

Job Profile

Service:	Transport
Post title:	Head of Transport Programmes
Grade:	HOS2
Responsible to:	Director of Transport
Staff managed:	Manages a team of specialist professionals
Date of issue:	June 2026

Job context

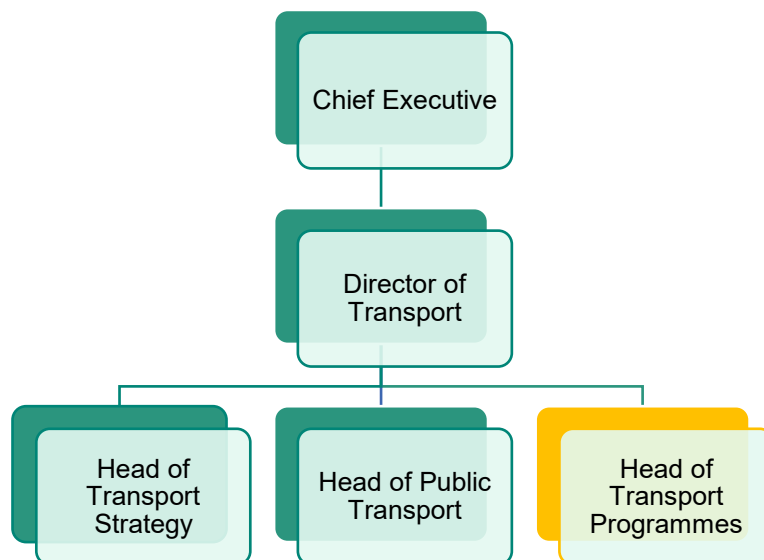
York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority (the Combined Authority) is a public sector employer with access to powers and funding to unlock transport and housing improvements, boost skills provision and help the economy transition to net zero. Making the most of the combined strengths of the city region and rural powerhouse, the Combined Authority is a long-term commitment to shaping a brighter future for generations to come. By working for us you will play a part in making positive changes, unlocking investment, supporting business and communities to thrive and creating new and better opportunities for people that live and work, here.

Transport is one of the key strategic priorities for the elected Mayor and Combined Authority and both are ambitious to capitalise on the opportunities this presents.

The Head of Transport Programmes sits within the Transport Directorate at the Combined Authority requires strong leadership capability and a good understanding of transport policy, infrastructure delivery, funding mechanisms, and the wider economic, social and environmental context in which transport investment decisions are made for the York and North Yorkshire to effectively secure and manage funding that drives regional growth and competitiveness.

The Head of Transport Programmes will provide strategic direction, build strong partnerships with stakeholders and drive the development and delivery of investment programmes that support sustainable growth and connectivity across the region whilst delivering value for money.

Structure



Job Description

Job purpose

The Head of Transport Programmes will provide strategic leadership for the development and delivery of the Authority's transport investment portfolio, shaping long-term priorities, securing stakeholder commitment and ensuring programmes deliver sustainable economic growth, enhanced connectivity and maximum public value.

Operational management

- Oversee and manage the delivery of a capital and revenue programme of funding valued at over 450 million pounds over a four-year period, ensuring that investment delivers benefits for our local residents and communities whilst meeting wider CA ambitions and conforming to government funding guidelines
- Monitor spend and investment across a wide variety of funding streams to ensure that schemes and programmes are delivered on time and to budget
- Liaise closely with funding providers to provide timely monitoring and evaluation submissions, assurance, and grant funding returns to conform with grant conditions
- Provide independent assurance and strategic challenge across a portfolio of transport programmes and projects, ensuring effective governance, delivery confidence, risk mitigation and benefit realisation, while supporting senior leaders in prioritising investment and achieving regional transport objectives.
- Assess scheme and programme proposals to ensure they are compliant with national and local assurance frameworks, and that any investment represents value for money whilst meeting transport priorities

