Somerset Council

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title	Engineer - Highway Design		
Directorate	Infrastructure & Transport		
Reporting to	Principal Engineer - Highway Design		
Grade	11		
Evaluation ref:	AG0568 Job Family ref:		

Role purpose

Acts as designer for a wide range of highway improvement projects commissioned to the service (including but not limited to Safety, Active Travel, Rural Mobility, Electric Vehicle projects) using a combination of professional and technical knowledge and interpersonal skills, including consultation and negotiation.

Responsibilities

- Provides design inputs to major highway improvement projects.
- Acts as designer for a wide range of highway improvement projects commissioned to the service (including Safety, Active Travel, Rural Mobility, Electric Vehicle projects and major multi-million pound highway projects) using a combination of professional and technical knowledge and interpersonal skills, including consultation and negotiation.
- Performs the role of a Designer under the Construction Design and Management Regulations 2015 and all associated duties. Duties include
 - o ensuring that the client is aware of their duties
 - taking all reasonable steps to provide, with the design, sufficient information about the design,
 - construction or maintenance of the asset, to adequately assist the client, other designers and contractors to comply with their duties
 - considering the general principles of prevention and any pre-construction information to eliminate, so far as is reasonably practicable, foreseeable risks to health or safety, controlling the risks through the subsequent design process
- Undertakes feasibility appraisal for small/ minor improvement projects, including desktop analysis of environmental constraints and produces environmental appraisal report (e.g. flood risk / water management areas, historic environment, biodiversity / ecology, noise / air quality, other factors as appropriate e.g. sensitive receptors). Identifies and sifts options against appraisal methodology and produces options report. Commissions and draws in any specialist inputs such as traffic modelling. Supports the calculation of cost estimates.
- Undertakes feasibility design for small/ minor improvement projects, commissioning relevant inputs including topographical survey, utility enquiries, and ground investigations in order to conclude preliminary layout, high level drainage design, and identification of any land requirements. Identifies any network changes required and associated legal mechanisms.



- Undertakes outline and detailed design of selected option(s) for small/ minor improvement projects, supporting the commissioning of any specialist inputs including horizontal/ Vertical Alignment, Pavement/ Footway construction, Drainage, Structures, Street Lighting, Signals, Traffic Signs, Traffic Regulation Orders, Landscaping, Statutory Undertaker Works, Road Restraint Systems, Geotechnical Elements / Earthworks. Takes these inputs into account and assists in the production of Bills of Quantities.
- Engages in Early Contractor Involvement throughout scheme design to take on board opportunities for value engineering, innovation and buildability
- Commissions Road Safety Audits at relevant stages of scheme design and delivery. Reviews the outputs/ recommendations of these audits and formulates a response and report in collaboration with the Project Sponsor.
- Respond to Design Queries during construction and any Requests for Information (RFIs), maintaining an up-to-date drawing register, and ensuring the production/ compilation of As Built drawings. Produces Health & Safety Plan/ File.
- Supports the technical auditing of minor/small third-party designs, being responsible for the review of highway design disciplines including horizontal and vertical alignment.
- Provides advice, guidance and support to Senior Officers, Professionals, Managers, colleagues and external organisations including parties, on a variety of highway issues including highway design standards, current highway legislation and legal agreements, environmental impacts and political awareness. Ensures, under supervision of a senior engineer, that the statutory requirements of the Council as the highway authority are met.
- Supports the identification and quantification of project risks, and ensures arrangements are put in place for their management. In particular, supports the production and maintenance of scheme Quantified Risk Assessments.
- Supports the pre-construction phase of small/ minor improvement projects, working in collaboration with others to identify the preferred procurement strategy/route for scheme delivery. Under supervision, develops the Specification and Works Information/ Scope in the required format, and prepares any necessary legal orders.
- Supports the commissioning of highway design services through call-off contracts as necessary. Identifies performance matters and supports others in the use of contract management mechanisms as necessary to ensure that the work supplied meets time, cost and quality objectives. Integrates the inputs from these commissions into scheme designs.
- Contribute to or lead on key aspects of projects and/or policy development work with key stakeholders as agreed with the Manager/Senior Officer. Monitors project performance and liaises with Senior Officer to agree and support the implementation of any change initiatives required.
- Undertake preliminary investigations into minor contractual/technical issues, advising Senior Officers on the findings and have involvement with decision regarding any action to be taken.



