



Dementia-Cancer Specialist Adviser

Age UK Sutton

Independent, local and proud to support later life in Sutton
Registered Charity No 1085875 Registered Company Number 04175500

 Sutton
ageUK

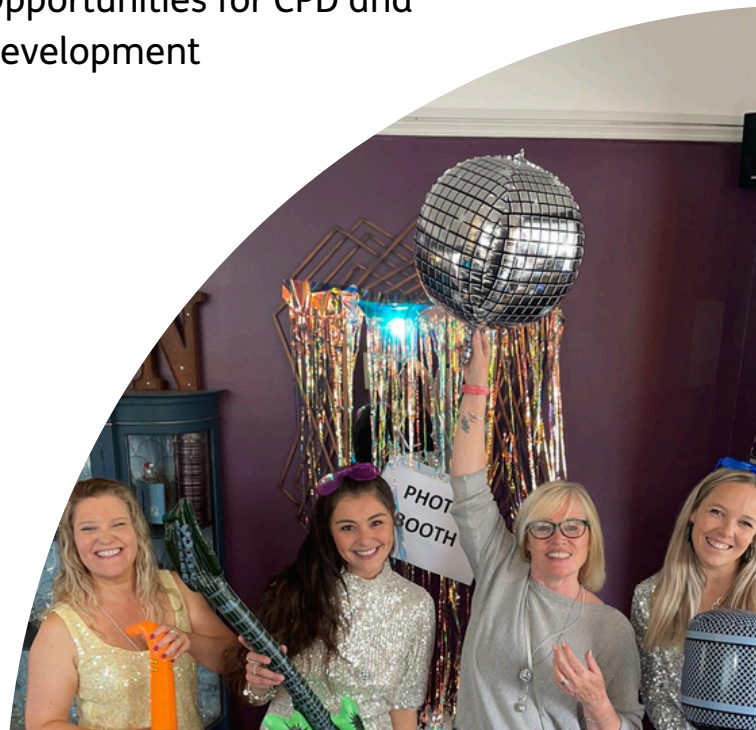
About Age UK Sutton & working with us

Age UK Sutton is an independent, local charity with a turnover of around £1.3million. We are a brand partner of Age UK, and benefit from a network of similar small and medium sized independent charities across the UK, whilst being able to maintain a focus on local issues in the London Borough of Sutton.

Age UK Sutton is dedicated to helping older people in our community to live well in later life. We provide vital information, expert advice and practical support to enable informed decisions on finances, health and care. As the trusted local experts in ageing well, we combine national knowledge with deep local insight and understanding to deliver accredited, high-quality services that make a real difference. From helping people prepare for later life to supporting those living it, we're here to ensure that later life in Sutton is lived well.

We strive to provide a supportive, open and vibrant working environment. We are people-centred, and that is reflected in the way we work with older people, each other and our partners. Age UK Sutton is a flexible employer and pride ourselves on being a family and carer friendly workplace.

- 25 days holiday (pro-rata) plus bank holidays and additional 5 days service rewards
- BUPA Employee Assistance Programme
- Quarterly wellbeing hours
- Flexible and home working opportunities available for some roles
- Opportunities for CPD and development



Dementia-Cancer Specialist Adviser

Salary: £18,300 pro rata (£30,500 actual)

Hours: 21 hours

Location: Sutton (community-based, home visits, community venues and office-based working)

Responsible to: Programme Manager / Services Director

Contract: Fixed Term (Grant funded - 2 years)

About the service:

People living with both cancer and dementia face significant unfairness:

- Cancer pathways are not designed for cognitive impairment
- Dementia makes it harder to understand information, attend appointments, and make decisions
- Individuals are often excluded from decisions and disengage from care
- Carers face high stress navigating fragmented systems with little tailored support

Our solution: A community-led, learning-based pilot that combines personalised support with system improvement.

Purpose:

To provide specialist, non-clinical, person-centred support to people living with both dementia and cancer, and to their unpaid carers.

