

Director of Planning and Strategic Transport

The Director of Planning and Strategic Transport will play a key role in the Council's Extended Leadership Team (ELT) in leading and delivering corporate objectives. Each member of the ELT will be responsible for the technical delivery of their roles and the corporate competencies, while living and promoting the corporate values through their day-to-day work.

Reports to: Executive Director of Place

Responsibility for: Strategic Planning, Development Management, Building Control, Strategic Transport, Spatial Planning, Area-based delivery of the Council's 'place' plans.

With reference to the pay arrangements for Director posts this post has a 'high' level of weight on:

- Decision making - and the extent to which the post holder makes decisions without further authority
- Reputational impact – and the degree to which the Council's reputation is impacted by extreme positive or negative performance of the services that the postholder is responsible for
- Strategic impact externally – taking into account the extent to which the postholder contributes and enables the strategic outcomes of liveability, growth and independence, the relative importance of the outcome and political context

Job Purpose:

You will work as part of the Extended Leadership Team with a direct report into the Executive Director of Place. You will take full responsibility for all matters relating to strategic planning, development management, strategic transport, building control, development management; and the delivery of the Council's area-based 'place' plans.

You will work closely with the Corporate Leadership Team (CLT) to limit the impact on front line services even when faced with a significant reduction in resources.

Key Stakeholder Relationships:

Internal: Councillors, Corporate Leadership Team, and Council Directors

External: Government Departments, National Consultation Groups, Strategic Partners, Other Local Authorities, Trade Unions, MPs, Partner Organisations, Professional Bodies

Statutory Responsibilities:

This role has no assigned statutory responsibilities.

Political Restrictions:

This post is politically restricted and under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989, as amended by the Local Democracy, Economic Development and Construction Act 2009 and the post holder may not have any active political role either in or outside the work.

Delegated Authority:

The post holder is required to be on call as part of a Chief Officer on-call rota.

Key Outcomes:

To create a place where people and businesses want to be

To enable more local people to access a wider range of jobs

To grow a thriving and lovely cultural offer which engages communities and supports regeneration

To provide a decent, safe and affordable home for every local resident who needs one

To create a place that communities are proud of and want to look after as their neighbourhood

To create a place where people are safe and feel safe

To build a place that is easy and safe for all to get to and move around in

Key Deliverables:

- Planning Policy Framework for Growth - Responsible for creating and maintaining a robust Planning Policy Framework for Growth which enables the authority to realise its growth ambitions and protect the heritage and distinctiveness of the borough; and that is in line with relevant Central Government policy, legislation and guidance and which flows from and feeds into the Council's vision to ensure that the borough is best placed to realise its growth ambitions.

- Enable Growth - ensure a high quality, timely and effective Development Management and Building Control services which comply with legislation, and meets the needs of residents and developers.
- Transport Infrastructure for Growth – lead a responsive Strategic Transport function ensuring that the authority is represented to best effect at local, regional and national levels to ensure Croydon has effective transport infrastructure
- Responsible for promoting high quality design and architecture in the built environment including conservation of the borough’s heritage both preserving existing conservation sites / buildings and identifying and protecting new ones.
- Responsible for ensuring that Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and S106 powers are used to best effect for the Authority and that agreements are discharged in line with relevant guidance /legislation and best practice.
- Ensure delivery of a high quality, timely development management service that meets the needs of residents, developers and the Council’s statutory obligations as the Planning Authority which meets delivery and income targets.
- Ensure delivery of a suitable and effective planning enforcement function, identifying and remedying breaches of the development control process.
- Ensure delivery of a high quality, timely and competitive building control service that meets resident and developer need and delivery against income targets, which discharges the Council’s responsibility as laid out in Central Government Legislation and Guidance, including provision of a responsive Dangerous Structures response on a 365 day per year, 24 hours a day basis.
- Engage with colleagues and partners on strategic transport issues to ensure that the borough’s best interests are represented at a national, regional and local level with regards to policy development, funding and consultation.
- Ensure effective, timely and meaningful community consultation and stakeholder engagement in all relevant aspects of the Planning, Strategic Transport or Building Control service
- To operate within the governance, financial and legal frameworks of the Council at all times

Specific Minimum Qualifications and Expertise

- Full membership of the RTPI or qualified by skills and experience to secure full RTPI membership
- Proven ability to lead a strategic team at a similar level through customer services and leadership capability
- Significant experience of working at a senior level in a large organisation
- Developed expertise in delivery of effective Planning, and/or Strategic Transport.
- Excellence in team management and service delivery in relation to the provision of customer orientated services, including the ability to manage departmental relationships

- Significant track record in executing team and individual performance effectively
- Embedded communication ability both upwards and downwards within an organisation and externally to improve service delivery

Leadership Framework

Our leadership framework follows the principles of a competency framework and all of our leaders are expected to demonstrate these through their application process.

Developing Oneself – You demonstrate the values every day, you are passionate about the services you lead and deliver the vision and outcomes of Croydon Council. You are inspirational and engage others through personal leadership making the vision understandable to everyone.

Inspiring and Developing People – You identify talent and develop their capability to ensure a committed and motivated workforce, you create a culture based on the corporate values and ensure staff and stakeholders deliver a desired outcome.

Collaborating and Influencing for Results – You are challenging and innovative in your approach to driving high standards and value for money, you trust and respect staff and partners and empower them to be courageous to try new approaches.

Enabling and Facilitating the Community – You create effective collaboration between stakeholders, establish relationships and understand others perspectives. You are open and honest with others. You build a shared sense of purpose across Croydon, ensuring delivery and a collective use of resources

Corporate Values

Our values are the base of every job role within Croydon – our values are fundamental in everything we do as a Local Authority. You are required to demonstrate a commitment to our corporate values and this will be assessed using the criteria below:



One Team: To cross boundaries to work together towards shared goals with colleagues, partners and communities

- You are strategically innovative in your approach to building and maintaining partnerships and you and your teams act in a joint enterprise with them. You use your contacts and colleagues to bring teams together.

Proud to Serve: We strive to always do our best for the community, getting the most from limited resources and using taxpayers' money wisely

- You are proud to be part of the wider Croydon and the contribution you and your teams make to it. You make a difference to people's lives through engagement and you strive to get the best possible value for money for customers.

Honest and Open: We work hard to build trust by treating everyone with honesty and integrity

- You think through who needs to understand what during communication; and take care to communicate detail clearly. You take people's views into account continuously. You trust people, colleagues and staff, to do their best and deal with any issues positively.

Taking Responsibility: We encourage and support each other to take responsibility and show what we can do, learning together and recognising each others' contributions

- You are clear where formal accountability lies and where we can all take responsibility for results. You praise your colleagues for their efforts and ideas and thank them for their contributions.

Valuing Diversity: We make the most of the many perspectives that make Croydon distinctive

- You treat all staff and customers with equal value and respect. In everything you do, you make good use of the wide variety of background, skills and perspective your teams, the Council and the community demonstrate.

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TAKING
RESPONSIBILITY