

Director, Public Affairs

Introduction

MHP Mischief is a unique combination of two market-leading brands. Together, we are greater than the sum of our parts.

We are a collection of 200 communications specialists, blending behavioural science, influencer strategy, creativity, audience insight and industry expertise.

MHP helps clients navigate the volatile, activist and tribal Networked Age. Mischief is engineered to win in the Attention Rebellion era.

Our specialist areas include consumer comms, corporate reputation, crisis management, capital markets, public affairs, health and financial services.

We represent some of the most-loved, most-trusted and most intensely scrutinised brands in the country, including AstraZeneca, Coinbase, Huawei, Innocent, JustEat, Lego, Restaurant Group, Marshmallow and Sky.

The role

Our award-winning Public Affairs practice has an exciting opportunity to join its expanding team. With strong year-on-year growth – including through the pandemic - it needs a Director to join its leadership team, providing exceptional client service and helping to drive further growth.

This is a fantastic opportunity for somebody who wants to help shape the future of an established and successful Public Affairs practice inside a multi-service agency. Working alongside 200 communications specialists across MHP and our sister agency Mischief (both part of ENGINE-), you will play a role in helping to set the direction of the function as well as helping to manage and motivate a 20-strong team, leading client work and new business delivery. This pivotal role will require you to provide counsel across all industry sectors, to make new connections and grow existing clients.

We're looking for a strong strategic mindset, exemplary understanding of public affairs and the communication challenges its clients face, and a proven track record of being able to play a leading part in new business.

Key responsibilities

- Act as an integral part of clients' strategic advisory team to provide senior counsel and strategy input
- Help manage a portfolio of clients, ensuring excellent service delivery and high levels of client satisfaction
- Play a key role in new business growth, including prospecting, responding to briefs and growing existing clients
- Support the Public Affairs leadership team in ensuring overall quality, client retention and delivery of budgeted results and profitability targets
- Shape and steer public affairs strategies, helping to ensure the team continues to grow, innovate and excel in its client work
- Maintain networks across politics, policy and business that enable you to stay abreast of trends and macro developments

- Help with the overall development of the team, resource planning, allocation, recruitment, staff welfare and performance issues; nurture the team, provide guidance and counsel to ensure team retention
- Be an ambassador for Public Affairs within MHP, Engine, client inter-agency teams and the wider industry

The successful candidate will:

- Be a seasoned Public Affairs practitioner with experience of major corporate clients across a range of sectors
- Possess an agency background with a strong record of working with marquee clients and delivering counsel
- Have a strong network and track record of helping to win new business
- Be an enthusiastic team player, ambitious to help build a team and offer
- Inspire, lead and help nurture talent with the team
- Be well-connected across politics, policy and business
- Consistently exceed client expectations in the development and delivery of client communications strategies for which you are responsible

What we offer

You can expect a friendly and dynamic working environment and an office space in the heart of the buzzing West End. Our goal is to ensure that your career here with us is fulfilling and that you're learning every step of the way on your journey through our agency. We have an online learning platform that hosts a variety of content and allows you to map your career out with all the training available to you (both online and f2f).

We have superb benefits to match including: 28 days holiday (plus bank holidays), vitality private medical insurance, pension, season ticket loan, cycle to work & free breakfast.

We also have a dedicated Well-being team along with a Representation, Diversity & Inclusion task force to make sure we look after all our employees so that everyone can bring their true whole self to work.

About MHP Mischief

MHP Mischief is a unique combination of two market-leading brands, with 200 communications specialists and an approach that blends behavioural science, media and influencer strategy, creativity, audience insight and industry expertise.

We help clients navigate a volatile, activist, tribal and information-saturated landscape we call The Networked Age.

Our specialist areas include consumer comms, corporate reputation, crisis management, capital markets, public affairs, health, financial services and studio production.

Our work for the NHS is PR Week's "Campaign of the Decade", we are two-time winners of The Creative Shootout and we were the most-awarded agency at the 2021 PR Week Awards.

We are UK Agency of the Year (PRovoke), Corporate & Financial Agency of the Year (PR Week) & Health Team of the Year (PR Week).

