

ROCHDALE BOROUGH COUNCIL
JOB DESCRIPTION

SERVICE: CORPORATE

SECTION: GOVERNANCE SERVICE

LOCATION: NUMBER ONE RIVERSIDE, SMITH STREET, ROCHDALE

JOB TITLE: COMMITTEE SERVICES OFFICER (Grade 6 requirements)

POST NUMBER:

Grade: 6

Accountable to: Committee and Constitutional Services Manager

Accountable for: None

Hours of Duty: 37 hours per week, subject to the Authority's scheme of flexible working hours

Any Special Conditions of Service: The Governance & Committee Services Section operates a Work Life Balance Scheme.

Attendance at evening meetings and weekend working will be required

Upon satisfactory completion of the ADSO Diploma in Local Democracy or equivalent demonstrable knowledge and experience, the post holder will be able to work to a high standard, across all disciplines within the service, with minimal supervision; will be responsible for defined areas across the team, able to provide professional guidance and advice to officers, members and partner organisations and will be expected to fully participate in a range of initiatives in support of the successful delivery of the service plan.

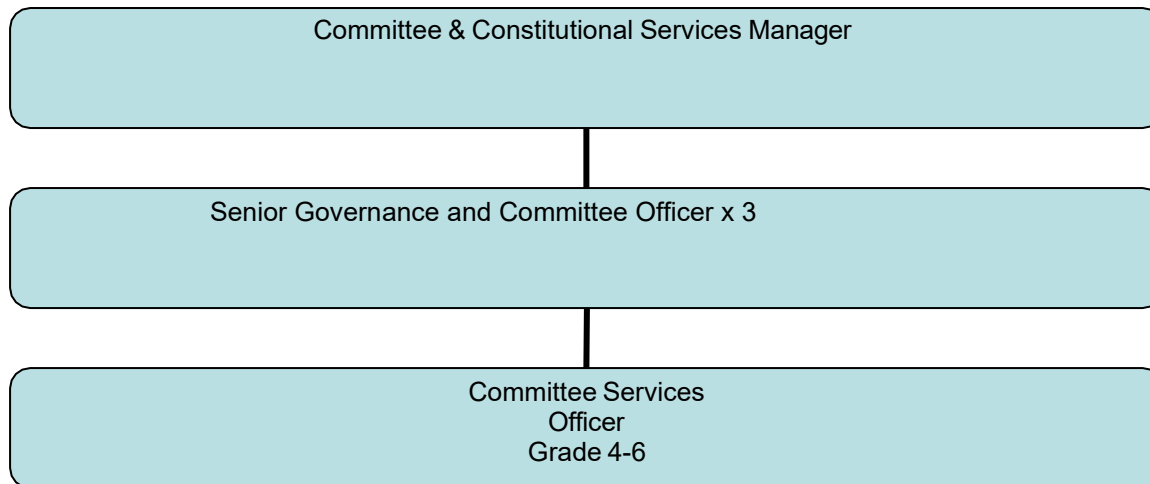
Suitable experience and qualifications may be eligible to start within the grade graded structure.

The Authority operates a Smoke Free Policy for all its employees and applies to any building an associated grounds within the immediate vicinity of the building which is wholly owned, leased or operated and occupied by Rochdale Borough Council.

This post is politically restricted in accordance with the current regulations.

The Council is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults and expects staff to share this commitment.

Organisational Chart:



PURPOSE AND OBJECTS OF THE JOB

To provide an efficient administrative and procedural support service to Council Committees and other associated meetings, and to undertake other work associated with the specific meetings serviced as required.

Control of Resources

Personnel

None.

Financial

Arranging for ad hoc payments required in connection with meetings supported.

Equipment/Materials

To be responsible for the safe use and maintenance of equipment/furniture/materials as used by self and staff accountable to post holder.

Health/Safety/Welfare

Responsible for the health, safety and welfare of self and others (colleagues, public etc) in accordance with Council Policies and procedures.

Equality and Diversity

To work in accordance with the Authority's Policy relating to the promotion of Equality and Diversity.

Training and Development

The post holder will be responsible for assisting in the identification and undertaking of his/her own training and development requirements in accordance with the Authority's Employee Development Scheme.

Relationships (Internal and External)

Internal

- (1) Senior Officers of this Service re: administration and Committee Duties, Executive Directors, Heads and Senior Officers of other Services, re: matters concerning the Committees and meetings serviced, i.e. Agendas, action lists, etc.
- (2) Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs re: arrangements and items for meetings.

- (3) Other Council Members re: meetings, general queries, requests for information etc.
- (4) Other Officers of the Authority re: items brought before Committee etc.

External

- (1) Members and Officers of public bodies (eg. Health Service, Police etc) re: involvement in meetings, requests for information etc.
- (2) Members of Parliament, re: enquiries, correspondence, exchange of information etc.
- (3) Government Departments, Local Government Association and AGMA on matters relating to the Council's functions.
- (4) Officers of other Authorities re: joint meetings, agency provisions, various orders etc.
- (5) Representatives of the media (local press, radio and television) re: Council decisions and general enquiries.
- (6) General public re: enquiries and complaints.

