

Jobs and Careers



Job Description

Post Title: Director of Housing		Post Number: D1005
		Date:
Department: City Development and Neighbourhoods	Responsible to: Strategic Director	

Specific departmental responsibilities:

1. To lead the management, development, performance and continuous improvement of all Housing Services including Housing Management and Repairs; Planning & Major Works; Property Services; Housing Advice and Options; Homelessness Services; Hostel Accommodation; and Specialist Housing Support.
2. To provide accurate, timely and relevant advice to the City Mayor, Assistant Mayor, the Head of Paid Service, Strategic Director – City Development and Neighbourhoods and Senior Management Team as appropriate on those aspects of the agenda for which the post holder has lead responsibility, including legislative changes and best practice/innovative approaches to improved service delivery.
3. To ensure that tenants, through The Tenants & Residents Forum or otherwise, are involved in decisions about the management of Housing Services, in decisions about their neighbourhoods and places they live, and that such decisions recognise the changing lifestyles of tenants.
4. To ensure work to improve the quality, security and energy rating of all the Council's Housing stock so that all Council tenants have improved and energy efficient dwellings.
5. To oversee the effective delivery of the Income Management function therefore ensuring that the Council collects the highest possible level of rent, maximises income to the authority and provides an effective money advice role to Council tenants.
6. To develop and implement effective strategies and plans to reduce homelessness and rough sleeping in the City.
7. To oversee the effective delivery of the property allocation and lettings functions which will minimise void loss, improve the customer experience of the allocations process, and will nominate to Housing Association lettings on the basis of need.
8. To provide joint housing support packages to meet the needs of other services, in conjunction with the Adult Social Care and Education & Children's Services Department, and to meet the requirements of Housing and Community Care Legislation.
9. To take action to identify and utilise hard to let properties, to minimise the number of empty City Council homes in Leicester, and to work to reduce the number of private sector empty homes.
10. To deliver an effective function for low income owner occupiers and people with disabilities to help with home repairs, improvement and adaptation.

11. To identify the need for affordable housing in the City and encourage the provision of new housing to meet this need; including exploring the opportunity of creating alternative housing models to deliver quality rented accommodation in the city.
12. To prepare and implement, through work at a regional level and the Housing Forum, a Housing Strategy.
13. To prepare a budget for the Housing Revenue Account, recommend the annual rent charge, manage any rent change in accordance with current legislation, and to prepare and manage the Housing Capital Programme.
14. To carry out additional responsibilities and projects as assigned by the City Mayor, Assistant City Mayor, the Head of Paid Service and Strategic Director.

Key corporate responsibilities:

1. To support the City Mayor, Mayoral Team and the Head of Paid Service to deliver the vision and preferred direction of travel for the City and the Council, and to provide clear and visible leadership to the division when doing so.
2. To be accountable for the effective planning, organising, delivery and continuous improvement and efficiency of the division, its resources and allocated budgets, through divisional service delivery, efficiency and improvement plans as required. Services must be driven by quality and customer focus and be determined by the needs of the people and different communities of the City.
3. To work with the City Mayor, Mayoral Team, the Head of Paid Service and Senior Management Team as required to develop and implement strategic programmes of activity, ensuring where necessary the operational alignment of services, to increase outcomes in the priority areas for the Council.
4. To develop and promote strong partnerships with local residents, local businesses and voluntary and community sectors for the benefit of the City, to improve the quality of life of local people and to support the regeneration of the City, the Council and the effective delivery of services.
5. To support the City Mayor, Mayoral Team, the Head of Paid Service and Senior Management Team to ensure effective partnership working across all Council services and external partnerships in order to meet customers' needs, deliver corporate strategies and achieve local objectives.
6. To be responsible for the implementation of the individual performance management process within the division, and as Line Manager to be responsible for performance management and developing the capability of Heads of Service and other direct reports.
7. To ensure positive internal and external communications on divisional services, performance and initiatives, seeking and giving feedback to customers, partners and other stakeholders where necessary. This should be done in collaboration with relevant other Directors.
8. To ensure, with the City Solicitor & Head of Standards, that the Council fulfils its legal and audit related obligations in the delivery of services and is statutorily compliant. This responsibility extends to cross divisional working.
9. Harness the benefits and respond to the challenges of Leicester's diverse population and workforce, developing and implementing strategies aimed at removing barriers to access and participation facing all the City's communities.
10. To promote equality and inclusion across all service provision and employment through policy initiatives, personal example, open commitment, clear action and direction.
11. Support and develop effective partnership working with relevant City, sub-regional, regional and national bodies.

12. To contribute as appropriate to the Council's Emergency Planning and Business Continuity arrangements.

13. To comply with responsibilities placed on directors by contract procedure rules, financial procedure rules, and the Council constitution.