

LIVED EXPERT.

Position:	Director
Location:	Flexible (with travel as required)
Contract type:	Flexible (full or part-time and contractor/employed)
Salary:	Up to £50,000 or £220 per day (depending on experience)

WHO WE ARE.

Our mission is to enable change by promoting agency: providing information for people to take control of their lives, creating spaces to speak truth to power, and using lived experience of the justice system to transform services and policies.

For two decades, we've been at the forefront of the lived experience movement in health & justice. We've innovated fair and democratic models for coproduction, consultations, peer research and peer commissioning.

These are now embedded throughout the system – in all the Probation Inspectorate's service and thematic inspections, in the procurement of healthcare services across all NHS health and justice regions, in the National Probation Service's Engaging People on Probation contract delivered in every probation region and in Health Councils delivered in prisons across many NHS health and justice regions.

We've engaged over 250,000 people in discussions, provided volunteering opportunities for 5,000 and employed 500 people – all with lived experience. We believe in providing people with opportunity, encouragement and support.

Now we are in the pursuit of helping organisations define and implement what lived experience means for them.

Lived Expert is founded by Mark Johnson MBE, an award-winning social entrepreneur, author, and commentator on crime, addiction, mental health, neurodiversity, and homelessness. He has founded charities and social enterprises led by people with lived experience and translated their voice to power.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES.

The Director will be a critical member of the team, taking ultimate responsibility for the day-to-day delivery of contracts, our policy, research and communications, stakeholder engagement, people management, and contributing to business development and financial management. This is a unique opportunity to join a small, dynamic team and play a pivotal role in shaping the future of Lived Expert as we expand our impact.

Key responsibilities include:

1. Policy, Research and Communications:

- Oversee the design, planning, and implementation of research projects, including developing research tools, collecting and analysing data, and producing high-quality reports and outputs.
- Stay informed of current criminal justice and broader social policy to ensure our work is relevant and impactful.
- Translate research findings into actionable recommendations that can influence policy and practice.
- Develop and lead communication strategies to share insights with external audiences, including policymakers, commissioners, and service providers, driving meaningful change.

2. Stakeholder Engagement:

- Build and maintain relationships with commissioners, funders, and other key stakeholders.
- Represent Lived Expert in meetings, events, and forums, showcasing our thought leadership and impact.

3. Contract Delivery:

- Lead the planning and delivery of consultation projects, ensuring they are completed on time, within budget, and meet high standards of quality and impact.
- Establish and implement robust project management systems and processes to track progress and outcomes.

4. People Management:

- Recruit, train, and support staff, contractors and volunteers (many with lived experience), fostering their growth and progression.
- Provide clear direction, regular feedback, and opportunities for development.

5. Business Development:

- Contribute to the growth of Lived Expert by identifying new opportunities for projects and partnerships.
- Support the development of funding bids, proposals, and tenders.

6. Financial Management:

- Work with the operations team to monitor project budgets and financial performance, ensuring resources are used effectively.

PERSON SPECIFICATION.

Work Experience:

It's simple, you'll have loads of experience of all the above responsibilities!

Personal Attributes:

- Lived experience of the health and justice systems (desirable).
- Someone who resonates deeply with the ethos of Lived Expert and is driven by the idea of making a difference (essential).
- A coworking, collaborative spirit, understanding and valuing the essence of team effort, although you'll also be happy to work alone at times with remote support (essential).
- A deep appreciation for lived experiences and a commitment to keep them central to all projects (essential).
- A quiet achiever who derives satisfaction from realising positive change through their work, irrespective of accolades or recognition (essential).

FURTHER INFORMATION.

Equality and diversity: Lived Expert welcomes applications from ex-offenders from all sections of the community regardless of race, gender, sexual orientation, religion, age, or disability.

DBS checks: This post will involve working with vulnerable young people and in prisons. As such to satisfy safeguarding responsibilities the postholder will require an Enhanced DBS check, although as a lived experience led organisation a conviction won't necessarily be a bar to us hiring you.