

Top Skills

Infrastructure Planning

Environmental Services Project
Management

Strategic Partnerships Manager

Summary

A strategic leader and chartered Town Planner with over fourteen years' experience in the UK growth and planning sector. A strong relationship manager with commercial awareness, responsible for developing and delivering integrated approaches to investment planning and delivery. Local lead for a national government pilot, developing an adaptive planning framework for resilient decision making in the context of climate and growth uncertainties. Extensive experience in engaging and harnessing the support of multiple stakeholders in developing and delivering joint outcomes. A broad range of skills from economic growth, planning policy and masterplanning to infrastructure planning, pipelining and business case development, strategic bid writing, project management and implementation.

Experience

Shropshire Council

Strategic Partnerships Manager

September 2021 - Present (3 years)

Delivering a holistic approach to major investment planning and programming. Leading an agenda that integrates Local Authority work in relation to infrastructure planning involving rivers, highways, rail, housing and others, ensuring a joined up approach that maximises economic, place making, environmental and sustainability opportunities.

Environment Agency

4 years 9 months

Growth Manager

May 2019 - July 2021 (2 years 3 months)

Programme managing the River Severn Partnership, leading a strategic partnership and systems thinking approach to managing Britain's longest river network, focused on integrated water management across flood, water resource and quality. Leading a UK national pilot for an adaptive pathway

approach, working with Defra and national leads to develop, test and share learning, to inform future ways of working. Securing investment of over £60million to accelerate environmental infrastructure delivery as part of Covid economic recovery and enabling a long term Climate Resilience Strategy for the region up to 2100. Relationship managing a 46 strong all party MP Caucus and leading ministerial briefings enabling political engagement and securing support. Securing senior level support across multiple organisations and formalising via agreed governance structures, maintaining ongoing joint strategic leadership. Leading national showcasing including presenting at the 2021 National Flood and Coast Conference and to the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors to share thought leadership on a future 'One Water' approach. Commissioning and managing technical consultancy support and working across multiple partners to develop tools and processes to embed integrated infrastructure planning and delivery. Managing the West Midlands Growth Team, developing cross business and cultural change around the Environment Agency's role in economic growth and working across partners to act as a catalyst for joint infrastructure planning and project delivery to create the right environmental conditions for economic and social prosperity.

Partnerships and Strategic Overview Lead

November 2016 - May 2019 (2 years 7 months)

Establishing strategic partnerships to maintain a robust infrastructure pipeline for the West Midlands regional flood risk management service. Securing over £5million contributions for integrated infrastructure delivery to manage flood risk and unlock growth. Identifying and showcasing the role environmental infrastructure has in protecting and increasing the viable use, value and productivity of land and other capital. Maximising investment opportunities and alternative delivery models through driving joint investment planning across partner organisations

Shropshire Council

7 years 4 months

Place Shaping and Strategic Coordinator

October 2015 - November 2016 (1 year 2 months)

Masterplanning of sites with developers and agents to ensure delivery of allocations. Liaison with agents to unlock sites and identify end users, with a focus on catering for business expansion and inward investment. Development of corporate governance arrangements to prioritise infrastructure projects and provide transparent decision making on the allocation of resources. Alignment

of funding mechanisms, such as CIL, S106 and the LEPs Local Growth Fund to maximise infrastructure delivery.

Principal Policy Officer

August 2009 - October 2015 (6 years 3 months)

Stakeholder engagement with wide range of national and local infrastructure providers, including utility companies, to identify needs and align investment around the delivery of agreed priorities. Establishment of the Council's approach to developer contributions, including preparation of the policy approach and project management processes for the use of funds. Development of local plan policies for both the Core Strategy and Management of Development DPDs, with particular focus on environmental policies such as Design, Water Management and Infrastructure Provision. Negotiation with developers to agree policy approach and site requirements for allocations, including onsite design and developer contributions, thereby easing the path through the planning application process. Appearance at Examination in Public for Core Strategy DPD, Site Allocations DPD and CIL Charging Schedule.

Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council

Planning Officer

February 2006 - August 2009 (3 years 7 months)

Development of planning policies and supplementary planning documents as part of the transition from a Local Plan to the Local Development Framework. Project management of numerous evidence based studies, including SHLAA, Water Cycle Study and SFRA. Detailed analysis of the findings, ensuring a robust information base to identify local issues and future needs. Provision of formal planning policy responses via written or oral communication to inform future development proposals and decisions at both pre-application and formal application stages. Appraisal of a range of future development options against sustainability objectives to identify the most appropriate approach to meeting local needs.

Education

Aberystwyth University

Bachelor of Arts - BA, Geography

Henley Business School

Master of Science - MS, Development Planning