

## **Job Specification**

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| <b>Job Title:</b>    | Veterinary Prescribing Champions Technical Lead |
| <b>Project:</b>      | Arwain DGC                                      |
| <b>Line Manager:</b> | Veterinary Development Manager                  |
| <b>Salary:</b>       | £39,075.11                                      |

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### **Arwain DGC - background**

The aim of this project which is funded through the Welsh Government, is to address antimicrobial resistance in animals and the environment. The project is in line with the aims and objectives of the Welsh Governments Antimicrobial Resistance (AMR) in Animals and Environment Five Year Implementation Plan for Wales (2019-24).

The project will be delivered by the following partners – Mentera, WLBP (Welsh Lamb and Beef Producers), Aberystwyth University – Vet School, Bristol University, Iechyd Da and Milfeddygon Gogledd Cymru. The project will be led and managed by Mentera.

The Veterinary Prescribing Champions Network has been leading on responsible antimicrobial use in Welsh veterinary practices since 2019 and is a core element of the Arwain DGC project. The VPC Network have developed a collaborative series of treatment and prescribing guidelines for key diseases of farm animals, along with a voluntary code of prescribing conduct for farm animal veterinary practices. These key outputs will be rolled out across Welsh farm and mixed veterinary practices over the next 18 months.

### **Aim of the Role**

This role will lead on and manage the dissemination of these key outputs to VPCs and veterinary practices in Wales, ensuring practices engage with and implement the code of conduct and clinical guidelines in order to improve antimicrobial prescribing across Wales. The role will also manage the development of new supporting resources and ongoing refinements.

As part of the wider Arwain DGC team, the post holder will be expected to contribute to all aspects of the project, with a particular focus on coordinating the Veterinary Prescribing Champions Network and their work.

### **Main Responsibilities**

- Manage the day-to-day running of the Veterinary Prescribing Champions Network, including maintaining the current network's regular activities and actively engaging new practices and vets in the network.
- Lead on the dissemination, engagement and implementation of the Arwain Code of Conduct and the Clinical Guidelines across Welsh farm and mixed veterinary practices.
- Support the Veterinary Development Manager in other priority areas for the project that involve the Veterinary Prescribing Champions Network.
- Coordinate the Welsh Veterinary Prescribing Champions Network activities, including scheduling meetings and events, maintaining regular communications, facilitating discussion groups and other administrative tasks
- Support the delivery of the equine clinics and evaluate feedback
- Undertake reviews of the academic literature to provide an evidence-base for prescribing guidelines for key clinical diseases in cattle and sheep
- Consult with key stakeholders in animal health at the UK level at regular intervals
- Collect and analyse qualitative and quantitative data on antimicrobial use and participate in the writing of project reports and academic publications Work with all project partners and provide support as required to ensure effective delivery of the programme.
- Assess and monitor the effectiveness of new technologies in reducing the need for antimicrobials and lead on reporting the outcomes
- Assess the perceived barriers that prevent the implementation of new technology on farm e.g. cost and time, and report back so that lessons learned can be communicated to the wider industry
- Manage the network of vets/practices within the project network
- Support Vet Prescribing Champions
- Ensure monitoring systems are up to date and accurate
- Manage work with sub-contractors, including veterinary surgeons and technological companies
- Adhere to all relevant policies e.g. Biosecurity, Procurement, Health and Safety etc
- Manage day to day queries and enquires
- Assist the Contract Manager in the effective delivery of the contract and identify ways of continuously improving the service
- Plan, implement and evaluate projects and trials
- Provide accurate statistics and reports to the Project Manager and Welsh Government
- Work closely with the Marketing Officer and provide information as required to ensure that information from projects are disseminated to the industry
- Attend meetings as requested by the Project Manager and/or Director of Rural Programmes
- Foster a close relationship with the farmers to identify their learning and development needs thereby enabling a continuous learning environment where

they can progress from one area to the next ensuring greater impact and enhanced learning

- Plan, arrange and organise a series of activities ensuring that key information from the project is distributed accurately and in a timely manner
- Monitor the budget for undertaking the work to ensure no over or underspend, and support the Project manager for overall budget management
  - Work with project partners to ensure effective delivery of the programme

### **Other**

- Ensure standards for quality, customer service, equality and diversity, health and safety and biosecurity are met
- Accept other reasonable duties and responsibilities as required
- Represent Mentera as required

### **Skills and Experience**

#### **Essential**

- Educated to PhD level, or equivalent, in animal health, veterinary, agriculture, or a related subject
- Thorough knowledge of the agricultural and animal health sectors in Wales, with the ability to identify the latest information and research work relevant to animal health
- Able to disseminate and communicate themes, research findings and programme content in a practical and clear manner relevant to the audience
- Strong project management skills
- Able to analyse qualitative and quantitative data and produce qualitative and quantitative reports in a timely manner
- Advanced presentation and interpersonal skills
- A self-motivator, accepting responsibility for setting and reviewing priorities for achieving targets, with a clear focus on quality
- Excellent oral and written communication skills
- Able to make difficult and timely decisions for the benefit of the business and/or service, including raising appropriate concerns regarding service delivery, budgets and staff/sub-contractors
- Advanced standard of IT skills, including Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Email, Databases and Internet
- Full driving licence and use of a car (this role may require travel across Wales)

#### **Desirable**

- Previous experience of working on the Arwain DGC project
- Previous experience of working with the Veterinary Prescribing Champions Network

- Recent experience of working with veterinary practices, academic organisations and institutions and technological companies
- Awareness of agricultural and animal health policy development, as well as Welsh Government strategies and policies.

## **Additional Information**

If you would like an informal discussion about this post, please contact Dewi Hughes on 07455 733 570 or [dewi.hughes@mentera.cymru](mailto:dewi.hughes@mentera.cymru)

**The requirements of this role means that it has been categorised as follows:**

- A driving licence and use of a car for business purposes:
  - Not required
  - Desirable
  - Essential ✓
- Welsh language ability:
  - Listening/Speaking: Level 0
  - Reading/Understanding: Level 0
  - Writing: Level 0

*Mentera provides language skills training to every staff member who wishes to develop their use of Welsh.*

## **How to apply**

Applications for this post can be made by completing the enclosed application form and equal opportunities monitoring form and returning them to [swyddi@mentera.cymru](mailto:swyddi@mentera.cymru) by 10am, Monday, 28 October 2024.

## **Interviews**

We will hold the interviews for this position virtually on week commencing 4 November 2024. If this date is not convenient, please state so on your application form.

## **Equality and Diversity Declaration**

Mentera is committed to supporting and promoting equality and diversity and to creating an inclusive working environment. We believe this can be achieved through attracting, developing, and retaining a diverse range of staff from many different



backgrounds. We therefore welcome applicants from all sections of the community regardless of sex, ethnicity, disability, sexual orientation, trans identity, relationship status, religion or belief, caring responsibilities, or age. In supporting our employees to achieve a balance between their work and their personal lives, for most roles we will consider proposals for flexible working or job share arrangements.