



Job Summary Overview

Job title	Technical Lead Strategic Planner (NSIPs)
Career family	Place, Public Protection & Regulatory
Professional pathway	Planning
Career family level	Technical / Professional Expert or Specialist (Tier 6)
Grade	13
Reports to	Team Leader, Strategic Planning and Infrastructure
Financial responsibility	N/A
Supervisory responsibility	Technical supervision of strategic planners and assistant
Reference number	

Job Summary

The purpose of this job is to ensure the County's priorities and requirements are secured with respect to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) in Oxfordshire.

As a host authority, the County Council is a statutory consultee and has an important role to play in the Development Consent Order (DCO) process. Although not the decision maker, where appropriate we aim to influence and improve NSIP proposals. We are consulted on key documents including Statements of Community Consultation, the Scoping Process, the Preliminary Environmental Information Report and the Environmental Statement. As part of the DCO process, the County Council will also be involved in the examination process, Statements of Common Ground, submission of Adequacy of Consultation reports and Local Impact Reports. Working closely with the district councils, we also aim to maximise the community benefits from NSIP proposals.

As NSIP Technical Lead, the post holder will be accountable for managing the County Council's input to NSIP applications in Oxfordshire. This will involve:

- Liaising with and providing technical advice to colleagues covering different disciplines across the County Council such as transport, archaeology, drainage, ecology, landscape, minerals and waste.
- Have a leading role in liaison and joint working with district councils.
- Leading on NSIP Planning Performance Agreements (PPAs) to ensure opportunities for providing chargeable planning advice on NSIPs in the County are maximised.
- Responding to statutory and non-statutory consultations throughout the DCO process.
- Briefing elected members and senior management on NSIP proposals and the County Council's responses to them.
- Directly engaging with the applicant to influence proposals.
- Leading on the County's involvement in the NSIP examination process.



- Supporting and enabling colleagues across Strategic Planning, including providing specialist advice, training and support to colleagues.
- The postholder will be expected to act as a specialist technical advisor to the Directorate on matters of NSIPs.
- The role will require working with members of the Senior Leadership Team, other Senior Officers, Members, Suppliers, Communities and other Partners, therefore being able to build working relationships and effectively communicate complex, professional advice on NSIPs is vital.
- The NSIP Technical Lead will be responsible for ensuring that all relevant County Council policies and procedures are adhered to, and concerns are raised in accordance with these policies.
- Liaise with other County Council staff and provide professional advice to developers as part of the County Council's input to pre-application discussions on NSIP proposals as required, including through the use of Planning Performance Agreements.
- Contribute to statutory documents related to NSIPs

Specific requirements	Essential <i>Mark with ✓</i>	Desirable <i>Mark with ✓</i>
Educated to degree level (Level 6 or above) in planning, geography, public policy, or a related discipline, or substantial relevant experience in strategic planning.	✓	
Member (or eligible for membership) of an appropriate professional body (e.g., Royal Town Planning Institute).	✓	
Experience in working on development sites, master planning and planning aspects.	✓	
Proven ability to work and consult with a wide range of stakeholders, including senior councillors, public, managers, and external partners.	✓	
Sound knowledge of current planning legislation, policy frameworks, and statutory consultation processes.	✓	
Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to draft strategic planning comments, brief senior managers and councillors, and represent the council at meetings and public events.	✓	
Strong analytical skills, ability to interpret complex data, and excellent organisational skills to manage competing priorities.	✓	
Experience in digital planning, spatial modelling, or the development and implementation of digital tools for strategic planning.	✓	
Ability to work independently, manage own workload, and remain resilient under pressure.	✓	
Evidence of a proactive approach to continuous professional development.		✓
Experience representing an organisation at regional or national events, conferences, or forums.		✓
Experience mentoring or supporting the development of junior staff or non-planning teams.		✓



Working Arrangements

- The post is not politically restricted.
- Standard DBS check required
- Contractual base as detailed on contract, but you are able to work on a flexible basis in line with our Agile Working Policy.
- Able to travel across the county and work from various office locations within the county.

Health and Safety at Work

All employees have responsibilities for health and safety – both for themselves, colleagues and the people we work with.

The potential significant hazard(s) and risk(s) for this post are identified below (those ticked).

☐	Provision of personal care on a regular basis	☐	Driving HGV or LGV for work
☐	Regular manual handling (which includes assisting, manoeuvring, pushing and pulling) of people (including pupils) or objects	☐	Any other frequent driving or prolonged driving at work activities (e.g. long journeys driving own private vehicle or a council vehicle for work purposes)
☐	Working at height/ using ladders on a regular/ repetitive basis	☒	Restricted postural change – prolonged sitting
☐	Lone working on a regular basis	☐	Restricted postural change – prolonged standing
☐	Night work	☐	Regular/repetitive bending/ squatting/ kneeling/crouching
☐	Rotating shift work	☐	Manual cleaning/ domestic duties
☒	Working on/ or near a road	☐	Regular work outdoors
☒	Significant use of computers (display screen equipment)	☐	Work with vulnerable children or vulnerable adults
☐	Undertaking repetitive tasks	☒	Working with challenging behaviours
☐	Continual telephone use (call centres)	☐	Regular work with skin irritants/ allergens
☐	Work requiring hearing protection (exposure to noise above action levels)	☐	Regular work with respiratory irritants/ allergens (exposure to dust, fumes, chemicals, fibres)
☐	Work requiring respirators or masks	☐	Work with vibrating tools/ machinery
☐	Work involving food handling	☐	Work with waste, refuse
☐	Potential exposure to blood or bodily fluids	☒	Face-to-face contact with members of the public
☐	Other (please specify):		