

Project Manager

Employer: East West Rail

Location: Milton Keynes

Basis: Permanent

Role Summary: As a Project Manager here at EWR Co, you will provide project support to the Development Programme Managers and wider team to deliver the programme.

Team dimensions: Reporting to the Development Programme Manager

A little bit about us

East West Railway Company is a new and exciting opportunity to be at the forefront of the changing landscape of the rail industry, delivering substantial fast-paced improvement to modernise the railway.

East West Rail is a proposed new rail link between Oxford, Milton Keynes, Bedford, Cambridge and potentially beyond. As part of the wider plans for this strategically important corridor, it is one of the most high-profile infrastructure projects in the UK today. The new railway will improve local connectivity and serve as a catalyst for economic development and the creation of new housing, as well as significantly reducing existing journey times.

In the 2017 Budget, it was announced that the East West Railway Company would be established to bring new drive and focus to the project. The Secretary of State for Transport recently launched the company, highlighting its role to bring innovation, to deliver more quickly and cost-effectively than existing models, and to develop competition with Network Rail.

The company is now scaling up significantly as it has taken on delegations and obligations relating to the delivery of the Western Section and Central Sections of the scheme, which will provide both innovative upgrades to existing track and to design then construct new infrastructure.

Key Focus of the Role:

The project Manager is responsible for providing support across the programme. These areas will include, but are not limited to:

- To supporting the Development Programme Managers and wider team in delivery of the programme
- To provide reporting and information as required on progress and programme deliverables.
- To manage specific areas of activity as delegated by the Development Programme Managers

Responsibilities of the Role:

As Project Manager you will have the following responsibilities:

- Co-ordination of the different elements of the project to time, cost and budget and within the agreed governance
- Identification of associated risks and issues arising from the programme
- Development and lead on effective change and realisation of the project benefits
- Manage budget and deliverables and where required monitor and prepare reports
- Updating and reporting on progress and deliverables
- Identification of resource and gaps in the programme
- Manage suppliers and their project teams, where appropriate, ensuring that any EWR obligations are delivered
- Collaborative working with other project managers within the development team, to ensure alignment on ways of working and effective inter team communication
- Communicate with statutory, legal and local authorities, residents' associations, contractors, to maintain and promote a positive EWR Co corporate image
- Establish and maintain appropriate, professional and pro-active working relationship with supplier's project management team
- Take responsibility of your own and others' health and safety by adopting and working to the EWR Co Health and Safety principles.
- Co-operate with EWR Co in all matters relating to health and safety, including following safe working procedures at all times.
- Act as a role model for EWR Co's vision and values, behaving in ways that are aligned with EWR Co's Ways of Working, as well as encouraging and supporting others to do so too.
- Promote diversity in the workplace and adopt appropriate behaviour when interacting with colleagues

You should have the following abilities:

- Demonstrably fair, open and honest, with a strong moral compass
- Unswerving in your attempts to seek the best value to the public purse
- A self-starter who excels in a fast-paced and changing environment
- A persuasive programme manager, able to take stakeholders on a journey to help achieve their aims
- Comfortable in a politically influenced environment where strategic change may frequently lead to a new approach and a sudden reworking of previous efforts.
- Intrinsically flexible and relaxed in a role which grows and changes as the project develops, doing whatever is necessary to deliver the desired outcomes
- Motivated by helpfully challenging your peers, and being challenged by peers, to achieve better outcomes
- A problem solver who is excited by resolving issues at pace

- Well versed in, and at ease with, all the basics of project management – including the control of cost, schedule and risk
- Proficient in using your analytical skills to develop and deploy incisive mitigations
- A passionate supporter of innovation and improvement, who is always searching for better ways to deliver
- Captivated by the opportunity to lead disruptive change to the UK infrastructure sector
- Motivated to develop and grow professionally as a project leader and/or specialist
- A strong enthusiast of a paradigm shift in working practices and project reporting, using technology to empower honesty and accuracy and drive successful delivery and productivity change
- Driven to lead a step change in how documentation is used, and how bureaucracy can be drastically cut to aid delivery certainty.

You should have the following:

Skills:

- Effective leadership, interpersonal and communication skills (essential)
- Confident, succinct and inspiring communication (essential)
- Adept at balancing competing needs and pressures to achieve strategic aims (essential)
- At ease with, and having an appetite for, technological change (desirable)
- Degree qualified in an appropriate business discipline or an experiential equivalent (desirable)
- Chartered membership of a relevant professional body (desirable)

Knowledge:

- A deep understanding of project management, risk and change management and control
- Good knowledge of programme and project management tools, i.e PRINCE 2 (essential)
- A good understanding of continuous improvement methodologies and ideas (highly desirable)
- Knowledge of all project management activities and procurement (highly desirable)

Experience:

- Broad experience of working as programme management for a complex, safety focused and regulated organisation with multiple complex interfaces, and delivering to time budget and quality (essential)
- Significant experience of demonstrable personal responsibility for managing key aspects of projects of between £5m-£10m value (desirable)
- Experience leading and/or participating in continuous improvement/innovation deployment in an engineering/construction environment (essential)
- Sufficient seniority and credibility to be able to advise other members of the team on wider projects in relation to the programme.

Join the team!

Please send your resume and a covering letter explaining why you are interested in the role and meet the above experience requirements to: recruitment@eastwestrail.co.uk