

Kent County Council

Job Description: *Principal Strategic Energy and Infrastructure Officer*

Directorate:	Growth, Environment and Transport
Unit/Section:	Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Service
Grade:	KR11
Responsible to:	Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Manager

Purpose of the Job:

To play a leading role in understanding the strategic energy needs across the County, including the impact of growth on energy provision and promoting the County's future energy infrastructure needs and priorities. Your work will include working with colleagues across the Council to establish the County's long term energy needs, the infrastructure required in response and how this can be done in a Net Zero 2050 context. You will take the lead in liaising with energy providers and internal and external stakeholders and establishing the County Council's position on energy supply and security.

Main duties and responsibilities:

- Play a leading role in liaising with external (for example local authorities, energy providers, network operators and landowners) and internal stakeholders (for example colleagues from the environment and the economy teams) to gain an understanding of the strategic energy and supporting infrastructure needs across the County and Kent's response to those needs.
- Prepare, deliver, review and promote the Council's first Energy Strategy. You will develop an accurate assessment of the County's strategic energy needs and the strategy will be expected to set out the County Council's approach to meeting these needs in the context of Net Zero 2050.
- To support work on specific energy provision projects with colleagues and relevant stakeholders which will vary in type, scale and complexity to ensure the County Council's energy needs and priorities are met and understood. These projects could include liaising with large energy users (for example the ports) to understand their energy needs, or looking strategically at the energy needs for growth across an area.
- To contribute to the Infrastructure Mapping Platform, which is a mapping platform that lays out the County's planned growth and its consequent infrastructure needs. Your role will be to collaboratively lead the preparation of an accurate assessment of energy needs, the options for the necessary infrastructure provision in response, alongside potential costs, and planning and delivery mechanisms.
- Work with colleagues and relevant stakeholders by supporting and influencing energy and low carbon project work to support the Kent Environment Strategy and the Kent and Medway Energy and Low Emissions Strategy and their associated implementation plans.
- Having an understanding of the current planning framework and emerging policy and legislation in regard to energy provision, to work with specific Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects relating to renewable and alternative energy provision.

- Brief and advise colleagues at all levels, including senior managers and Elected Members, giving presentations and providing written reports as required, to ensure that they are fully informed of energy needs, issues and provision across the County and ensuring good practice is shared and understood.
- Carry out any other duties as required commensurate with the responsibility and grading of the post.

Footnote: This job description is provided to assist the job holder to know what their main duties are. It may be amended from time to time without change to the level of responsibility appropriate to the grade of post.

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Person Specification: *Principal Strategic Energy and Infrastructure Officer*

The following outlines the criteria for this post. Applicants who have a disability and who meet the criteria will be shortlisted.

Applicants should describe in their application how they meet these criteria.

	CRITERIA
QUALIFICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Educated to degree level or strong and relevant experience of working in a related field
EXPERIENCE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Experience of working in teams with a range of partner organisations and agencies• Experience of managing projects, research and presenting data• Experience of energy efficiency, renewable energy or low carbon related project work, including working on projects of significant complexity• Experience of working with, understanding and drafting policies• Experience of working in a political environment• Experience of working in a planning environment
SKILLS AND ABILITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outstanding numerical and writing skills and an eye for detail are essential• Ability to analyse and research information to inform project decision making• Excellent communication and interpersonal skills and a proven track record of working well within teams and building effective working relationships with internal and external stakeholders• Aptitude for learning and understanding technical information• Ability to plan and prioritise workload to meet deadlines and to work with minimal direction with a proven track record in planning and delivering project activity• Commitment to equalities and promotion of diversity in all aspects of work
KNOWLEDGE	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Good knowledge and understanding of administrative and computer systems and report writing• Good understanding of the energy sector• Good understanding of environmental issues, energy generation / efficiency technological solutions or sustainability• Knowledge of wider challenges and opportunities faced by the public sector and KCC in the sustainability or energy field

KENT VALUES AND CULTURAL ATTRIBUTES	<p>Kent Values:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We are brave. We do the right thing, we accept and offer challenge • We are curious to innovate and improve • We are compassionate, understanding and respectful to all • We are strong together by sharing knowledge • We are all responsible for the difference we make <p>Our values enable us to build a culture that is:</p> <p>Flexible/agile - willing to take (calculated) risks and want people that are flexible and agile</p> <p>Curious - constantly learning and evolving</p> <p>Compassionate and Inclusive - compassionate, understanding and respectful to all</p> <p>Working Together - building and delivering for the best interests of Kent</p> <p>Empowering - Our people take accountability for their decisions and actions</p> <p>Externally Focused - Residents, families and communities at the heart of decision making</p>
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