

Role description

Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service

Role details

Job ad reference	CA232723	Classification	HP4
Role title	Environmental Health Officer – Senior (Legionella)	Salary	\$99 205 - \$106 750 per annum
Status (temp/perm)	Permanent Full Time	Closing date	Wednesday, 15 February 2017
Unit/Branch	Tropical Public Health Services		
Division/ Hospital and Health Service/ Hospital	Division of Family Health and Wellbeing Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service	Contact name	Brad Milligan
Location	Cairns	Contact number	07 4226 5591

Vision for the public service

To be a government of the 21st century, one government that is connected and working together to deliver smarter, simpler outcomes that are responsive to the needs of Queenslanders now and for the future. We will create opportunities in partnership that are all about positive outcomes rather than just service delivery and regulation.

To enable this vision, the Queensland Public Service (QPS) is transforming from a compliance focus to a more values-led way of working. The following **five values statements** underpin behaviours that will support and enable better ways of working and result in better outcomes for Queenslanders.



Customers first

- Know your customers
- Deliver what matters
- Make decisions with empathy



Ideas into action

- Challenge the norm and suggest solutions
- Encourage and embrace new ideas
- Work across boundaries



Unleash potential

- Expect greatness
- Lead and set clear expectations
- Seek, provide and act on feedback



Be courageous

- Own your actions, successes and mistakes
- Take calculated risks
- Act with transparency



Empower people

- Lead, empower and trust
- Play to everyone's strengths
- Develop yourself and those around you

Your employer— Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service

- The Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service (CHHHS) has the responsibility of providing public hospital and health services to a population of approximately 250,000 people. The primary catchment of the CHHHS covers an area of 142 900 square kilometres from Tully in the south, Cow Bay in the north and Croydon in the west. The outer western region of our Service encompasses extremely remote communities.
- The CHHHS is committed to improving the health and wellbeing of all people in Far North Queensland by providing high quality acute healthcare services. Our staff are a part of the community we serve, and we strongly believe that health outcomes are enhanced by involving our community in the planning and evaluation of local health services.
- Our Vision and Purpose
 - To provide world-class health services to improve the social, emotional and physical well being of people in Cairns and Hinterland and the North East Australian region through:
 - Holistic, innovative and responsive models of patient care
 - Caring, skilled and dedicated staff
 - Partnerships providing internationally recognised education and research
 - Equitable, integrated and sustainable services
 - Engage and understand our community's diverse needs
- Tropical Public Health Services (Cairns) (TPHS) is part of the Cairns and Hinterland Hospital and Health Service (HHS) and provides public health services to Cape York HHS and advice to Torres Strait and Northern Peninsula HHS.
- Public health focuses on the health and wellbeing of populations, rather than of individuals. TPHS aims to minimise the morbidity and mortality from communicable and vaccine-preventable diseases, and environmental health hazards thereby:
 - protecting the health of the population, and
 - preventing disease and illness.
- TPHS fulfils the public health regulatory services on behalf of the Department of Health to ensure sound public health standards are maintained in communities.
- TPHS protects and enhances the health of the Tropical North Queensland community. This includes:
 - communicable disease surveillance,
 - managing outbreaks of communicable, vaccine-preventable and environmental health-related disease,
 - providing expert support to vaccine service providers, monitoring immunisation coverage and vaccine safety,
 - vector surveillance, vector control and research to minimise the transmission of dengue and other mosquito-borne diseases,
 - hosting the Commonwealth-funded Aedes albopictus mosquito control program,
 - hosting the Commonwealth-funded Queensland Rheumatic Heart Disease program,
 - syphilis surveillance across six HHS districts,
 - establishing and managing communications with Papua New Guinea (PNG) cross-border area public health services,
 - preparing for and responding to pandemics, floods and other major incidents with other agencies,
 - responding to suspected clusters of cancers and other diseases,
 - public health disaster management at the local and district level,

- facilitating, monitoring, supporting and implementing the Indigenous public health programs (environmental health) in remote communities,
- regulatory and compliance activities including monitoring, investigating, promoting and enforcing public health legislation and,
- providing public health support to other healthcare providers, residential care and child care services, schools and the wider community.
- The TPHS team consists of public health physician, public health nurses and registrar, environmental health officers, an epidemiologist, data managers, entomologists, project officers, a PNG communications officer and administration officers.
- TPHS works collaboratively with, and supports, a range of organisations including other health services, other government departments, local government, non-government agencies, research institutions and local communities.
- For further information visit the website: [about CHHHS](#)

Your opportunity

Undertake more complex environmental health services as part of the broader health protection program to protect, promote and prevent risks to the community arising from environmental health hazards that impact on the natural and built environment and human health.

Your role

- Fulfil the responsibilities of this role in accordance with QPS values as outlined above.
- Follow defined service quality standards, occupational health and safety policies and procedures relating to the work being undertaken in order to ensure high quality, safe services and workplaces
- Utilise high level knowledge, skills and expertise in environmental health practice to deliver services that are complex and varied in nature, and to identify and integrate evidence-based options and strategic directions into practice
- Exercise independent judgement and high level evidentiary skills and experience to undertake complex investigations of relevant health legislation and recommend and implement appropriate interventions and enforcement options
- Undertake health risk assessments; research, plan, implement and/or oversee the implementation of environmental projects and programs; and participate in environmental and public health incident responses
- Provide high level environmental health advice to internal and external stakeholders and prepare comprehensive reports and submissions on complex environmental health issues to professional and operational supervisors and managers
- Work collaboratively within a professional and/or multidisciplinary team and with key partners and stakeholders
- Support continuous improvement and quality of local service delivery through influence and contribution to the development of operational policies, procedures, guidelines and work instructions
- Provide professional mentorship, guidance and clinical practice supervision to less experienced environmental health staff, support staff and work experience students and coordinate and/or train environmental health practitioners, to ensure the maintenance of professional standards

- Contribute to continual learning and development of environmental health practice knowledge and expertise through active learning within a team and by engaging in ongoing, relevant professional development and training activities and research.