The Adviser will act as a single named point of contact, helping individuals navigate complex cancer pathways, understand information, participate in decision-making, access support and maintain their wellbeing throughout their cancer journey.

The role bridges the gap between dementia support and cancer services, ensuring that people experiencing a dual diagnosis receive coordinated, dementia-aware support that promotes dignity, independence and equitable access to care.

Alongside direct support, the Adviser will contribute learning and insight to the project's Participatory Learning Programme, helping shape future dementia-inclusive cancer care practice.

Key responsibilities

Specialist Casework and Support

- Provide personalised one-to-one support to people living with dementia and cancer.
- Undertake holistic assessments of needs and circumstances.
- Develop support plans tailored to individual needs, wishes and goals.
- Provide practical advice and guidance regarding:
 - health and social care services
 - benefits and financial support
 - housing and care arrangements
 - transport and access issues
 - legal rights and entitlements
- Support individuals to prepare for and reflect on appointments and treatment decisions.
- Help people understand complex information in ways that are accessible and appropriate to cognitive needs.
- Facilitate meaningful involvement in decisions affecting their care and treatment.

Advocacy and Navigation

- Act as a trusted guide through health and care systems.
- Liaise with professionals across health, social care and voluntary sector organisations.
- Support referrals and coordination between services.
- Advocate on behalf of clients where appropriate.
- Promote a "Tell Your Story Once" approach to reduce fragmentation and repetition.

Carer Support

- Provide information, guidance and emotional support to family carers.
- Support carers to understand their rights and available services.
- Help carers balance advocacy with maintaining the voice and wishes of the person living with dementia.

Future Planning

- Facilitate sensitive conversations around:
 - Lasting Power of Attorney
 - Advance Care Planning
 - Future care arrangements
 - End-of-life preferences
- Ensure individuals are supported to express what matters most to them.

Participatory Learning

- Contribute frontline insight to the Participatory Learning Group.
- Identify recurring barriers and challenges within cancer pathways.
- Test and evaluate service adaptations developed through the project.
- Record case studies, outcomes and learning.

Recording and Outcomes

- Maintain accurate case records.
- Monitor outputs, outcomes and impact.
- Contribute to project reporting and evaluation activities.

Person specification

- Experience of supporting older people, vulnerable adults or people with long-term conditions. Experience of supporting carers would be desirable.
- Strong understanding of dementia and its impact on communication, decision-making and daily life.
- Experience of advice, advocacy, casework or care coordination.
- Ability to build trusting relationships with people experiencing distress and uncertainty.
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work independently and manage a complex caseload.
- Experience of partnership working across multiple agencies.
- Strong record keeping and outcome monitoring skills.
- Commitment to person-centred practice and safeguarding.
- Dementia Adviser qualification or equivalent experience would be desirable but not essential.
- An Information and Advice qualification would also be desirable but not essential.
- Knowledge of cancer pathways and cancer support services would be welcomed
- Understanding of the Mental Capacity Act, Care Act and related legislation is useful.
- Experience working in community health, social care or voluntary sector settings would be beneficial.

How to apply

Please email us at workforus@ageuksutton.org.uk to apply, submitting a CV and supporting statement which will give you the opportunity to show how you meet the person specification.

Candidates are warmly invited to arrange an informal discussion with the recruiting manager, before submitting their application, which can be arranged by contacting Carla, Business Support Manager:

carla.federighi@ageuksutton.org.uk
07577 130549

Closing date for applications: 12th July 2026

Interview date: 20th/21st/23rd July

Please share your availability for these days in your application. If you cannot attend this interview date, please let us know when you submit your application. If we invite you to interview, we will always do our best to find a suitable alternative date.

We recognise that everyone is unique and may have particular needs during the recruitment process. Therefore if there is anything you would like to discuss in relation to that process, please contact us. We strive to make our recruitment process fully accessible to all applicants, including those with a disability, long term condition or anyone who may otherwise require additional support or reasonable adjustments.

An applicant's disclosure of their disability will not disqualify nor adversely affect the candidate's chances of being short listed or offered the post.