	• Establish, develop and continuously improve the governance, assurance and programme management frameworks that underpin the delivery of the transport investment portfolio including developing policies, procedures, standards and controls relating to programme governance, risk management, benefits realisation, reporting, business case development and project assurance. • Work across York and North Yorkshire to provide strategic advice on all aspect of transport programmes work from policy development through to operational delivery, gaining a close understanding of the Directorates and their operational requirements. • Use insight and evaluation to challenge established practices and introduce ongoing service improvements. • Develop and assess business cases for investment of local and national funding. • Lead the development of high quality, compelling bids and business cases that respond to future opportunities to attract capital and revenue investment into the region, meeting all aspects of Government guidance and complying with necessary timescales. • Monitor the emergence of future funding opportunities for York and North Yorkshire. • Lead the management of a comprehensive portfolio of transport and infrastructure programmes, aligning initiatives with the York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority strategic approach and long-term economic goals. • Monitor programme performance rigorously, ensuring that transport initiatives are delivered on time, within budget, in line with the Combined Authority's governance standards, funding requirements and priorities.
Communications	• Influence Department for Transport, HM Treasury and other key funding stakeholders in Government to prepare guidance for funding bids that matches the transport needs of York and North Yorkshire. • Ensure transport programmes are delivered to support broader objectives including economic growth, regeneration, housing, skills, employment, sustainability and social inclusion working across directorates to align investment programmes with corporate priorities, influencing strategic planning, funding decisions, programme delivery and the achievement of wider Combined Authority outcomes. • Operate within a complex matrix environment, working with colleagues across directorates to balance competing organisational priorities, resolve issues, identify opportunities for collaboration and ensure investment programmes deliver benefits across multiple policy areas. Including but not limited to; Economic Development, Regeneration, Housing, Planning, Skills, Finance, Legal, Procurement, Environment and wider Support Services functions to secure agreement on programme priorities, resources, risks and delivery approaches.
Partnership / corporate working	• Work closely with Local Authorities and other delivery partners on the development and monitoring of transport schemes, ensuring the integration and alignment of investment against agreed priorities, including the objectives and requirements of devolved funding programmes through regular progress meetings with individual scheme promoters and region-wide discussion and decision-making groups. • Develop, maintain and manage relationships with the Department for Transport and other key stakeholders.

	Plan and lead high level meetings with Department for Transport officials, senior officers from local authorities, relevant authorities and other transport stakeholders.
Resource management	- Provide a leadership role for the transport programmes team ensuring measurable delivery against a set of clear objectives. - Lead a team, creating a high-performance culture that is aligned to organisational values, behaviours, policy vision and priorities, reflecting best practice and continuous professional development. - Responsible for overseeing the resources (financial and non-financial) allocated to the transport programmes function of the Authority, ensuring that this is managed to achieve effective value for money and clear allocation of resources to deliver against strategic objectives. - Responsibility for the delivery and day to day management of devolved transport funding within the region. - Prepare, agree, and manage robust and cost-effective budgets as required. Partnership working with the Finance Team to monitor cash flow, forecasting and future year budget. - Managing consultancy support contracts and procurement exercises in support of the delivery of best value, programmes, schemes and assurance functions.
Systems and information	- Ensure that systems and processes to support the service are consistent with the Combined Authorities standards and procedures. - Use relevant IT systems and tools to support the management, delivery and development of services, ensuring records are accurate and current. - Ensure government guidance and legislation are interpreted appropriately and are adhered to in a manner consistent with good practice.
Strategic management	- Leading on the management and implementation of the transport investment programme for York and North Yorkshire Combined Authority. - Leading on submitting strong grant submissions, monitoring outcomes and building effective partnerships with local authorities and transport stakeholders. To ensure focus on delivering the best solution for residents balancing maintenance and improvement. - Contribute to the development of robust transport assurance mechanisms, ensure scheme compliance, and advise scheme promoters on quality and assurance processes. - Ensure that the delivery of the Combined Authority's transport investment programme utilises sound programme and project management methodology, and ensure that key risks are identified, mitigated and managed.

Person Specification	
Essential upon appointment	Desirable on appointment
Knowledge - Strong awareness of national and local government transport policy, statutory requirements, and political context. - In-depth knowledge, understanding and practical application of project/programme management methodologies, governance models and assurance processes.	- Knowledge of the transport networks and priorities in York and North Yorkshire. - Knowledge of the devolved powers available to the Mayor.

