

Job Profile Information: Senior Planning Officer (Level 4, Zone 1)

Role Purpose: To contribute to the provision of a responsive, high performing and high-quality Development Management Service with responsibility for the mentoring and supervision of planners at a more junior level and to take personal lead on a varied caseload including more complex, major and politically sensitive applications and pre-applications. To negotiate planning performance agreements, planning obligations and/or contributions through CIL/S106. Preparation of evidence for appeals including presenting at hearings, correspondence and other duties as may be required. To work on specific non-casework projects, such as projects aimed at supporting our digital strategy and tackling the climate crisis.

Example outcomes or objectives that this role will deliver:

- to carry out work that directly maintains and improves the quality of the physical environment of the borough and the lives of its residents
- to take responsibility for effective negotiation, stakeholder involvement and conflict resolution to ensure high quality and innovative outcomes that reflect Council wide objectives and policies
- to take personal responsibility and lead on a varied range of development management case work including the negotiation of planning performance agreements, pre-application advice and application processing.
- to lead on the negotiation of financial and other community benefits through legal agreements to be invested in the borough's built environment and infrastructure
- to lead on the preparation of evidence in respect of appeals including presenting evidence at public inquiries or hearings
- to ensure all Development Management decisions and enforcement action complies with relevant legislation, statutory and other Council plans, policies and guidelines and that these decisions can effectively defended in planning appeals as necessary
- to seek to ensure that all reports, correspondence, written and telephone enquiries and complaints are dealt with within target response times and that quality and content meet required standards
- to contribute innovatively to key digital projects and development of digital tools to improve efficiency in the planning process.

People Management Responsibilities:

- Direct responsibility for mentoring more junior members of staff and assisting with their professional development.

Relationships:

- Reports to an area Development Management team manager and Head of Development Management Service.
- Partnership working with other services within the Council and elsewhere e.g. sustainability, environmental and transport officers; developers and applicants; with residents/amenity groups; and elected members.

Work Environment:

- Home and office based with external meetings and site visits as required. Willingness to work outside normal office hours on occasion is essential.

Technical Knowledge and Experience:

- Degree level qualification and a diploma or post graduate qualification in Town Planning with eligibility for Membership of the Royal Town Planning Institute.
- Experience of working on complex issues in a role focussed on the physical environment;
- Thorough understanding of the nature and financial effects of the planning process and its effects on people and the environment in which they live;
- Thorough awareness of current and draft planning legislation at local, London regional and national levels;
- Ability to work as part of a team to deliver high quality developments, often in challenging socio-political contexts
- Experience of working with M3 Northgate is desirable but not essential.
- An aptitude for technology and data science is desirable.

Camden Way Five Ways of Working

In order to continue delivering for the people of Camden in the face of ever increasing financial pressure, we need to transform the way we do things. We call this the Camden Way. The Camden Way is a key part of our transformation strategy often referred to as the transformation triangle which links the Camden Plan, the Camden Way and the Financial Strategy together.

The Camden Way illustrates the approach that should underpin everything we do through five ways of working:

- Deliver for the people of Camden
- Work as one team
- Take pride in getting it right
- Find better ways
- Take personal responsibility

For further information on the Camden Way please visit:

<http://www.togetherwearecamden.com/pages/discover-jobs-and-careers-in-camden/working-for-camden/>