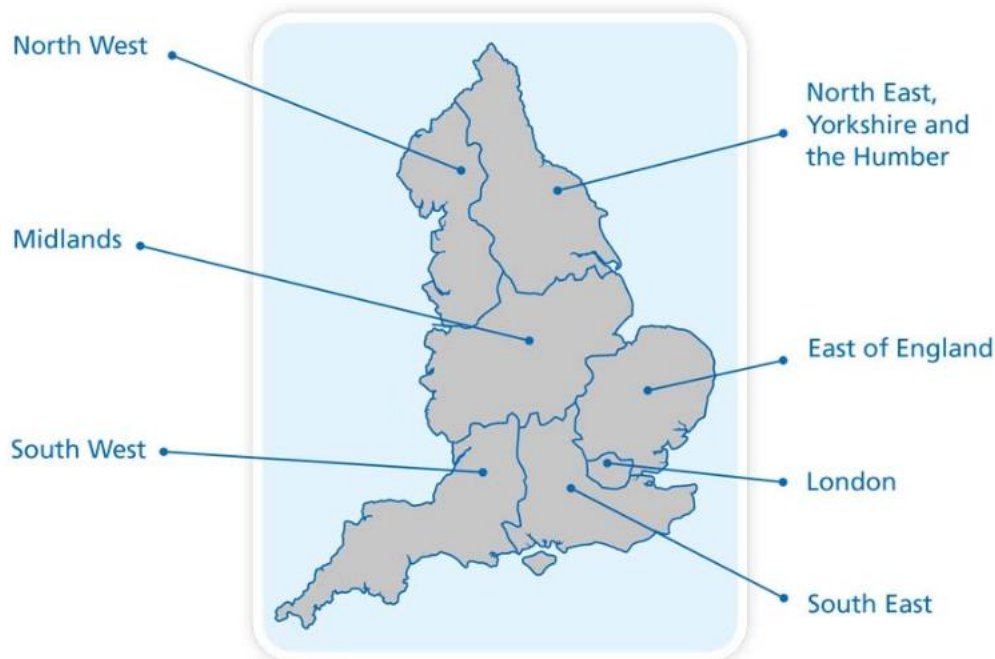


Regional lead (RL) for the North of England job description

ABDO has seven regional lead areas across the UK; Scotland, Northern Ireland, Wales, North of England, Midlands, South West of England and South East of England (including London). We are currently looking to appoint a regional lead to cover the North of England area. This includes the North West, North East, Yorkshire and the Humber NHS areas, as shown on the map below.



ABDO members across the North West, North East and Yorkshire areas are encouraged to consider if they meet the criteria to become a regional lead. You must be a passionate advocate of the dispensing optician profession.

As a regional lead you will:

- Act as the 'bridge' between ABDO and dispensing opticians (DO) in the North of England; facilitating communication between the two
- Raise the profile of dispensing opticians in the North of England. This may be by attending relevant events or meetings, speaking up for dispensing opticians when the opportunity presents itself or ensuring that dispensing opticians are included in local pathways and literature
- Support the clinical and policy team at local and regional level and participate in national discussions where appropriate
- Identify opportunities for professional development and involvement in local enhanced services for dispensing opticians and contact lens opticians

- Support and encourage DOs on LOCs and other optical committees in their area
- Be contactable by email and respond in a timely manner.
- Assist with queries from ABDO members and external organisations within your region and offer support to their professional development by signposting and providing introductions as and when relevant
- Contribute towards papers and documents relating to activity and services within your regional area
- Share learnings across your region as well as sharing with the RL team across the wider UK
- Attend monthly meetings with the wider regional lead team. These will mainly be virtual but will require travel for in person meetings periodically

Background skills & experience

- Knowledge of local and national NHS eyecare policies
- The candidate must have experience of optical committees and ideally be a current member of their local representative committee
- Management experience desirable but good relationship building, representation and influencing skills vital
- Self-motivated and ability to work remotely
- IT skills and the ability to use Microsoft Outlook and Teams are essential for this role
- ABDO member
- GOC registrant

Meetings and communications

- Attend monthly RL Team meetings
- Organise and attend meetings with any support network within the region
- Provide written reports of activity as and when required but not less than quarterly to the ABDO clinical and policy director