The Role of the Chief Knowledge Officer
In An NHS Organisation V3

Objective:
To lead the development, management and sharing of knowledge within NHS and partner organisations to maximise its use in supporting the improvement of Patient Care.

Context:
Knowledge management (KM) is required to ensure that strategic, operational and clinical activity is based on a combination of specialist knowledge, sound evidence, experience and data. Effective KM strategies maximise the efficient use of all these resources and ensure that knowledge is recognised, generated and transferred within a receptive learning culture, for the benefit of the whole health system.

Role:
To ensure relevant experience, evidence, research, information and data are available to all staff. This will enable knowledge-based strategic, operational and clinical planning and activity.

To lead horizon scanning to ensure their organisation is prepared for future service needs.

To participate in national / regional networks of CKOs to steer knowledge management in the NHS

To develop specific strategies to protect organisational knowledge, for example during times of major change.

To work with people responsible for HR, CPD, Information, Innovation, Library and related strategies to develop a knowledge based culture.

Personal Qualities:
Board Level Director. Personal skills and interests are more important than field of specialism.

Passionate about the importance of making full use of an organisation’s knowledge for the benefit of patient care and service improvement.

Fully understands the complementary nature and value of data, information, research evidence and experience.

Committed to creating and sustaining a knowledge-sharing culture by actively seeking to remove the boundaries of departmental and professional silos.

Committed to the learning and development of all staff, thereby developing the organisation’s knowledge.