

# Head of Strategy and Business Planning

<b>Employer:</b>	East West Railway Company
<b>Location:</b>	London initially, then based in the Oxford-Cambridge corridor
<b>Basis:</b>	Permanent
<b>Team dimensions:</b>	Reporting directly to the Strategy and Sponsorship Director.

Would you like to be at the forefront of the changing landscape of the rail industry?

## A little bit about us:

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.

## Key accountabilities and responsibilities:

As Head of Strategy and Business Planning for East West Rail scheme you will:

- Oversee the development of EWRCo's long term Corporate Plan and Annual Business Plan, leading our annual planning cycle.
- Lead the monitoring, review and reporting process for key strategic priorities outlined in the Business and Corporate Plans.
- Lead strategic analysis for the organization to ensure day to day activities remain in line with business strategy
- Focus on continuous improvement of core business activity through process development and enhancement.

- Use evidence-based analysis to identify root cause problems, and then design and implement solutions that deliver measurable benefits.
- Analyze industry and market trends, and use this insight to develop strategic initiatives to ensure EWR Co meets its ambition to be a market leader driving major industry cultural shift.
- Provide day-to-day leadership of specific strategic initiatives.
- Implement and manage a capital investment decision making process to inform business case development to maximise value for money, drive contestability and innovation

Broader EWR Co responsibilities:

- Support the EWR Co. commitment to an excellent customer journey, and experience.
- Take responsibility of your own and others' health and safety and of those who may be affected in the day-to-day delivery of this role by adopting and working to the EWR Co. Health and Safety principles
- Assist with compliance activities with all related industry leading practice and standards and ensure EWR Co. adopts practices which provide value for money
- 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, and supporting others to do the same

Promote equality in the workplace and adopt appropriate behaviour when interacting with colleagues.

### **Team Dimensions**

- Highly strategic role
- Line manager for the PMO Executive, Reporting Executive and Insights and Analytics Executive
- Opportunity to shape the ways of working across the organization

Given the early stage of the project, it is likely that the nature of the role may evolve as the project progresses. It is also possible that other ad-hoc activities and duties may be required.

## **You should apply if you have:**

As Head of Strategy and Business Planning, you will be ambitious, entrepreneurial, pragmatic and highly analytical. You will have at least 5 years' experience in a top tier consulting firm or similar, including with line management responsibilities. Experience of working with public sector organizations, and /or major infrastructure projects is a plus, but not essential.

Your skills and experience will include:

- Experience in developing and implementing Business Strategy & Strategic Planning in an established industry or organization.
- Excellent knowledge of general business processes and organizational frameworks.

- Experience of financial analysis and business case development
- Excellent analytical skills, high attention to detail and rigor, can-do attitude, and desire to learn
- Strong communication skills (written and verbal) - can communicate key insights and business recommendations to non-technical audiences
- Ability to manage multiple concurrent projects, effectively time-manage and prioritize under pressure, and be comfortable in dealing with ambiguity.
- Strong leadership, people and team management skills
- Strong and open personality, with an ability to work with senior leaders in the business, to challenge assumptions and opinions.

**Education and qualifications:**

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience and training (an emphasis on business or technology is advantageous)
- Programme Delivery qualifications (e.g. MSP) are advantageous.

You will need to have the right to work in the UK.

## **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](mailto:recruitment@eastwestrail.co.uk)**