

## Job Description

### FCERM Principal Drainage Engineer

Role Profile	Specialist Band L
Service/Team	Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM)
Reports to	Inland Flood Risk Manager
Responsible for	0
Number of posts	1 FTE
Post number	TBC

**My job improves the safety, resilience, quality and value of development and places across Bournemouth, Christchurch, and Poole by:**

- (i) Using specialist, technical advice to inform detailed responses to major planning applications and liaising with colleagues to inform regulatory policy and drive forward continuous improvement in SuDS delivery on new development within BCP; defending our position at committee and planning appeals, where necessary. And training others to do the same;**
- (ii) Leading on implementation of Schedule 3 of the Flood & Water Management Act 2010 and creation of BCP SuDS Approval & Adoption Body;**
- (iii) Persuading and influencing colleagues, partners, councillors, and the general public to implement and accept more sustainable drainage solutions by promoting their multifunctional benefit; and ability to reduce flood risk in the context of a climate and ecological emergency;**
- (iv) Contributing to the growth and development of an FCERM Centre of Excellence.**

#### Job Overview

Working as part of a multi-disciplinary service, this role will provide leadership on provision of expert advice to BCP Planners with respect to flood risk and drainage design by using relevant technical standards, latest industry guidance and practice. A detailed awareness of planning policy and law will ensure positions can be robustly defended. This role will also provide leadership for more junior colleagues on provision of technical advice and extend to supporting development of guidance for Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems (SuDS) design, within a BCP context. The role holder will also be expected to play a significant role in the design and creation of SuDS Approval and Adopting Body (SAB), expected to be required through statute in 2025. The role requires an expert understanding of surface water & flood risk management, SuDS, UK legislative and regulatory frameworks, planning policy & guidance, linkages between flood risk management and other disciplines and hence some knowledge and understanding of these areas (i.e. landscape and urban design, highways, ecology etc.). Although not directly line managing, this role will be expected to supervise junior staff with respect to planning responses and offer mentoring and training in relation to drainage design, planning process and drive forward a higher standard of SuDS delivery on new development within BCP. The post holder, from time-to-time, will also be expected to deputize for the Inland Flood Risk Manager.

#### Key Responsibilities

- (i) Using specialist, technical advice to inform detailed responses to major planning applications and liaising with colleagues to inform regulatory policy and drive forward continuous improvement in SuDS delivery on new development within BCP; defending our position at committee and planning appeals, where necessary. And training others to do the same [by];***

- Responding to strategic planning applications; ensuring SW management and drainage design meets all relevant planning policy requirements and drives forward innovation and high quality, multifunctional design.
- Remaining up to date with industry advances, best practice, technical standards and possible SuDS solutions for different development types and scenarios.
- An in-depth understanding of current planning policy, planning practice guidance, building regulations, DEFRA non-statutory technical standards etc.
- Evaluating drainage design through review hydraulic calculations and modelling where necessary.
- Defending & explaining our position (as a statutory planning consultee) to planning officers and committees and representing BCP at planning appeals, if required.
- Training, mentoring & supervising junior staff in their responses and being the main source of expert advice in respect of drainage design.
- Leading on development of systems, processes, templates and reports in respect of our performance in meeting statutory response deadlines and to help ensure consistency of positions.
- Developing SuDS guidance for developers, officers and planners, to be used in conjunction with the BCP Local Plan, Planning Policy Framework and Planning Practice Guidance.
- Being the lead contact between BCP Development Management and the Inland Flood Risk team, with respect to planning responses and providing training on SuDS and Surface Water management on new developments to planners, councillors and other FCERM staff.
- Undertaking capacity checks (as necessary) on BCP's public sewer systems, to inform LLFA planning responses.
- Managing consultants currently undertaking BCP's non-statutory planning responses to non-major development.
- Leading BCP FCERM's contact with Wessex Water in respect of our statutory planning work and ensuring regular dialogue between us.