• Knowledge of key strategic stakeholders such as Network Rail, Great British Railways, National Highways, local councils, and other relevant authorities. • Knowledge of statutory requirements, including equality standards. • Knowledge of current good practice standards both at local and national level in relation to the business of the service.	
Experience • Significant experience within a transport, infrastructure or major capital programme environment, with a proven track record of leading the successful development and delivery of complex programmes and projects. • Significant project and programme management expertise, including complex project delivery. • Strategic expertise in transport policy, infrastructure delivery, funding mechanisms, and the wider economic, social and environmental context in which transport investment decisions are made • Significant experience operating within complex political and stakeholder environments, including local authorities, Combined Authorities or equivalent organisations, with a proven track record of leading major investment programmes and managing contracts, substantial budgets, business cases and delivery risks. • Extensive leadership experience in the development and delivery of transport, infrastructure or capital investment programmes, including strategic planning, procurement, programme governance and delivery within complex public sector or infrastructure environments. • Extensive experience of strategic planning, programme development, policy implementation, performance management and benefits realisation within complex delivery environments. • Demonstrable experience of successfully engaging and negotiating with government departments, funding bodies and strategic partners to secure investment, influence policy and support programme delivery. • Significant experience in budget management, financial efficiency, creative problem-solving, and managing multiple complex projects within a local government context. • Experience in developing business cases. • Experience of procuring consultants to support the delivery of transport schemes and programmes • Strategic planning and people management experience, including performance and development. • Experience of developing and implementing organisational culture change within a large diverse organisation • Demonstrated ability to work creatively and collaboratively with internal and external partners. • Experience of advising senior officers on specialist areas • Providing independent assurance to projects or programmes. • Experience of reporting complex performance data at a local and national level	• Experience of working in a Combined Authority environment. • Experience of working with transport stakeholders in York and North Yorkshire. • Experience of working in a political environment
Occupational Skills • High level analytical skills with the desire to ask difficult questions; be tenacious and find service improvements • The ability to think strategically and to appreciate the wider corporate and public interest needs	

• Ability to work in a highly open and collaborative manner in order to achieve outcomes that deliver priorities, plans and strategies. • Ability to co-ordinate, monitor and review the use of financial information. • Ability to confidently use persuasion, influencing or negotiating techniques to influence others in a range of situations. • Strong understanding of partnership working and stakeholder engagement. • Demonstrable leadership, delegation, and people management skills, with the ability to develop and motivate teams. • Strong commercial and financial acumen, with the ability to develop and evaluate complex business cases, oversee commercial and contractual arrangements, manage significant investment programmes and ensure the effective stewardship of public funds. • Skilled in procurement, budget planning, monitoring, and achieving financial efficiencies. • Proven ability to write, review, and present complex content to varied audiences. • Excellent communication, presentation, organisational, and IT skills. • Proficient in project management, planning, and resource coordination. • Ability to work independently and at pace • Ability to work to rapidly changing priorities and outcomes.	
Professional Qualifications/Training/Registrations required by law, and/or essential for the performance of the role • Literacy, Numeracy and ICT qualifications or equivalent. • Relevant degree or other specialist qualification or the equivalent level reached through experience. • A relevant transport qualification/accreditation, or a demonstrable equivalent level of previous experience in a similar transport role	• Membership of relevant professional body • Evidence of continued professional development
Other Requirements • Ability to travel for work purposes. • Ability to attend meetings outside of normal business hours. • Self-motivated. • An understanding and commitment to the principles of public service, with a focus on delivering outcomes that benefit communities whilst demonstrating the YNYCA values. • Personal and professional demeanour and credibility which commands the confidence of members, senior managers, staff, members, external partners and other stakeholders.	
Behaviours Demonstrate our YNYCA Values and Behaviours	

NB – Assessment criteria for recruitment will be notified separately.

You should use this information to make the best of your application by identifying some specific pieces of work you may have undertaken in any of these areas. You will be tested in some or all of the skill specific areas over the course of the selection process.