

# Director of Policy, Engagement and Impact

A Little Bit of Sunshine UK

<b>Hours:</b>	Part-time (flexible) - 6-8 hours per week
<b>Terms:</b>	This is a permanent <b>volunteer role</b>
<b>Responsible to:</b>	Chief Executive
<b>Department:</b>	Policy, Engagement and Impact
<b>Location:</b>	Remote

## About A Little Bit of Sunshine

We are the voice for young people navigating mental health challenges. A Little Bit of Sunshine ensures their experiences shape the support they need and deserve.

Our belief is simple: those closest to the issues are best placed to create the solutions. We connect young people and decision-makers to co-create a mental health system that works for everyone.

In our first year, we've undergone significant changes, including building a strong senior leadership team to guide our future and this newly created role, Director of Policy, Engagement and Impact, will lead on shaping, implementing, and communicating the charity's policy and impact strategies.

As this role is new, you will have the opportunity to shape it. We're looking for someone who can work independently and, in a team, comfortable with navigating uncertainty as we grow.

## Purpose of the role

The purpose of the role is to ensure the leadership and development of the charity's policy, engagement and impact work aimed at improving young people's wellbeing and support. It also involves creating opportunities for young people to take the lead through:

- Managing and developing the charity's ongoing policy, campaigns and social action work and developing new ideas from the Board and SLT to meet the charity's strategy
- Developing and implementing the charity's approach to impact reporting, evaluation, and learning - allow us to continuously improve the services and projects we offer

- Ensuring that our policy, campaigns and social action work is informed by developments in mental health, youth work and social action
- Building key relationships with senior managers across the charity and voluntary sector and in the health and social care sectors.

## Our values

We expect everyone who is part of our organisation to be committed to our values and share our ambition to become a more diverse and inclusive charity. For more information on our charity visit us at [www.albos.org.uk/about-us](http://www.albos.org.uk/about-us).

### Our values:

<b>Accessibility</b>	We will provide fair and open access to volunteer opportunities and support services in our communities.
<b>Leadership</b>	We will motivate ourselves and others to meet our aims and support the young people we serve.
<b>Belonging</b>	We will create and foster an inclusive culture of support and acceptance for everyone involved with the charity.
<b>Open-mindedness</b>	We will take on board other people's ideas to ensure we meet our aims.
<b>Selflessness</b>	We will act with less concern for ourselves and more for the success of the charity and our mission as a whole.

## Key responsibilities

### Strategy/Board

- Work with the Chief Executive and Senior Leadership to shape the charity's strategic objectives and project plans.
- Provide trustees with advice on policy and social action strategy, agreeing on an impact and evaluation framework.
- Exercise delegated authority on policy matters, and deputise for the Chief Executive as required.

### Policy and Advocacy

- Develop and lead ALBOS UK's policy agenda and team, aligning it with young people's mental health needs.
- Monitor mental health policy developments, ensuring proactive responses that reflect the charity's aims.
- Engage with policymakers, government, and advocacy networks to support the Policy and Campaigns team to develop youth-led policies.

## **Engagement**

- Oversee the charity's engagement strategy, ensuring young people are central to programme design and delivery.
- Lead consultations with young people and community stakeholders to inform policy and programme planning.
- Build a youth advocacy network to co-create social action opportunities and amplify the charity's impact.

## **External Relations and Communications**

- Act as ALBOS UK's spokesperson on policy, engagement and impact, representing the charity at events, in the media, and in public forums.
- Build and maintain relationships with funders, partners, and individuals with lived experience of mental health.
- Work closely with the communications team to share impact stories, research, and policy positions.

## **External Relations and Communications**

- Model ALBOS UK's mission and values, managing and mentoring the policy team.
- Ensure team effectiveness by overseeing planning, budgeting, progress reporting, and resource management. Including:
  - Contributing to annual and quarterly planning and budgeting.
  - Preparing progress reports against objectives, KPIs, and targets.
  - Managing resources and spending to forecast outcomes for the year.
- Collaborate with the Senior Leadership Team to identify wider opportunities beyond core responsibilities.

# Person Specification

## **Required experience**

- Developing and driving policy, campaigns and social action programmes in the mental health, charity, youth work or public sector.
- Building and managing partnerships with senior leaders and stakeholders in charity, policy, campaigns, social action health, or social care sectors.
- Leading and developing teams to deliver on objectives and meet key performance indicators.
- Experience involving young people directly in shaping and delivering projects and initiatives.

### Desirable experience

- A leadership role, or significant experience managing or leading programmes in policy, campaigns, mental health, education, the public sector, or charities.
- Engaging communities and supporting social action projects, with experience in co-design and co-creation with young people.
- Representing an organisation publicly, with skills in media and public speaking on policy issues.
- Direct experience of working in or with charities and voluntary sector organisations.
- Experience with grant funding processes, including engagement with funders and supporting applications for mental health or social action initiatives.

### Skills and competencies

- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Ability to build and maintain relationships with key stakeholders
- Strong budget and resource management skills
- Ability to work both independently and as part of a team
- Strong research skills, including the ability to gather and interpret information from various sources

### Other

- Commitment to our mission, vision, and values as a charity
- Willing and able to travel across the UK where necessary

For an informal conversation about the role please contact the Recruiting Leader at ***callum.parr@albos.org.uk***

**This role is exempt from the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act.**

This role profile is intended as an outline indicator of general areas of activity and will be amended considering the changing needs of A Little Bit of Sunshine. It is expected that the post holder will be as positive and flexible as possible in using this document as a framework.

<b>Prepared by:</b> C.Parr, CEO	<b>Date of Preparation:</b> October 2024
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