Responsibilities

The post holder must –

1. Perform his/her duties in accordance with Rochdale MBC's Policies on Equality and Diversity.
2. Ensure that Rochdale MBC's commitment to public service orientation and care of our customers is provided.

Values and Behaviours

Approach the job at all times using the values set out below

- Proud of the difference we make
- Passionate about the diversities of the Borough
- Pioneering and Open in our Approach

Be aware of and apply these values and associated behaviours at all times.

Principal Duties

1. Successful completion of the ADSO Diploma in Democratic Services Knowledge (or equivalent demonstrable knowledge and experience, and an ability to work independently, with minimal supervision.
2. To provide independent secretariat, administrative and procedural support to Council Committees and Sub-Committees, including Township Committees and Sub-Committees, Overview & Scrutiny Committees and other Committees and Sub-Committees of the Council, including:-
 - Advising on Procedure Rules and Constitutional matters, as required
 - Arrangement of meetings.
 - Review of reports for procedural content
 - Preparation, collation and despatch of agendas.
 - Supporting the management of the call-in process.
 - Attending and minuting meetings,
 - Timely production of accurate decisions lists/minutes.
 - Follow-up work relating to meetings, including the production of action lists, as required.
 - Handling reports and attending meetings relating to matters of a private and confidential nature.
 - The meeting of all statutory and procedural deadlines and requirements
2. The making of arrangements and preparation for hearings conducted by Licensing Sub-Committees, Standards Sub-Committees and any other like body.

3. To be responsible for the servicing of other bodies, as required, for example School Admission Appeal hearings, Board meetings, charitable bodies etc.
4. To gain a working knowledge and understanding of Executive Decision making, providing support to the Committee and Constitutional Services Officers involved in the preparation and servicing of Cabinet related meetings.
5. To be responsible for the preparation of reports for submission to Council, Cabinet, Committees and Sub-Committees on governance related subjects.
6. To contribute to the development of constitutional and governance related issues, undertaking research into current legislation and working practices in order to inform service based improvements.
7. To assist in the development and co-ordination of the work of colleagues or trainees within the Service.
8. To deputise (either solely or in conjunction with other Committee & Constitutional Services team members) in the absence of any Governance & Committee Services Officer. This will require a working knowledge of all remits of the committees and other bodies within the decision making structure, the ability to assimilate information relating to each of these bodies and an ability to provide live constitutional support throughout the duration of the meeting cycle.
9. To undertake a lead role in project work on either an in-Service or a corporate basis.
10. To provide support, as required to elections and electoral registration processes
11. To contribute to the work of the Civics team in supporting the Mayoral Office.

Secondary Duties

1. To assist in the provision of administrative, secretarial and procedural services for full Council and Cabinet meetings as required and to assist in the preparation of documents for such meetings.
2. To independently advise Members on Constitutional issues, including Procedure Rules, Committee procedures etc, as required, with support from colleagues across the service area as required.
3. To respond to requests for information and statistics related to Committee responsibilities from Government Departments.
4. To deputise for other Committee Services Officers within the Section as necessary.
5. To attend to queries and enquiries from the general public as required.
6. To co-ordinate the completion, collation and submission of statistics and statistical returns as necessary.
7. To liaise with other Local Authorities, the Local Government Association and Government Departments as necessary in exchange of information and the development and co-ordination of activities.
8. To undertake such other duties and responsibilities of an equivalent nature as may be determined by the Head of Service (or nominated representative) in consultation with the post holder and if she/he wishes with her/his trade union representative.

Grade Progression Ability/Behaviour

Grade 4

The post holder will gain a basic understanding of the democratic processes of the Council including Elections, Electoral Registration, Governance Structures and decision making arrangements; the role of Members and Officers in local government, Civic Offices and elected member support and development. Progression to Grade 5 is subject to satisfactory completion of the ADSO certificate in Democratic Services Knowledge (or equivalent, demonstrable knowledge and experience, and the ability to work with guidance and support from colleagues across the service

Grade 5

The post holder will have a greater understanding of the democratic processes (as above) and will be working to a greater level of independence and autonomy with reducing support from colleagues across the service; will undertake the ADSO Diploma in Local Democracy or the equivalent, demonstrable knowledge and experience, and will be responsible for a number of identified committee related practices

Grade 6

Upon satisfactory completion of the ADSO Diploma in Local Democracy or the equivalent, demonstrable knowledge and experience, the post holder will be able to work to a high standard, across all disciplines within the service, with minimal supervision; will be responsible for defined areas across the team, able to provide professional guidance and advice to officers, members and partner organisations and will be expected to fully participate in a range of initiatives in support of the successful delivery of the service plan.

Job Description prepared by: _____

Date: _____