



Job Description: Director for Strategy & Partnerships

Job Grade: D1 (£103,606 - £115,117)

Job Purpose:

- Provide leadership for the Council on the key strategies required to deliver the outcomes for Wirral through the Strategic Hub and key stakeholder partnerships.
- Work collaboratively with the senior leadership team of the Council to deliver the job purpose as part of achieving the objectives of the Wirral Plan.
- Work with the political leadership to advise, support, challenge and deliver their vision.

Reports to:

Chief Executive

Key Accountabilities:

- Provide strategic direction to ensure the success of the Strategic Hub function ensuring teams and resources are focussed and aligned.
- Lead Wirral's overall approach to strategy development, based on insight, intelligence and best practice to ensure the Council achieves the outcomes of the Wirral Plan.
- Work collaboratively with all stakeholders and partners in the development of the strategies.
- Work closely with the strategic partners to promote, develop and grow the strategic partnerships and investigate opportunities in the market to exploit provision of partnership services and income growth to the Council.
- Develop and maintain effective systems of consultation, community involvement and engagement and partnership working to achieve the Wirral plan.
- Ensure strategies are commercially focussed and outcome led.

- Ensure that the agreed strategies are delivered through the commissioning of interventions or services.
- Ensure that equality and diversity issues are fully integrated into the Council's approach to strategic planning and service delivery.
- Provide leadership through sponsoring the delivery mechanism and reviewing future arrangements.
- Manage the budget associated with this post. The budget will be set out in the Accountability statement.
- Manage Chief Officers / Senior Managers and Officers who report to this post.

Knowledge:

- A relevant management qualification at degree level or equivalent and significant experience working at a senior management level.
- An in-depth knowledge and understanding of the changing public sector context and complexities.
- An in-depth awareness and understanding of national, regional and local strategies, initiatives and projects that impact on the public sector.
- An in-depth understanding of the inter-relationships the Council has with other sectors/partners
- Knowledge of 'current thinking' and best practice approaches to inform strategic decision making and planning.
- A proven understanding of the value of commissioning.

Experience:

- Experience of developing strategic plans and corporate objectives.
- Experience in successfully leading the delivery of outcomes and transformation in a large complex political environment.
- A demonstrable record of establishing and maintaining a strong and effective performance culture.
- Evidence of success in building, enhancing and maintaining the reputation of an organisation.
- Substantial track record of successful negotiation and implementation of complex commissioning programmes with multiple stakeholder engagement.
- Experience of establishing and building effective partnership arrangements.
- Experience of working at a senior level, influencing and advising on policy and strategy.
- Experience of managing wide-ranging programmes.

- Experience of working at a senior level that requires a high level of strategic awareness.
- Experience of working within a statutory legal and/or regulatory framework.
- A track record of developing and implementing commissioning strategies and plans.
- Experience of developing evidence based strategies through the use of insight, consultation and best practice.
- The delivery of outcome based strategies through a range of solutions.

Skills:

- High level strategic thinking and problem solving.
- Proven stakeholder management and engagement skills, combined with good political acumen and experience.
- Strong commercial skills and business acumen.
- Strong interpersonal skills with the ability to negotiate, influence and generate confidence, trust and respect.
- Ability to demonstrate resilience and flexibility of approach and manage uncertainty and ambiguity for themselves and others.
- Ability to simplify and explain complex issues to a range of audiences.
- Ability to identify and implement effective systems to monitor performance.
- Ability to develop and encourage innovative ideas to drive improvement.
- Resilient, tenacious and outcome focussed.
- Ability to respond quickly and innovatively to manage and enhance reputation.

Benchmarking

Council:	Title:	Salary (£):
Barking & Dagenham	Director of Strategy & Programmes	£131,757
Southampton	Chief Strategy Officer	£120 – 125k
Ealing	Director – Strategy & Engagement	£90,498
Lewisham	Head of Strategy	£93,624 - £98,682
Croydon	Director of Strategy & Partnerships	£100 - £105k
Nottingham	Corporate Director Strategy & Resources	£80 - £85k