JOB DESCRIPTION

Post: **Scientific Director**

Reports to: **Chief Executive**

Key Contacts:

- AHCS Chair
- AHCS Non Executive Directors
- Professional Advisory Group Chairs
- AHCS Council Members
- CSO and MSC team
- DH, NHSCB, PHE, HEE and partners in the reformed Health and Social Care System in England
- Education Providers
- Professional Bodies, the Devolved Administrations and Partner Organisations
- NHS Employers
- HEE
- lead LETB for HCS
- National School for Healthcare Science
- Science/scientific organisations and research bodies
- Regional Scientific Directors and Local Scientific Professional Networks
- Academic Health Science Centres and networks, AoMRC and individual Medical Royal Colleges,
- NHS Leadership Academy

(The above list of key contacts is indicative and not exhaustive.)

JOB PURPOSE

The Scientific Director will lead the Academy's overall work in relation to scientific strategy and direction with a particular focus on research, innovation, evidenced based practice, quality improvement and professional leadership.

Integral to the role will be the provision of high level scientific advice and expertise to the Management Board, Council, Professional Advisory Groups and other scientific committees.

The Scientific Director will be responsible for providing strategic scientific advice and inputs, on behalf of the Academy, to healthcare science and science policy development, implementation and the provider sector in the four health systems and will work closely with the CSO's or equivalent in each country of the UK and with regional or geographical Scientific Directors/leads. This will require the establishment and maintenance of strong professional links with each associated professional body and specialism with the Academy.

The Scientific Director will represent the Academy on national working groups and projects to continue the development and roll out of all aspects of Modernising Scientific Careers as appropriate. and other broader science and healthcare science initiatives (for example linked to Innovation Health and Wealth or the UK Life Sciences Strategy) and will support/initiate the showcasing of innovation and excellence in healthcare science. The post holder will also liaise closely with external bodies/funders both within the UK and the EU and will advise the Board on opportunities to support/initiate research programmes or projects that are aligned to the overall objectives of the Academy.

The Scientific Director will work closely with the Director of Education, Training and Regulation to support the work on UK wide education and training standards, development of national curricula for all levels and specialisms of healthcare science, the assessment of applicants for equivalence to outcomes of accredited education and training, and the establishment of systems leading to professional registration.

The Scientific Director will also work closely with the Director of Corporate Affairs particularly in the establishment of the Academy as a professional partner in the provision of advice and expertise for the new commissioning system in England and for quality assuring and monitoring any advice that is provided.

This role reports to the Chief Executive and sits on the Academy's Management Board as a legal Director of the company. Administration support is provided through a contract with a third party supplier.

KEY RESULT AREAS

Scientific Advice and Strategy

- Develop and establish a scientific strategy and implementation plan for the key areas of responsibility within the post which is subject to annual review and reporting
- Establish and promote standards of practice and quality across the whole of healthcare science making links and influencing as appropriate to other bodies such as to Medical Royal Colleges, NICE, MHRA and UKAS
- Provide scientific advice on Academy standards for education and training and for the broader development of the workforce including leadership opportunities

- Advise the Management Board and Council on the scientific implications of decisions on strategy and the Academy's business plan
- Set up and chair an Academy Scientific Advisory Group which provides scientific foresight and informs projecting planning
- Establish mechanisms and approaches for showcasing healthcare science innovation and research and the overall contribution to patient care
- Explore opportunities for attracting research and other sponsorship funding to support the furtherance of the aims and objectives of the Academy
- Develop and maintain effective healthcare science networks

Curriculum Development
Provide support and advice to the Director of Education, Training and Regulation in their role to define, promote and maintain the Academy's role in developing and reviewing curricula for initial training

Academy Representation/Ambassadorial Role

- Represent the Academy at regional, national and international committees, working groups and conferences and act as an Ambassador for the organisation
- Act as the Academy's links to national bodies and partner organisations across the health system of the UK with a specific focus on professional leadership and scientific services and their delivery
- Manage the Academy portal for receiving and responding to NHSCB requests for provision of healthcare science advice and expertise and quality assuring the response
- Work with the Director of Corporate Affairs to prepare draft responses to national consultation exercises
- Work with research bodies and scientific organisations to initiate Academy contributions which support the strategic development of the profession

Professional Groups
Support the establishment and operation of Professional Groups for the various specialisms and levels of healthcare science by collaborating with Professional Group Chairs and provide professional scientific inputs as necessary.

Management Board
Contribute to the delivery of the Boards responsibilities and objectives as an effective and equal member. Key duties will include but are not limited to:

- Producing annual work plans and budgets linked to the Academy's strategic objectives.
- Advising and guiding the Board and Council on the scientific aspects of business management and strategy development

Establishment of effective working relationships
Work with the Academy Chair and CEO to establish and develop influential relationships with:

- the Academy Council
- Professional Group Chairs and Members
- the professional bodies for the member professions
- other professional bodies medical royal colleges etc
- NHS and independent employers
- Health Education England , lead LETBE and the National School for health care science
- Scientific and research bodies
- CSOs and regional Scientific Directors
- Lead Specialist Commissioner bodies of the NHSCB
- Lead healthcare science LETB's
- Regulatory bodies

PERSON SPECIFICATION

- Professionally qualified to postgraduate degree level and appropriately registered Healthcare Science professional
- Credible scientific background with experience in research and innovation to publishable standards .
- Significant experience in senior healthcare scientist roles in the NHS and able to command the respect of all three healthcare science divisions and the full range of modalities.
- In depth experience and knowledge relevant to the post, able to explain current and future scientific issues affecting the role and an ability to provide authoritative scientific advice.
- Significant experience, in a lead role, in the development and successful implementation of key organisational strategies in relevant functional areas.
- Demonstrable experience and skills in building positive and productive relationships, with colleagues and other stakeholders.
- An effective approach to managing key networks and relationships, demonstrating an appropriate balance between empowerment, support and assertiveness.
- Strong corporate ethos and effective team member, able to achieve an appropriate balance between scientific interests and organisation-wide interests.
- An open and participative style with excellent leadership/communication skills.
- Resilient and able to work under pressure.

- An in-depth understanding of the NHS and wider healthcare context, with the ability to respond to the changing NHS environment together with education and training knowledge.
- Knowledgeable about national healthcare science policy and able to act as a strong advocate for healthcare science and an ambassador for the Academy.