

Job Description and Person Specification Profile

Job Title	Strategic Infrastructure Lead
Job ID	HH06-P
Service	Planning and Transportation
Grade	I+
Reporting to	Planning and Transport Strategy Manager

The Role

The Strategic Infrastructure Lead will play a **central, high-impact and influential role** in ensuring that growth across the borough is **plan-led, well-coordinated and positively supported by timely infrastructure investment**. The postholder will provide strategic leadership on infrastructure planning, funding and delivery, acting as the corporate lead for the Infrastructure Delivery Plan (IDP), updating of the Infrastructure Funding Statement (IFS) and the effective governance and deployment of developer contributions, including through the use of Section 106 agreements.

The role sits at the intersection of **planning, finance, legal**, requiring strong cross-organisational leadership and highly developed partnership working skills. The Strategic Infrastructure Lead will proactively engage with key infrastructure providers and delivery partners, ensuring that infrastructure requirements are clearly articulated, provide positive input into planning applications and ensure that S106 agreements are actively monitored, and funding is secured and spent in a timely and transparent way.

Working closely with colleagues across the Council, particularly within highways, education and greenspace services alongside a range of external partners, including the GMCA, the postholder will help ensure that development directly contributes to **good growth**, enhances quality of life for Tameside residents and delivers tangible benefits. The postholder will also take a proactive role in **capturing and communicating the success of infrastructure investment**, championing positive development outcomes and supporting clear, accessible messaging on how growth is delivering infrastructure for existing and future residents.

Main Duties & Responsibilities

Strategic Infrastructure Planning

The Strategic Infrastructure Lead will maintain, review and continually update the Council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan, ensuring it remains robust, evidence-based and aligned with the Local Plan, growth strategies and wider corporate priorities. They will coordinate infrastructure inputs across services and partners, translating development trajectories into clear, deliverable infrastructure programmes.

They will ensure that infrastructure planning is forward-looking and proactive, identifying capacity issues, funding gaps and delivery risks at an early stage and working collaboratively to resolve them.

Infrastructure Funding & Developer Contributions

The postholder will lead on the preparation, maintenance and publication the Infrastructure Funding Statement, ensuring compliance with regulatory requirements and providing clear, accessible information on how developer contributions and other funding sources are secured and spent.

They will oversee, in partnership with finance and legal teams, the governance and management of the Council's Section 106 agreement log, ensuring that obligations are accurately recorded, monitored and reported. This includes tracking development triggers, ensuring timely invoicing and receipt of contributions, and working with service areas to support the effective and lawful spend of funds within required timescales.

The role will involve promoting best practice in developer contributions management and supporting continuous improvement in systems, processes and transparency.

Infrastructure Delivery & Cross-Council Coordination

The Strategic Infrastructure Lead will work closely with internal partners – including planning policy, development management, transport strategy, highways, education planning, green spaces, housing and regeneration – to ensure infrastructure requirements are integrated into decision-making and delivery programmes.

They will act as a key point of coordination, resolving competing priorities, aligning funding streams and supporting the progression of infrastructure projects that underpin sustainable development.

External Partnerships & Collaboration

The postholder will strategically develop and maintain positive, long-term working relationships with infrastructure providers and delivery partners, including utilities, health bodies, education providers, TfGM and the GMCA. They will act as the Council's lead interface with the GMCA Infrastructure Lead, ensuring alignment with city-regional priorities, funding opportunities and investment programmes.

Good Growth, Place-Making & Communications

A key element of the role is to proactively champion "good growth", ensuring that development is framed as a positive contributor to infrastructure investment, place-making and community wellbeing.

The Strategic Infrastructure Lead will work with communications colleagues to capture and celebrate infrastructure delivery linked to development, supporting proactive messaging, case studies and accessible public information that demonstrate how growth is delivering real benefits on the ground.

Governance, Reporting & Continuous Improvement

The postholder will prepare clear reports, briefings and updates for senior officers, elected members and partners, providing assurance on infrastructure delivery, funding performance and strategic risks.

They will contribute to the development of improved systems, data and processes to support infrastructure planning and funding management, ensuring that information is accurate, transparent and supports effective decision-making.

About You

Essential

Qualifications & Experience

- Degree-level qualification.
- Demonstrable experience working in planning, infrastructure delivery, growth, regeneration or a related strategic role.
- Experience of coordinating complex, cross-service programmes involving multiple stakeholders and funding sources.
- Experience of managing or overseeing developer contributions, infrastructure funding or capital investment programmes.

Knowledge

- Strong understanding of the planning system and the role of infrastructure in supporting sustainable development.
- Knowledge of Infrastructure Delivery Plans, Infrastructure Funding Statements and Section 106 agreements.
- Understanding of how local, sub-regional and city-regional infrastructure priorities interact, including the role of combined authorities.

Skills & Attributes

- Highly developed partnership and stakeholder engagement skills, with the ability to build credibility and trust across organisations.
- Strong strategic thinking and problem-solving skills, with the ability to balance long-term planning with delivery realities.
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills, including the ability to translate complex technical issues into clear messages.
- Confident, collaborative and proactive, with the ability to influence without direct authority.
- Strong organisational skills and attention to detail, particularly in relation to governance, data and reporting.
- Ability to fulfil all spoken aspects of the role with confidence through the medium of English

Desirable

Qualifications & Experience

- Masters qualification in planning, transport, regeneration, finance or a related discipline.
- Experience of working with combined authorities, transport bodies or major infrastructure providers.
- Experience supporting or shaping communications around growth, investment or place-making.
- Experience of negotiating S106 agreements

Knowledge

- Understanding of the National Planning Policy Framework and Planning Practice Guidance relating to infrastructure and viability.
- Awareness of funding mechanisms beyond S106, including grants, pooled funding and strategic investment programmes.
- Understanding of development viability and viability appraisals

Skills & Attributes

- Experience of developing or improving systems for tracking infrastructure funding and delivery.
- Ability to use data and evidence to tell compelling stories about growth and investment outcomes.

Our employees' skills, experience and knowledge are essential to our success along with their happiness, commitment, enthusiasm and motivation to be the best they can be.

What can you expect from us?

- The opportunity to play a **strategic role in shaping how growth delivers real benefits for communities.**
- A fair salary and benefits.
- Support to grow, develop and do your best.
- Opportunities to be creative and innovative.
- Involvement in changes that affect you and your work.
- A culture that listens and acts on your ideas and feedback.
- Professional development and training opportunities.
- A role where your expertise directly contributes to creating high-quality, resilient and well-connected places.
- A collaborative, growth-focused workplace where your expertise is valued.

Our **STRIVE** values underpin our practice and behaviours and are at the heart of everything that we do:

