

JOB DESCRIPTION

Job Title	ECI Programme Engineer		
Directorate	Infrastructure & Transport		
Reporting to	Service Manager – Highways and Transport Asset Management		
Grade	9		
Evaluation ref:	AU1035	Job ref:	Family EST09
Role purpose			
<p>As the Economic and Community Infrastructure (ECI) Programme Engineer, you'll be instrumental in co-ordinating and delivering Somerset Council's capital-funded highways structural maintenance programme. This vital role involves comprehensive co-ordination, ensuring not only the efficient execution of our own projects but also integration with other Somerset Council programmes. You'll be the central point for aligning our maintenance and improvement programmes with each other and with Somerset Council's Street Works and Road Closures Teams. Ultimately minimising disruption and optimising infrastructure improvements for our communities.</p>			
Responsibilities			
<p>As a senior technical professional, develop and co-ordinate works programmes for asset maintenance across all asset types owned and maintained by Somerset County Council. Identify, prioritise, optimise, programme and deliver individual schemes to meet the annual budgets developed by the authority, with the support of lifecycle planning processes.</p> <p>Identify candidate schemes and initial/final programmes for each asset group across ECI Service Areas. These may be identified from the following sources of data and information:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Asset data including results from inspections and condition surveys including SCANNER, Principal Inspections to structures, Footway Network Surveys, structural and electrical testing of street lighting and illuminated traffic signs, and general service inspections. • Surveys where the primary objective is not to assess asset condition, such as safety inspections. These may provide useful information on the performance of assets as well as identifying risks. • Local knowledge from operational staff involved in managing the network, including inspectors and contractors. Typically, this may include information on drainage, signs and lines and those areas of the network that are inspected or surveyed less frequently. • Stakeholder needs, particularly those aspects of the service that are important to the local community. • Complaints and areas where there are many personal injury accident claims. • Wider transport and corporate objectives. 			

JOB DESCRIPTION

Prioritise, co-ordinate and implement works programmes for each asset group in each of the ECI Service Areas, with a typical budget in excess of £30m each year. Major assets are defined as carriageways, footways, street lighting, highways structures, traffic signals and systems, and public rights of way.

Assets most in need of maintenance are:

- Safety critical.
- Carry a high level of risk, such as highly trafficked principal roads.
- Those with a condition at or below the specified intervention level.
- Have keen stakeholder interest.
- Support the corporate vision.

Take a whole asset, whole life approach, select and optimise schemes and treatment types for the forward programme. These may include:

- Minimise occupation of the network. Co-ordinate other works programmes and integrated transport projects on related parts of the network, to minimise disruption to users and maximise benefits to the community.
- Deliver efficiencies by combining activities and delivering them together, eg schemes identified as being in close proximity from the forward works programme but shown in different years.

Select schemes for annual programme based on budget. Ensure that effective financial planning and budgetary monitoring are in place and acted upon.

Work with managers with responsibility for each asset type, derive and deliver the forward programme which comprises schemes for each asset programmed to be carried out within the next three to five years.

Monitor and co-ordinate the County Council's Transport and Highways Capital Works Programme and the progress of all schemes across the Highway Operations Team. Lead in discussions/negotiations with functional Team Leaders on appropriate adjustments following whole scheme reviews and to authorise contract variations to budget and delivery times in accordance with agreed Key Performance.

Foster effective and constructive working relationships with internal teams to deliver continuous improvement to identify and deliver the Highways Capital Works Programme.

Assist in preparing Service Area reports for various audiences including Cabinet, Scrutiny Committee Meetings, Somerset Rivers Authority, Programme Management Office and Highway Managers.

Lead on positive and proactive communications of the works programme before, during and after the delivery phase with internal and external stakeholders, eg, the media, County Councillors, Parish and Town Councils, other Service Areas by email, letter, social media, television and radio.

JOB DESCRIPTION

Lead on Health and Safety in compliance with the County Councils risk assessments and the requirements of the Construction (Design and Management) Regulations 2015 (CDM), as part of the planning, programming and delivery of the works programme.

