

Post Specification

Post Specification - Key Information

- **Post Title: Senior Lawyer – Planning and Highways**
- **Date: December 2024**
- **Post Group Number: 6990**
- **Job Family: Organisational Support**
- **Job Family Role Profile: OS17**
- **Final Grade: Grade 17**

To be read in conjunction with the job family role profile.

Service Area Description

Legal and Democratic Services

Purpose of this Post

To assist the Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer in the leadership and management of a team in Legal Services ensuring the effective and efficient delivery of legal services by the team.

To provide high quality, planning, highways and practical legal services, in particular of a high level of complexity and strategic importance, to support the Council in achieving its lawful objectives and its corporate governance.

Key Job Specific Accountabilities

1. To manage, including day to day management and supervision of practice in accordance with the practice standards of Legal Services, members of the team.
2. To personally conduct and manage, in accordance with the practice standards of Legal Services, a caseload of files, particularly of a more complex, corporately significant and/or higher risk nature, for internal, and where appropriate external, customers, including providing representation in the courts, tribunals and at other bodies where required.
3. To provide legal advice and other relevant legal services to support strategic planning, policy formation, projects, corporate governance, decision making, review and scrutiny and to provide representation at decision making bodies, boards/panels, working groups and on external bodies as required by the role.
4. To assist the Chief Legal Officer and Monitoring Officer in ensuring the provision of the most appropriate and cost-effective method of meeting the client's requirement for legal services, including co-ordinating the provision of services from within the team and across Legal Services and scoping, commissioning and managing external legal advisers.
5. To contribute to the management of Legal Services, including the implementation and maintenance of legal practice standards which comply with Solicitors Regulation Authority requirements and deputising for the Monitoring Officer.

Please note: Annual targets will be discussed during the appraisal process.

Key Facts and Figures of the Post

- **Budget Responsibilities:**
 - Accountable to the Monitoring Officer for the expenditure and income of the team.
- **Staff Management Responsibilities:**
 - Direct Line Management of the planning and highways lawyers and legal officers within the team.
 - Management of allocated posts under the overall supervision of the Monitoring Officer.

Essential Criteria

- The generic qualifications, experience and skills required for the role are set out in the Role Profile Description OS17.
- Admitted to the Law Society or Bar Qualification or ILEX with at least 3 years post qualification experience or relevant demonstrable experience.
- Experience in at least one of the specialist technical areas of the team and knowledge of local government /administrative law.
- Sufficient experience as a practicing lawyer of the law, practice and procedures relevant to be able to carry out the functions and responsibilities of the role.

Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) Checks

- This post does not require a DBS check.

Job Working Circumstances

- **Physical Demands:**
 - Some roles will involve attendance at site visits.
- **Working Conditions:**
 - Mainly Office Based: “internally mobile” within the Council’s Agile Working Policy. All roles will involve some travel to other offices within Westmorland and Furness as required.