



DIRECTOR OF RESEARCH & SERVICES

Harrogate with frequent travel
across Yorkshire

Salary: region £70,000pa depending
on experience plus benefits

Yorkshire Cancer Research is one of the most exciting and innovative charities in England. The Charity is a leading funder of cancer research in the UK and has a track record of supporting ground-breaking projects and clinical trials that will help to improve cancer outcomes in the region.

Our vision is that every single person in every community in and around Yorkshire has the very best chance of living a long and healthy life with, without and beyond cancer. Over 500 people are diagnosed with cancer every week in Yorkshire, and people here are more likely to get cancer, and more likely to die from it, than most other counties in England. We work in partnership with researchers, scientists and clinicians, the NHS, Public Health bodies and other charities to make life-changing improvements to cancer outcomes in Yorkshire.

In 2014 we refocused our strategy, moving away from primarily funding discovery science and academic research towards research led innovation and patient services. Our goal is that by 2025 at least 2,000 fewer people in Yorkshire will die from cancer every year. In order to achieve this we have committed to investing £100m over the next 10 years to tackle the region's biggest cancer problems.

Yorkshire Cancer Research is entering a very exciting period in its development. The charity has been connected with the people of Yorkshire for over 90 years during which time it has been fortunate to establish a sound financial base. As a consequence over the next 10 years we are in a unique position to make a real impact in helping more people in Yorkshire to avoid, survive and cope with cancer.

We are now looking for an exceptional individual to be our Director of Research and Services to deliver our exciting strategy.

If you bring the skills and experience we are looking for and, importantly, share our vision and our values, we look forward to hearing from you.

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced candidates by midday on Friday 4th August 2017 with interviews on Wednesday 23rd August. If you would like to apply, please submit a CV and cover letter addressing the main duties and key responsibilities to research@ycr.org.uk before the deadline.

Strictly no agencies please.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Title: Director of Research & Services

Responsible to: Chief Executive

PRIMARY PURPOSE OF ROLE

To develop effective strategies and plans relating to YCR's charitable cause with particular emphasis on designing, managing and continuously improving our research programmes, research led services and the provision of cancer-related information, advice and support to our beneficiaries, donors and supporters.

KEY SUCCESS FACTORS

The success of this role will be measured by its contribution towards the achievement of YCR's 10 Year Plan, particular in terms of:

- **Saving 2,000 lives per annum in Yorkshire by 2025** (for which proxy measures will need to be developed including incidence, mortality and patient experience)
- **Closing the Gap** between cancer outcomes in Yorkshire and the best regions of England and the rest of the World
- **Going Beyond** by making Yorkshire a beacon region for innovative patient-centred cancer research

MAIN DUTIES & RESPONSIBILITIES

1) **STRATEGY, POLICY & PLANNING** (charitable cause)

Create a clear, unique and cohesive strategic framework of research as well as public and patient services that will deliver our charitable objects of saving lives and improving cancer outcomes in Yorkshire.

- a) Lead the continuous improvement of YCR's 10 Year Plan in relation to research-led innovation, public and patient services, advice and information
- b) Ensure YCR is well-connected to providers/owners of information and is at the forefront of knowledge and understanding relating to cancer in Yorkshire
- c) Create a high quality database and information bank relating to cancer incidence, mortality and patient experience, research funding and sector activities
- d) Monitor research and cancer health-related developments regionally, nationally and internationally so that YCR can respond and re-prioritise
- e) Design and develop key policies on cancer-health matters especially in relation to prevention, early diagnosis, clinical trials and patient experience

- f) Provide key information to support the aim of having the “best informed population” in England regarding cancer causes, prevention and treatment
- g) Act as key spokesperson for YCR on research and cancer-specific issues and ensure that our Communications Team is well-informed on relevant matters

2) RESEARCH FUNDING & EVALUATION

Manage, monitor and review YCR’s research portfolio and ensure that it is achieving expectations and value for money for our donors and beneficiaries.