Provide specialist technical advice and direction on matters relating to highway and transport asset management. Lead on service improvement to implement the Highways Maintenance Efficiency Programme (HMEP) agenda. Work with ECI Highways and Transport Commissioning and respond to the Department for Transport's annual Local Highways Incentive Fund self-assessment. Maintain SCC's Band 3 Score, in order to ensure retention of SCC's full capital allocation from government.

Lead on implementing the Highways Asset Improvement Action Plan. Identify areas for improvement in each asset type and work with managers to implement changes. The Plan will utilise HMEP guidance, the recommendations of the Well-Managed Highway Infrastructure Code of Practice document, the Local Highways Incentive Fund areas of assessment, bench marking, performance data and customer satisfaction (such as NHT survey), and knowledge of Best Practice.

Co-ordinate the development of an asset management competency framework for ECI Operations, as described in the HMEP Asset Management Guidance and SCC Asset Management Framework documents. Identify opportunities for better asset management practice through training and professional development.

Impact

Contacts & Relationships

Regular direct contact with the Service manager - Highways & Transport Asset Management and members of the ECI Teams to recommend solutions, present plans and jointly resolve problems and priorities. Occasional contact with the ECI Commissioning and Operations Director and elected Members to provide explanations and interpretations and offer solutions to problems presented.

External contacts with a range of senior representatives with Government Departments and Agencies, other Local Authorities, Solicitors and other Senior Professionals, District and Local Councils, contractors and other private sector companies.

Provide asset information and data of a range of asset types on behalf of ECI Commissioning and Operations.

Deputise, as required, for the Service Manager - Highway and Transport Asset Management in their absence.

Resources

JOB DESCRIPTION

Manage one Technician and guide and advise administrative, technical, and trainee staff across the Service Area.

Deliver a programme of work for ECI Operations with budgets typically in excess of £30m per annum, which will include all asset types.

Work jointly with the Structural Maintenance Engineer and in liaison with the Service Managers and other team leaders to ensure that projects and schemes are delivered on time and within budget.

	Essential	Desirable	
Knowledge			
Understanding of civil engineering principles and practices (E).	X		
Knowledge of relevant legislation, regulations, and standards in the construction and infrastructure sector (E).	X		
Familiarity with project management methodologies and tools (E).	X		
Understanding of budgeting and financial management in the context of infrastructure projects (E).	X		
Awareness of the latest technological advancements in the field of civil engineering (D).		X	
Knowledge of sustainable development practices and principles (D).		X	
Experience			
Proven experience in managing infrastructure projects from inception to completion (E).	X		
Experience in coordinating with multiple stakeholders, including contractors, consultants, and local communities (E).	X		
Demonstrated experience in budget management and resource allocation (E).	X		
Experience in conducting risk assessments and implementing mitigation strategies (E).	X		

JOB DESCRIPTION

Previous experience working within a local government or public sector organisation (D).		X	
Experience in promoting and implementing equality, diversity, and inclusion initiatives (D).		X	
Qualifications / Registrations / Certifications			
Bachelor's degree in civil engineering (or a related field) or equivalent experience in the highways sector	X		
Continuous professional development in relevant areas of civil engineering		X	
Project Management certification or equivalent		X	
Formal training in health and safety management		X	
Skills			
Excellent project management and organisational skills	X		
Strong analytical and problem-solving abilities	X		
Effective communication and interpersonal skills	X		
Ability to work collaboratively with diverse stakeholders	X		
Proficiency in using project management software and tools	X		
Commitment to upholding high standards of health, safety, and wellbeing	X		
Innovative thinking and the ability to develop creative solutions		X	
Strong negotiation and conflict resolution skills		X	
Proficiency in data analysis and reporting		X	
Ability to adapt to changing priorities and manage multiple projects simultaneously		X	
Working Conditions			

JOB DESCRIPTION

This post is a permanent, full-time role, working 37 hours a week. The working day is typically 9 – 5, but some evening work may be required on occasions.

The role is based at County Hall, Taunton. Some travel is required for the role, such as to visit sites around the county, and to attend meetings with stakeholders and contractors.

Working Arrangements

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

Corporate Responsibilities

Ensure compliance with all relevant legislation, organisational policy, and professional codes of conduct to uphold standards of best practice.

Deliver 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, ensuring team members are also aware of their responsibilities and maintaining their understanding that 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: May 2025