

GOVERNMENT OFFICE FOR THE EAST OF ENGLAND

Development and Infrastructure Directorate

Transport Lead

Vacancy ref.	GOE 2008 - 040
Job Title	Transport Lead, Regional Planning and Strategy Team
Grade	G7
Salary	£42,879 - £53,868 + £450 recruitment and retention allowance
Employment Status	Permanent and voluntary
Closing date	19 December 2008
Location	Government Office for the East of England, Eastbrook, Shaftesbury Road, Cambridge, CB2 2DF.
Interview Date	19 January 2009

Background

The East of England has a population of some 5.6m. and covers the counties of Bedfordshire, Cambridgeshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Suffolk & Norfolk. With significant parts of three growth areas - London Stansted Cambridge Peterborough, Milton Keynes South Midlands, and Thames Gateway - and four new growth points – Haven Gateway, Kings Lynn, Norwich & Thetford, it is the fastest growing region outside London.

The Government Office for the East of England (GO-East) delivers national policies and programmes in the region on behalf of Ministers, and in turn provides a regional input to Government policy delivery. The Development and Infrastructure Division is responsible for delivering the Government's agenda for housing, planning and transport in the region.

We are strengthening and restructuring the Regional Planning & Strategies Team under head of Regional Planning, Michael Hargreaves. The expanded team will consist of three elements:

- Regional Transport, where the Transport Lead (this post) supported by an HPTO will lead on transport issues at the strategic and regional level and drive, manage and support the local transport work in the geographic teams;
- Regional Planning (where in parallel with recruiting to this post we are recruiting to fill a newly created G7 Regional Planning team leader post supported by a Senior Planning Officer, SEO and EO); and

- Regional Housing, led by the Division's G7 Housing Lead, who leads on housing issues at the strategic and regional level and manages and supports the local housing delivery work done in the Division's three geographic delivery teams.

Role

The new post holder will be responsible for driving the Government Office's role in shaping the transport planning of the region and the evidential base underpinning it. Central to the transport challenge in the region is to promote a continuing shift to sustainable transport, facilitate the planned high growth in the region, while managing and mitigating the congestion /pressures on the region's networks. This challenge will require close and effective partnership working with a wide range of agencies, particularly the East of England Regional Assembly, East of England Development Agency, local authorities, the Highways Agency and Network Rail. It requires a strong and effective working relationship with DfT policy sections and to Ministers. It also requires an approach to transport work, which is fully integrated with the wider Government Office agenda, including sustainable development, economic development and the growth agenda.

A crucial part of the job will be matrix management of the transport delivery work done within the 3 geographic teams.

While not necessarily a transport professional, you will need to work closely with and speak the language of transport planners.

Main Duties

- Leading GO-East work on transport, including through matrix management / leadership of local transport delivery work carried out by staff in the Division's three geographic teams and working through and representing the GO at a range of regional transport partnerships.
- Ensuring the delivery of Department for Transport policy within the region eg in regard to Towards a Sustainable Transport System, the review and development of the next generation of Local Transport Plans, provision for cycling, and road safety.
- Working with regional partners to ensure the development of an adequate evidential base for key transport investments.
- Working with the Regional Planning team leader to support the East of England Regional Assembly (EERA) in developing the monitoring and evidential base to support the early focussed review of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the East of England. The main focus of the review will be rolling the strategy forward to cover the 2021-2031 period, developing and appraising spatial options for achieving higher growth. Your role will be to ensure that the review reflects a full understanding of transport constraints, opportunities and impacts.
- Ensuring a high level of performance in providing Ministerial briefing and addressing Ministerial correspondence on transport issues.

Essential Competencies

Leadership and people management

- Sets the purpose and priorities of the team and ensures they are communicated and understood.
- Creates a culture in which learning and effective career development, knowledge sharing, continuous improvement and effective change management are the norm.

Strategic thinking

- Demonstrates an understanding of relevant local, regional and national issues and ensures that processes and policies are integrated.
- Encourages a culture that applies creativity in the delivery of the organisations' strategies.

Delivering results

- Identifies and develops/facilitates relationships with key stakeholders, both internally and externally.

Programme and project management

- Manages and monitors project activities, risks and opportunities, and takes action to keep projects/programmes on track.

Desirable competencies

Professional knowledge and experience

- A professional transport planner qualified to degree level.
- Experience including in regard to transport modelling and the formulation & appraisal of spatial development and transport options.
- Experience at commissioning and driving the work of consultants.

For Further Information contact:

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Application forms available from and to be sent to:

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