Mandatory qualifications/Professional registration/Other requirements

- The successful applicant must hold a tertiary degree (or equivalent) qualification that is accredited by Environmental Health Australia or deemed eligible for appointment by the Queensland Health Environmental Health Officer Appointments Review Committee

Note: For establishment management purposes, under Schedule 1 of the Health Practitioner Enterprise Agreement (2007), this position is deemed to be of the discipline Environmental Health Officer.

- This position requires the incumbent to operate a class C motor vehicle and an appropriate licence endorsement to operate this type of vehicle is required. Proof of this endorsement must be provided before commencement of duty.
- Due to the geographical scope of the position, travel will be required which may be up to two weeks away from the office and involve flying in small aircraft, driving long distances on unsealed roads and staying in varying standards of accommodation
- After hours work and participation in on-call arrangements may be required from time to time. On-call and recall provisions will apply in these circumstances, as appropriate
- It is a condition of employment for this role for the employee to be, and remain, vaccinated against the following vaccine preventable diseases during their employment: Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR), Varicella (chicken pox), Pertussis (whooping cough)] and Hepatitis B.

How you will be assessed?

You will be assessed on your ability to demonstrate the following key capabilities, knowledge and experience. Within the context of the responsibilities described above under 'Your role', the ideal applicant will be someone who can demonstrate the following:

- High level knowledge, skills and experience in delivering complex environmental health services
- Demonstrated ability to undertake public health risk assessments and complex environmental health investigations at a consistently high standard
- Demonstrated ability to effectively manage workloads to fulfil work requirements and commitments within agreed timeframes
- Demonstrated ability to provide high level environmental health advice and support to managers, other public health practitioners, partners and other stakeholders
- High level written and interpersonal communication and negotiation skills, particularly in relation to the resolution of complex issues
- Demonstrated ability to be an effective team member.

Your application

Please provide the following information to the panel to assess your suitability:

- Your current CV or resume, including the names and contact details of two referees. Referees should have a thorough knowledge of your capabilities, work performance and conduct within the previous two years, and it is preferable to include your current/immediate/past supervisor

- A short statement (maximum 1-2 pages) on how your experience, abilities and knowledge would enable you to achieve the key responsibilities and meet the key attributes.

How to apply

- Queensland Health encourages applicants to apply on-line for our vacancies through www.smartjobs.qld.gov.au
- To do this, access the 'apply online' facility on the Smart jobs and careers website.
- Online applications have special requirements:
 You need to create a 'My SmartJob' account before submitting your online application. Details are available through the Queensland Government Smart Jobs and Careers website at www.smartjobs.qld.gov.au;
 You can 'save and submit later', allowing you to organise your attachments for submission at a later time, but before the closing date of applications;
 By applying online you can track your application through the process, maintain your personal details through registration and withdraw your application if required.
- Do not attach photographs, certificates, references or other large graphics to your application;
- Any documents attached to smartjobs should be in Microsoft Word, or .jpg, .gif, .bmp, .png, .rtf, .txt, .doc or docx. Do not upload zipped files, pdf documents created through Microsoft Word 2007, tagged pdfs or protected documents.
- Late applications cannot be submitted via the Smart jobs website, so please allow enough time before the closing date to submit your application. If approval has been granted by the Selection Panel for a late application to be considered, please contact the Recruitment Services team to arrange this.
- If you experience any technical difficulties when accessing www.smartjobs.qld.gov.au please contact 13 QGOV (13 74 68).
- Hand delivered applications will not be accepted.
- All calls relating to the status of your application once the job has closed should be directed to the contact officer on the role description.
- If you require any other assistance, please email Recruitment.Cairns@health.qld.gov.au

Additional information

- Applications will remain current for 12 months
- Future vacancies of a temporary, full-time and part-time nature may also be filled through this recruitment process.
- Pre-employment screening, including criminal history and discipline history checks, may be undertaken on persons recommended for employment. Roles providing health, counselling and support services mainly to children will require a blue card, unless otherwise exempt.
- Employees who are permanently appointed to Queensland Health may be required to undertake a period of probation appropriate to the appointment.
- All relevant health professionals, who in the course of their duties formulate a reasonable suspicion that a child or youth has been abused or neglected in their home/community environment, have a legislative and a duty of care obligation to immediately report such concerns to Child safety services, Department of Communities.
- Some roles within Queensland Health are designated as 'Vaccination Preventable Disease (VPD) risk roles'. A VPD risk role is a role in which the incumbent may be exposed to the risk of acquisition and/or

transmission of a VPD. If you are applying for a role that has been designated as a VPD risk role you must be able to provide evidence that you either have been vaccinated against the VPD's listed in the role description; or you are not susceptible to the VPD's listed in the role description.

You will be asked by the recruiting manager to supply this evidence if you are the preferred candidate for the role. Any job offer would be subject to the supply of evidence related to VPD in addition to other required employment screening. The majority of our frontline clinical roles require at a minimum vaccination against measles, mumps, rubella, varicella (chicken pox), pertussis (whooping cough) and Hepatitis B. The following tools will assist if you are required to provide evidence of VPD vaccination:

- VPD Evidence guide
- VPD evidence form – Doctor
- VPD evidence form – Self

Please head to our [Vaccinations Homepage](#) for more information on how to provide your evidence.

- Applicants will be required to give a statement of their employment as a lobbyist within one (1) month of taking up the appointment. Details are available at <http://www.psc.qld.gov.au/publications/assets/policies/lobbyist-disclosurepolicy.pdf>