***(ii) Leading on implementation of Schedule 3 of the Flood & Water Management Act 2010 and creation of BCP SuDS Approval & Adoption Body (SAB) [by];***

- Keeping up to date with government announcements with respect to implementation.
- Deputising for the Inland Flood Risk Manager in respect of the Association of SuDS Authorities at executive meetings and higher level management meetings, where necessary.
- Considering implementation models and supporting the Flood Risk Manager with respect to delivery of this new service area including:
  - BCP wide communication of this new statutory area;
  - Identification of resource requirements for approval, construction checks and on-going maintenance.
  - Financial management of SAB application and commuted sums fees.
  - Partnering with BCP legal services around adoption agreements.
  - Creation of consistent SuDS planning & SAB guidance and processes.
  - Aiding recruitment / procurement of additional resource for delivery of approval, checking and adoption roles.
  - Specifying design and construction checks in accordance with forthcoming statutory standards.
  - Ensuring consistency of approach between BCP as a highway adopting body.
- Responding to national consultations and taking part in national fora with respect to the SAB role and its future implementation.
- Leading on training team and service members on SAB process and delivery.
- Creation / purchase or use of existing systems to manage SAB applications, construction checks and future maintenance of SuDS.
- Coordinating other specialisms so as to ensure SuDS proposals meet technical standards around amenity, water quality and biodiversity as well as quantity.

***(iii) Persuading and influencing colleagues, partners, councillors and the general public to implement and accept more sustainable drainage solutions by promoting their multifunctional benefit; and ability to reduce flood risk in the context of a climate and ecological emergency [by];***

- Working with BCP highways colleagues to promote sustainable highway drainage options.
- Creation of strategic approaches to leaf and gully clearance with neighbourhood services colleagues, using GIS tools, historic data and modelling.
- Engaging with communities through public meetings, working with flood wardens (where available) and meeting with elected representatives.
- Contributing to the development of a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS).
- Partnering with the FCERM Principal Modeller to develop strategic and local solutions to inland flood risk across the BCP conurbation, taking into account climate change and the need to provide environmental enhancement and amenity benefits.
- Seeking and applying for funding opportunities from multiple sources.

***(iv) Contributing to the wider growth and development of an FCERM Centre of Excellence [by]:***

- Engaging with consultants and contractors on our requirements; and creating a local forum for us to engage direct.
- Creation of an FCERM, income generating pre-app service for planning and SAB applications to include Coast Protection and geotechnical advice.
- Creation of chargeable development control services to other local authorities as part of the South West Flood & Coastal shared service FCERM business model.
- Assisting the Inland Flood Risk Manager in growing the Inland Flood Risk Management team and developing our offering as an FCERM Centre of Excellence status.
- Representing the Inland Flood Risk team in FCERM STEM activities.

**Specific Qualifications and Experience**

- Degree level qualification in hydrology, engineering, planning, geography, another related field, or equivalent experience
- Detailed knowledge of SuDS design and best practice.
- Expert knowledge of planning policy, guidance and legislation in flood risk & drainage fields and emerging developments.
- Sound understanding of flood risk modelling (from all sources) and the theory behind these.
- Experience attending planning committee and making appeal representations.
- Thorough understanding of the planning system, relevant appeals, and legislation.
- Experience of project managing complex schemes with challenging programmes and budgets.
- Able to evaluate technical data & reports with ease.
- Experience mentoring & training staff in LLFA duties and presenting at all levels, to both internal and external stakeholders in the importance of managing SW flood risk.
- Experience in 1D hydraulic modelling and GIS packages.

**Personal Qualities & Attributes**

- Able to critical analyse data and existing processes and approach to inform project decisions and service delivery improvements.
- Able to develop highly effective partnerships to achieve collective objectives and help overcome any barriers to joint working.
- Able to effectively prioritise workload by taking a risk-based approach, in an environment of change and manage competing demands effectively.
- Excellent interpersonal and oral and written communication skills and ability to present information in a focussed way.

**Job Requirements**

- Must be able to travel, using public or other forms of transport where they are viable, or by

holding a valid UK driving licence with access to own or pool car.

- Must be willing to work occasional evenings and weekends to facilitate engagement events.
- Experienced in using a wide range of IT programmes relevant to the role including Outlook, Word and Excel and QGIS or other GIS platform.
- Must work in accordance with agreed policies and procedures of BCP Council and complying with all decisions, policies and standing orders, including any relevant statutory requirements (incl. but not limited to Equal Opportunities legislation, Health and Safety at Work Act and Data Protection Act etc.)