- a) Monitor and evaluate the existing research portfolio including financial expenditure, milestone achievement and contribution to improving cancer outcomes in Yorkshire
- b) Create innovative new research funding programmes targeted specifically at key priorities in Yorkshire that will contribute to “Closing the Gap” and “Going Beyond”
- c) Develop, manage and continuously improve effective methods of determining which research propositions to fund, the assessment processes used (strategic fit and quality) and the evaluation of outcomes and impact of research that was funded

3) SERVICE DELIVERY

Identify areas where step-changes in cancer outcomes in Yorkshire could be achieved and build unique cost-effective service propositions that can be tested and evaluated for public and patient benefit. This could include but would not be limited to:

- a) Community health initiatives
- b) Early Diagnosis and screening
- c) Clinical Trials
- d) Patient Experience e.g. rehabilitation, quality of life, palliative care and advice.

4) PARTNERSHIPS & RELATIONSHIPS

Engage with key organisations, professional bodies, relevant institutions and individuals to enhance YCR’s influence and set up effective collaborations and partnerships that will support the achievement of our charitable objects. This will include but not be limited to:

- a) NHS Commissioners, Trusts & GPs, National Screening Services and other providers
- b) Universities and other research institutions and organisations
- c) Professional Bodies especially the AMRC and NCRI
- d) Public Health England, National and Local Government including City Councils
- e) Private sector service providers and research groups
- f) Public and patient engagement
- g) Other charities, funders, philanthropists

5) EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP & MANAGEMENT

As a senior member of the Executive Team the Director of Research & Services will take the lead on matters relating to YCR's charitable activities and contribute to the effective management of the charity.

a) Financial Planning and Management

- Lead on strategic planning of charitable activities and ensuring that there are viable short, medium and long-range plans for research funding and services
- Develop and manage departmental budgets and produce high quality reports on R&I activities for the Board of Trustees and the Executive Team

b) Department Management & People

- Managing and developing the Research & Services Team of seven, providing leadership and direction and acting as a role model of YCR's values at all times
- Evaluate and continually review the resources required to deliver departmental responsibilities in a cost effective, professional manner
- Assign tasks and responsibilities to team members in line with their capabilities and potential, setting appropriate but stretching objectives and managing their performance and development in line with YCR's policies and best practice

c) Executive / Board

- As a senior member of the Executive Team contribute to the effective management of the charity undertaking such duties and responsibilities as agreed with the Chief Executive and the Board of Trustees
- Prepare (and present where appropriate) relevant reports and other information for Board of Trustees Meetings as and when requested relating to cancer in Yorkshire, research awards, service development, relationships with key stakeholders and reviews of current and future investments.
- Attend the Charity's Committees as and when required to provide advice and updates on current and future financial commitments relating to research, services, restricted funds and research or service related income streams.

This job profile may be amended from time to time at the absolute discretion of the Charity and in consultation with the post holder in the light of changing organisational needs

PERSON SPECIFICATION

The successful candidate will have the following knowledge, experience and abilities:

1) KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE

- Outstanding track record of leadership, gained at senior manager or director level in a relevant environment such as medical research, healthcare or relevant academic background.
- Substantial experience of developing and maintaining strong relationships with a broad range of external stakeholders including volunteers and corporate partners.
- Strong experience of implementing organisational strategy.
- Understanding and awareness of the medical research landscape and the necessity to deliver patient impact.

2) QUALITIES

- Proven experience of building and motivating a talented team.
- Inspiring and empowering leadership skills
- Excellent communication and influencing skills with internal and external stakeholders.
- Effective planning skills capable of delivering complex projects.
- Ability to assess risks and set ambitious targets.

3) VALUES AND BEHAVIOURS

- Passionate about the values of Yorkshire Cancer Research.
- A dedicated and respected team player creating effective working relationships with others.
- Comfortable with challenging and changing environments.
- A relentless commitment to continuous improvement.
- A passion for excellence.