

Midlands Connect Job Description

Post Title	Modelling and Appraisal Lead
Reporting to	Head of Strategy
Team	Strategy
Direct Reports	Up to 2

ROLE PURPOSE

Reporting to the Head of Strategy, the Modelling and Appraisal Lead will coordinate modelling and appraisal activities in support of Midlands Connect's Strategic Transport Strategy (STS), Strategic Transport Plan (STP) and Strategic Transport Programmes development and case making. Working with the Data Lead, and Strategy Sponsor, to develop and maintain our analytical framework and provide a robust evidence base to support the successful development of our transport strategy and strategic investment plans.

The Modelling and Appraisal Lead will use their expert knowledge and expertise to effectively engage with and influence key regional and national stakeholders, such as DfT, National Highways, Network Rail, Great British Railways, other Sub-national Transport Bodies (STBs), Local Transport Authorities and other MC partners.

ACCOUNTABILITIES

- Develop, maintain and apply a range of future scenarios and analytical tools to support strategy and scheme development.
- Undertake research into the economy of the Midlands and the role of transport to support growth, productivity, skills, housing and investment.
- Assist in developing fit for purpose strategic modelling tools to assess transport challenges across the Midlands and the development of the Strategic Transport Plan.
- Contribute to analysis evaluating the effectiveness and impacts of multi-modal strategic transport demand profiles and interventions, policies and strategies using a range of analytical and statistical methods.
- Specify and deliver relevant economic analysis to support the development of the MC Programme.
- Specify and deliver value for money assessments for policies, strategies and proposed solutions to support effective business case development.
- Provide regular feedback on the outcomes of appraisals to ensure future solutions are better aligned to strategic objectives.
- Contribute to the wider strategic development work of MC ensuring that the emerging STP, and associated scheme development activity, is supported and informed by a robust and coherent evidence base.
- Day to Day Line Management and Performance Management of those staff assigned to this role, providing leadership, direction, mentoring and identifying areas for training/development as required.

RESPONSIBILITIES

- Support the development of MC's Midlands Analytical Framework, working with appointed suppliers to develop the modelling, appraisal and analytical tools required to support the delivery of the MC Strategic Transport Strategy, Strategic Transport Plan and the wider technical Programme.
- Lead the application of modelling and appraisal to support scheme assessment and business case development.
- Provide guidance and support on business case and appraisal requirements for MC projects and strategies, and wider analysis of the economic, social and environmental impacts of transport proposals.
- Engage with project managers across MC to ensure the relevant application of transport modelling and appraisal techniques to support programme development and delivery.
- Work with the Data Lead to ensure that modelling and appraisal outputs are appropriately governed, stored and managed.
- Work with the Data Lead to ensure appropriate use of MC's cloud IT resources.
- Support the Head of Strategy in developing MC's strategic modelling and appraisal capabilities, and the development and maintenance of a range of future scenarios to support strategy and scheme development.
- Provide scrutiny and assurance of value for money assessments developed by others and provide recommendations to Senior Managers.
- Actively contribute to the Common Analytical Framework (CAF) across STBs, providing specialist knowledge and expertise to ensure the CAF remains fit for purpose.
- Monitor key technical developments and guidelines in modelling, appraisal and economic impacts to ensure MC's approaches remain fit for purpose.
- Represent MC on national, regional and local transport modelling, appraisal and analysis forums, ensuring MC's approaches are informed by wider policies, guidance and plans.
- Provide relevant information to support the Stakeholder and Communications Directorate with internal and external communications activity, media and political engagement.
- Prepare clear and concise reports and presentations for a variety of audiences.
- Engender a supportive and constructive working culture where all colleagues feel empowered to contribute to new and improved ways of working for their teams, service and organisation.
- Provide support as appropriate to local transport authorities in accessing, using and interpreting data and modelling tools.

PERSON SPECIFICATION

<i>Please specify (X) whether the experience required is Essential (E) or Desirable (D)</i>			Assessment Method		
Experience	E	D	App *	Int **	Other ***
Extensive experience of transport appraisal, modelling and economics to inform transport strategy development and infrastructure programmes.	x		x	x	
Extensive experience of transport policy and business case development and appraisal, including DfT's Transport	x		x	x	

Analysis Guidance (TAG) and HMT Green Book, particularly value for money assessments covering economic, social and environmental impacts.					
Experience of engaging and influencing senior officers regarding modelling, appraisal and value for money assessments, including external stakeholders.	x			x	
Good experience in policy evaluation management and methodology including analysing quantitative and qualitative data.		x		x	
Experience of recruiting and managing high-performing and diverse teams including matrix management.		x		x	
Experience of achieving impact with analysis, clearly communicating the strengths and limitations of analysis and underlying data.	x			x	
Skills/Knowledge/Abilities	E	D	App	Int	Other
Analytical and problem-solving skills with the ability to review and interpret varied and complex information to support informed decision making.	x		x	x	
Ability to manage people and resources including planning and prioritising workloads of self and others.	x			x	
Expert knowledge in field of transport demand modelling, forecasting and analysis.	x		x	x	
Ability to apply programme and project management practices to ensure effective delivery	x		x		
Strong strategic thinker who is able to analyse and solve complex problems.	x			x	
Excellent research and analysis skills demonstrating evidence of the ability to identify and diagnose complex problems/issues and develop innovative solutions.	x		x	x	
Ability to manage budgets and monitor performance against targets	x		x	x	
Effective communications and influencing skills with clients/users of modelling and appraisal outputs	x			x	
Excellent analytical and numeracy skills	x		x	x	
Qualifications/ Professional Memberships	E	D	App	Int	Other
A degree or equivalent level qualification.	x		x		
Membership of a relevant professional body.		x	x		

* Application

** Interview

*** Details will be shared at interview stage

HEALTH AND SAFETY

All employees have a duty to take reasonable care for the health and safety of themselves and of other persons who may be affected by their acts or omissions at work; and co-operate with their employer so far as is necessary to enable it to successfully discharge its own responsibilities in relation to health and safety.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY

To promote and champion equality and diversity in all aspects of the role.

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

To participate in and take responsibility of any learning and development required to carry out this role effectively.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

To actively engage in the performance management process and take responsibility for managing performance outcomes.

GDPR (GENERAL DATA PROTECTION REGULATION)

To ensure the reasonable and proportionate protection, processing, sharing and storing of Midlands Connect information in accordance with the relevant legislation, corporate policies, and in the best interests of the data subjects (Data Protection/GDPR), the WMCA, our partners, and the Midlands, in all aspects of the role.

ADHERANCE TO POLICIES

Be aware of and comply with all organisational policies.

OTHER

There may be a requirement to work outside normal office hours on occasion to meet work deadlines, give presentations, attend meetings etc., including a requirement to work within stakeholder and partner offices within the Midlands Connect Partnership area on a regular basis.