

Job Title: Principal Mechanical Engineer - Building Services

Salary: Band 12 £52,412 - £56,759 .p.a. + LGPS defined benefit pension, contributions currently 14.8% equivalent

Directorate: Housing, Neighbourhood and Building Services

Location: Hybrid Role
Office: Civic Offices, Portsmouth (minimum 3 days a week in office, 2 days home working).

You will be required to travel as required between PCC Assets in Portsmouth, Havant, Gosport, Fareham and Winchester

Hours: 37 Hours per week - hybrid working options

Who are we looking for?

We are seeking a Principal Mechanical Engineer to join the Capital Projects Team within the Housing, Neighbourhood, and Building Services (HNB) Directorate.

The successful candidate will function as Principal Mechanical Engineer and hold extensive knowledge of building services in the construction industry, good people skills and relevant experience.

You will require extensive mechanical building services industry experience, working on major projects in the construction sector, have an appropriate qualification / degree and preferably be a member of a professional institution such as CIBSE.

The role is mainly based at the Civic Offices in Portsmouth, with hybrid working flexibility. As Principal Mechanical Engineer, you will support the Building Projects Manager developing the mechanical projects team, including supporting graduates and experienced staff.

You will need a full driving licence or have a commitment to learn to drive for visiting sites across Portsmouth and other assets in Havant, Gosport, Fareham and Winchester.

What is the role?

Sitting within the HNB services directorate, providing services to PCC and a range of clients, facilitating professional services works and supporting the Building Project Manager by;

Leading a team responsible for undertaking various project related schemes, setting design standards, and providing professional Building Mechanical Engineering services and advice for a range of clients.



Designing, procuring, and managing external contracts or consultants using a variety of contracts, to ensure that the service is delivered to meet the demands received in accordance with the scope of the service within the available budgets.

Allocating team workloads, setting design standards, facilitating learning and developing your team to ensure a consistent approach to Mechanical Engineering is provided.

Assisting in identifying opportunities for further service development and seeking potential income streams, both corporately with other PCC directorates and with external agencies or organisations.

Supporting and deputising as appropriate for the Building Projects Manager with management of available resources, professional fee income monitoring, and ensuring the team can meet the demands it receives and assist in the development of those teams.

Having a good knowledge of the CIBSE process and function as Supervisor/Mentor to Apprentice, Trainee or Graduate Building Services Mechanical Engineers

Collaborating with corporate colleagues supporting the delivery of the Mechanical and Electrical Projects Design Team including HR, IT, Procurement, Legal Services, Finance and Accountancy, Education, and leisure along with other Local Authorities and outside agencies

We offer a competitive salary and provide 26 days annual leave (rising to 31 days after 5 years' service) in addition to bank holidays, flexible working options and the option to join the excellent Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS).

Who is the person?

1. Have extensive Mechanical Design and construction industry experience and have the appropriate technical qualifications/degree and preferably be a member of a professional institution.
2. Preferably have experience of managing and leading a team.
3. Have a good knowledge of, and be able to provide, advice and lead others regarding Mechanical Design, Mechanical related legislation, contract law and guidance.



Specifically, building regulations, planning law, fire safety, procurement legislation, JCT and NEC contracts.

4. Have a good knowledge and experience of preparing design concepts, feasibility studies and option appraisals for a varied range of corporate clients, departments, and external organisations.
5. Have a good knowledge, be able to apply, advise and lead others regarding construction related health & safety legislation including the CDM regulations and the asbestos at work regulations.
6. Have experience of leading, recruiting and mentoring, developing teams to conduct all aspects of their roles and meet the demands for the Building Engineering service provision.
7. Have good knowledge and experience to apply cost control, resource planning, professional fee management and financial management techniques for project budgets up to £3 million, and applying PCC financial rules, standing orders, exercising financial control, and ensuring value for money.
8. Have relevant experience of using Microsoft packages, be able to demonstrate practical IT skills using associated Mechanical design software, Excel spreadsheets to analyse data and MS word in developing reports.
9. Have knowledge and experience of public procurement rules and procedures and leading the procurement and management of external consultants or contractors for capital projects.
10. Have experience of managing external consultants and contractors delivering a design on substantial capital projects, individual contract values can be up to £3 million.
11. Be organised and methodical when managing own priorities and workload.
12. Experience of communicating with senior staff, other departments, external organisations, contractor organisations, and Councillors.
13. Have a general awareness of all aspects of building engineering services including electrical aspects.
14. Either have a full driving licence and provide a car for work or have a commitment to learn to drive, as you will be visiting various sites across Portsmouth and will need to be able to travel effectively between them.



Additional information:

If you have any questions, or would like an informal discussion about the role, please call Harvey Bevan on 07961 476592 or email harvey.bevan@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

Closing date: Monday 5th May 2026 @ 23:59

Assessment: TBC

Successfully shortlisted candidates will be contacted and provided with details of an assessment.

Candidates who successfully complete the assessment day will be invited for a final formal interview on a mutually agreeable date. The interview will focus on your own knowledge and personal experiences.

T&C of employment

Working hours - Contractual hours are 37 hours per week, but this role will require additional input as is reasonable for a management role. Business operational hours are 8am to 6pm with core hours between 9:30-12:00 and 2pm-4pm, but there will need to be flexibility to reflect the fact that most services are provided 24 hours, 365 days of the year. There will be regular meetings outside of these hours, such as with councillors or residents' groups, and the need to react to emergencies.

You will be required to be part of the Building Services management out of hours escalation rota.

Learning & development - Support will be given to enable the post holder to continually develop their skills and experience. The council has a range of training opportunities.

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.