Impact

Contacts & Relationships

- Within the Council, there are frequent meetings with staff across Infrastructure and Transport, the purpose of which will be to receive instruction, exchange advice and information, provide guidance, attend and participate in briefing meetings and working groups. May also be required to attend meetings with team members from outside the Directorate.
- 2. A wide range of organisations, including those with whom the Council contracts, other local authorities, Government Departments at National and Regional level, as well as private organisations. The purpose of these contacts can be to research, provide, obtain and analyse information or to discuss and undertake basic negotiations/ discussions on various highway issues.
- 3. Service Managers, other internal staff to provide advice, guidance, direction and support.
- 4. Consultants and specialist advisers to coordinate and incorporate inputs involved in the development of highway scheme designs.
- 5. Under supervision of senior engineer, engage with contractors/ sub-contractors to assist in dealing with design queries and Requests for Information (RFIs).
- Professional and technical staff within the Council in respect of matters
 associated with highway design to assist in ensuring effective design and
 delivery of highway schemes.
- 7. Programme and Project Managers in respect of matters associated with engineering design to support project delivery.

Resources

- 1. Contribute to decisions relating to budget and resource management by inputting local and technical knowledge.
- 2. Develop Bills of Quantities for prospective highway improvement schemes.
- 3. Responsible for requisitioning and approving goods/services up to limits defined within Somerset Council's Scheme of Delegation appropriate to grade.
- 4. May be involved in inter-service, multi-disciplinary collaborative working, working alongside and supporting other professional engineering officers, support staff and staff within and external to the Council.
- 5. Drafting of Task Orders (both for work commissioned through Construction and Engineering Consultancy contracts), maintaining an overview of work delivered.

Essential	Desirable	



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Knowledge & Skills				
 Use engineering knowledge and understanding to apply technical and practical skills Review and select appropriate techniques, procedures and methods to undertake tasks. Use appropriate scientific, technical or engineering principles. 	x			
 Contribute to the design, development, construction, commissioning, operation or maintenance of products, equipment, processes, systems or services Identify problems and apply appropriate methods to identify causes and achieve satisfactory solutions. Identify, organise and use resources effectively to complete tasks, with consideration for cost, quality, safety, security and environmental impact. 	X			
 Personal responsibility Identify tasks and organise resources to complete them effectively. Work reliably and accept responsibility for their work or the work of others. Complete tasks with due consideration for quality. 	x			
 Commercial Ability Shows an understanding of the commercial considerations within their own area of responsibility. 	х			
 Health, Safety and Welfare Understand the safety implications of the role Complete tasks with due consideration for safety Comply with safe systems of work. 	x			
 Sustainable Development Understand the principles of sustainable development and apply them in work. 	х			
Make a personal commitment to an appropriate code of professional conduct, recognising	х			



abligations to assist, the profession and the				
obligations to society, the profession and the				
environment				
Carry out and record the Continuing				
Professional Development (CPD) necessary to				
maintain and enhance competence in their own				
area of practice.				
 Understand the ethical issues that may arise in 				
their role and carry out their responsibilities in				
an ethical manner.				
Experience				
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Some practical experience of				
 technical highway design, and use of 				
relevant standards, including DMRB,				
TSRGD, TSM and Manual for Streets	X			
 application of Construction Design and 	^			
Management Regulations 2015				
 scheme feasibility assessment, including 				
report production and cost estimation"				
Awareness of current issues impacting upon				
local government, including need for good		X		
management of public assets and provision of		^		
value for money.				
Qualifications / Registrations / Certifications				
Level 2 qualified equivalent to 5 GCSE's grade				
A-C, including Maths and English.	X			
Level 3 qualified equivalent to 3 A Levels.				
Working towards Level 5 qualification.				
Working towards an Engineering or Transport				
related qualification or equivalent professional		X		
accreditation.				
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Working Conditions

Mainly desk based, with some site visits.

Working Arrangements

Somerset Council's dynamic Working Strategy will be applied to this position.

Corporate Responsibilities

Understand, uphold and promote the aims of the council's equality, diversity and inclusion policies; health, safety and wellbeing of self and others; and Organisational values in everything you do. Equality and Diversity practice covers



both interaction with staff, service users and communities and includes challenging discrimination and promoting equality of opportunity for all.

Date: April 2025