

Principal Planning Officer

Salary: Band 10 £42,838 - £47,181 plus a market supplement payment of £4,259 p.a.
(Subject to review)

Hours: 37 hours per week

Contract: Permanent

Reporting to: Development Management Team leader

Why come & work for City Development in Portsmouth?

This is an exciting time to come and join our Service, we are busy with major infrastructure projects across the city and you will be part of the team that will be unlocking housing and regeneration opportunities to shape the future of Portsmouth. As the most densely populated city in the UK outside of London, Portsmouth has interesting and diverse challenges with internationally designated Harbours; the city brings together environmental attributes, historic assets and conservation areas, along with a vibrant seafront.

Portsmouth boasts excellent direct rail links to other cities, including London, and hosts lots of events all year round, creating exciting cultural opportunities. Portsmouth is a University City, and benefits from the investment into the growing educational offer. Portsmouth is the home port for the Royal Navy including the two new aircraft carriers.

What is the role?

You will be responsible for dealing with Major/PPA applications, with a modest number of minor cases in addition. You will report and present cases to Planning Committee and handle any associated appeals where necessary, as well as providing guidance and advice to a wide range of customers inside and outside of the organisation. You will provide support and advice to junior members of the development management team.

The Portsmouth development management team is committed to delivering a responsive customer-focused service that brings forward sustainable development that meets the housing and employment needs of the City.

The role will involve:

- Dealing with a diverse range of development proposals from pre application to post application stage, where necessary presenting the Council's case at appeal.
- Presenting cases to Planning Committee and responding to questions and providing advice as needed.

- Prepare reports and give professional advice to Members and committees/ panels on matters relating to the work of the team.
- Liaising closely with key stakeholders and statutory consultees;
- Liaising with the Planning Policy team as necessary to support delivery of the new Local Plan;
- Ensuring timely decision making that maintains the Council's excellent track record in meeting the target determination timeframes, if necessary through the use of PPA;
- Providing guidance and support to validation and the technical support staff as required.

Who is the person?

You need to be/have:

- A relevant planning qualification.
- Membership of the Royal Town Planning Institute.
- Knowledge of planning legislation and experience of working within Development Management.
- A clear understanding of the role development management plays in delivering regeneration.
- The ability to provide leadership on development management matters.
- A proven track record of successfully dealing with development proposals.
- Good understanding of local government, the political environment and sensitivities.
- Experience in dealing with enforcement.
- To demonstrate the ability to act as a catalyst for change and take forward new ideas.
- Highly developed communication and negotiation skills.
- Be able to demonstrate skill as an influencer and negotiator across a broad spectrum of people.
- Demonstrable understanding of performance management.
- Ability to apply a problem-solving approach to your work.
- Good communication and interpersonal skills and the ability to develop partnerships with other organisations. The ability to converse at ease with customers and provide advice in accurate spoken English is essential for the post.
- Ability to work on your own initiative and be well organised and self-motivated.

Additional Information

If you would like to discuss this role in more detail with the hiring manager, please contact Nick Lloyd-Davies: email: Nick.Lloyd-Davies@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR)

As part of any recruitment process, Portsmouth City Council collects and processes personal data relating to job applicants. Portsmouth City Council is committed to being transparent about how it collects and uses that data and to meeting its data protection obligations under the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR).

Completing and sending an application in for a vacancy is your consent for us to process your data for the purpose of recruitment. Your data is not used in any other way and you can withdraw your consent at any point in the recruitment process and we will destroy or delete your information.

For more detailed information on what we collect, how we use, store, delete data and your rights you can access a privacy statement on our Job board.

You will need to demonstrate that you have the Right to Work in the UK. No post will be offered without it.