Director of Highways, Transport & Planning

Join us – Make a difference in our communities
West Sussex as an area is rapidly changing with increasing pressures from our demographics, continuing challenges to provide our residents and communities with greater levels of choice to support improved outcomes in their lives and of course we need to do this within tighter and tighter financial constraints. We recognise therefore that our organisation, working with and alongside our partnerships, needs to fundamentally change.

During a period of significant and fundamental change, we need strong, experienced, collaborative and cohesive leadership across our organisation. This requires a strong, collaborative strategic and corporate foundation for our organisation.

West Sussex has a diverse economy and a wide range of existing assets with the potential to attract further investment and opportunities to exploit its position. Our economic plans are bold and innovative. They aim to build on existing successes whilst bringing new opportunities for our residents and businesses.

About the Job
You will be required to develop and implement strategies for the management of the local highway, transport and planning services. Working closely with stakeholders including local Members and communities you will facilitate the delivery of priorities for maintaining and improving the highways and transport network and provide effective leadership, co-ordination and management of the council’s Planning service.

You will lead, develop and manage an approach to the continual improvement of the service through performance management, business planning, delivery of action plans and risk management.

You will develop plans to implement agreed business plans for the Council and its partners which will deliver the best possible outcomes for the citizens and communities of West Sussex in the areas of highways, transport and planning and achieve the political objectives and priorities of the council, whilst ensuring that all risks are actively managed and mitigated.

Job Details
Grade: Senior Management Group (SMG)
Department: Place Services
Location: County Hall, Chichester
Required Experience & Skills

Significant experience in a highways/civil engineering and/or municipal planning environments.

Significant previous experience of managing large and complex contracts and large and complex programmes.

Significant previous experience of managing large and complex programmes to achieve standards of quality, value for money and timeliness.

Broad knowledge of public sector services, the macro social and economic context within which local authorities work and the implications of this for delivery of County Council’s aims.

Broad understanding of service delivery models, concepts and principles gained through extensive business exposure in a diverse range of organisations or services.

Experience of having worked at a senior level in a political environment.

Recent experience of successfully leading the delivery of strategic objectives and business plans.

Able to communicate a compelling vision to key stakeholders internally and externally to achieve operational outcomes.

Educated to post-graduate level or equivalent experience in one or more of the relevant technical specialist areas – for example, civil engineering (e.g. MICE or MIHT).

Evidence of continuing professional development in leadership and business management.

Key Responsibilities

Develop plans to implement agreed business plans for the Council and its partners which will deliver the best possible outcomes for the citizens and communities of West Sussex in the areas of highways, transport and planning and achieve the political objectives and priorities of the council, whilst ensuring that all risks are actively managed and mitigated.

Be responsible for the highways, transport and planning budgets and resources ensuring that they are allocated effectively for the delivery of intended outcomes in a manner which demonstrates value for money and compliance with relevant policies and guidelines.

Contribute to the development of key relationships for the Council with partners with which the Council has or is considering as a contractor to enable the development and delivery of effective outcomes through collaborative approaches.

Lead the service delivery of highway, transport and planning services for the Council ensuring intended outcomes are being achieved through effective management against key performance indicators.

Provide guidance and support to the Cabinet and Members in translating their political objectives and priorities into coherent initiatives that will deliver the intended outcomes for West Sussex.

Lead strategic programmes and projects ensuring that they are managed and controlled in an effective manner in order to achieve their intended benefits and goals.
Lead the procurement and contracting of highway, transport and planning services and oversee their management to ensure that they deliver intended outcomes in a manner which represent long-term value at an acceptable level of risk for the Council.

Our Values

You will lead, promote and demonstrate the values of our organisation.

- Trust and Support
- Listen and Act Upon
- Customer Centred
- Honest and Realistic
- Genuinely Valued

You will lead, promote and demonstrate the cultural ambition of our organisation:

'To become an organisation which lives and breathes our values where all of our people are able to work in an empowered, collaborative and innovative way to make a real and positive difference to all our communities.’

JD Code: SMG

April 2019