

Head Of Innovation

Employer:	East West Railway Company
Location:	London initially, then based in the Oxford-Cambridge corridor
Basis:	Permanent
Role Summary:	Unique opportunity to support the development of a nationally significant infrastructure project currently in its initial stages through developing and managing the requirements management capabilities in this new organisation.
Team dimensions:	Reporting directly to the Strategy 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:

As Head of Innovation for the East West Rail scheme you will:

- Be the leading voice of innovation for programme, and an advocate for change in the industry, by taking ownership and promoting EWR Co.'s innovation ambition
- Ensure that EWR Co. and its partners drive innovation across a range of opportunity areas

- Establish and manage a robust innovation pipeline underpinned by a framework for identifying, analysing and delivering innovation opportunities
- Establish and manage an innovation process for EWR Co.
- Implement and coordinate a process for capital investment decision-making around innovation
- Monitor the effectiveness and efficiency of innovation activities across the EWR scheme by tracking the benefits realised
- Coach teams within EWR Co. and its partners to build a culture of innovation across the scheme
- Build relationships with other organisations and coordinate open innovation activities through working groups or other methods
- Promote EWR Co.'s innovation efforts and learnings to key stakeholders and across the industry
- Oversee a team responsible for achieving EWR Co.'s innovation ambition

In addition to your core responsibilities, you will:

- Support the EWR Co. commitment to customer service and an excellent customer journey
- 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.

Team Dimensions

- Highly strategic role

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 Innovation for the East West Rail scheme, you will have at least 5 years' experience in a comparable management position with responsibility for structuring and delivering complex innovation programmes, ideally with experience in innovation strategy, business strategy, and business planning. Experience in the rail industry is not essential as outside perspectives will be valuable to EWR Co. Experience of working within the UK public sector or engaging with public sector organisations is advantageous.

Preferably, you will also have some experience of holding roles in fast-paced and complex environments during the setup of a new organisation or programme.

EWR Co. is looking for someone with:

- A curious mindset, a passion for learning new things, and a desire to challenge the status quo
- A strong perspective on (and experience with) the processes, methods, tools, and metrics required to drive innovation in an established industry or organisation
- Experience coordinating a portfolio of innovation initiatives at a business, brand, product or programme level
- Experience driving innovation and transformation initiatives from idea generation through to implementation
- Experience managing open innovation activities and/or collaborating with partners to drive innovation
- The ability to engage and excite key stakeholders (internally and externally) around innovation
- The communication and coaching skills required to build a culture of innovation
- Substantial innovation and/or experience in both management and leadership roles
- Excellent knowledge of general business processes and organisational frameworks, such as goals, strategy, culture and structure
- Experience of financial analysis and business case development
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills
- Experience and strong understanding of working in matrix team working environments
- Strong leadership, people, and team-management skills

EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATIONS

- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience and training (an emphasis on business or technology is 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**