

PERSON SPECIFICATION

Job Title: National Officer

Department: Employment Relations

The person specification sets out the essential and desirable criteria required for this role. The selection process will look for evidence that you meet these criteria as well as the core behaviour competencies described further below.

Each criteria is assessed at one or more stage of the process as indicated by a ✓







- AF (application form) - your application needs to address the criteria ticked in this column
- A (assessment) – if you're shortlisted you'll do assessments that test these criteria
- I (interview) – if you're invited to interview you'll be asked questions to assess these criteria

AREA	CRITERIA	AF	A	I
1. Knowledge, training and qualifications	Essential			
	• Knowledge of health and social care and issues that impact on nurses, nursing support workers and health care assistants	✓		✓
	• Knowledge of best practice in relation to employment practices, equality and diversity and equal opportunities	✓	✓	✓
	• Knowledge of trade union and healthcare organisations	✓		✓
	• An understanding of issues affecting nurses, nursing and healthcare	✓	✓	✓
	• Knowledge of collective bargaining and partnership working including in the independent health and social care sectors	✓		✓
2. Experience	Essential			
	• Experience of making a positive contribution to promoting equity, diversity and inclusion	✓		✓
	• Experience of working in a complex public sector, nursing, membership organisation or trade union	✓	✓	✓
	• Experience of collective bargaining and/or partnership working and organising membership groups	✓	✓	✓
	• Experience of maintaining a high level of resilience in challenging circumstances	✓	✓	✓
	Desirable			

AREA	CRITERIA	AF	A	I
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of the independent health and the social care sectors 	✓		✓
3. Skills	Essential			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to undertake operational activity to ensure that objectives are set and met in line with departmental strategy 	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to plan and prioritise workload to ensure deadlines are met under pressure 	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to develop and sustain effective working relationships with range of stakeholders internally and externally 	✓		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to deliver and contribute to the development of union objectives 	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flexible, agile work style to facilitate the identification of solutions to problems affecting collective bargaining and/or partnership working 	✓		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Analytical skills to assess information and situations in order to develop an appropriate solution/approach 	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good written and verbal communication, with the ability to communicate complex and nuanced messages effectively to people at a variety of levels 	✓	✓	✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to present in a confident and engaging manner 	✓		
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ability to use Microsoft Office Packages including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Outlook, internet and diary software to an intermediate level 	✓		
	Desirable			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of trade union campaigning. 	✓	✓	✓
4. Other requirements	Essential			
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong personal commitment to promoting equity, diversity and inclusivity 	✓		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Flexible and adaptable working style, including the ability to travel and undertake occasional overnight stays 	✓		✓
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Commitment and evidence of continuous professional development 	✓		

Job description updated by: Deborah Shepherd, Head of Employment Relations.
Approved by: Brian Morton, Associate Director Employment Relations.
Date: 28 March 2025.

The RCN Core Behavioural Competency Framework informs the key behaviours our employees need to demonstrate in their roles.

Inspire others to greater heights  <p>Be passionate about developing yourself and others and push yourself beyond your comfort zone</p>	Value those around you  <p>Prize diversity and deal fairly and consistently with people while recognising individual differences</p>	Show passion for our services  <p>Have members' and customers' interests at the heart of everything you do and go out of your way to manage & exceed their expectations</p>	Build outstanding relationships  <p>Lead and contribute to your teams success and collaborate with people around you & those beyond your immediate team</p>	Get to the heart of the business  <p>Have the business interests of the RCN at the forefront of all you do and seek out opportunities to develop your business know-how</p>	Stay one step ahead  <p>Be inquisitive, think differently and embrace opportunities for change, helping others to adapt and encouraging new ideas</p>
Use the strengths of those around you to maximum effect	Challenge unacceptable behavior where it exists	Demonstrate pride in the RCN and passion for its services	Understand how your team impacts on others	Learn all aspects of the business with enthusiasm	Improve how things are done
Take personal ownership of all that you do	Treat everyone with respect regardless of their position	Ensure all you do has a benefit to members and customers	Focus on your team's primary goals	See yourself as a shareholder in the RCN	Adapt enthusiastically to change and different ways of working
Persist in the face of difficulties and overcome obstacles	Recognise the benefit of different viewpoints	Empower members and customers to help them become more involved	Share knowledge within your team and across other teams	Generate viable opportunities to help the RCN grow and develop	Tackle unfamiliar situations with confidence
Articulate your views and be open to others' opinions	Communicate openly and actively listen to those around you	Stay calm and focused when dealing with challenging situations	Support and help those around you	Work within tight timescales when needed	Help others to respond positively to change
Coach others and share your expertise	Treat everyone fairly and consistently	Go the extra mile	Demonstrate pride in your team and its work	Prioritise work to respond to urgent needs	Be prepared to do things differently & learn from mistakes
Trust those around you to do their jobs	Encourage mature discussion of differences	Build strong partnerships with outside agencies	Plan projects to involve key people from the start	Show efficiency and value in your use of resources	Adapt your thinking according to the needs of the situation
Seek feedback and learn from what you hear	Be approachable and give time to others	See a task through to the end	Identify opportunities for cross-team working	Translate plans into realistic targets and objectives	Show positive energy even in times of pressure
Lead by example and act as a role model	Respect individual and cultural differences	See things from the members' and customers' perspectives	Understand your strengths and play to them when you can	Understand the impact of your actions on the business	Keep an open mind and think creatively about problems at work
Empower and develop yourself and those around you	Recognise the impact of your behaviour on those around you	Build rapport with members and customers	Seek expertise from outside the team where necessary	Focus on the purpose of your role	Encourage constructive discussion about change
Speak up if you can see a better way to do things	Seek out stakeholders' views where possible	Keep members and customers informed	Ensure all team members have a meaningful part to play	Concentrate on delivering best value	Show your initiative in all that you do