthwatch Islington's team.