

Job Description: Regional Programme Manager – One Public Estate

Reports to: **Programme Director, Strategic Land and Property Partnership
Programme Manager, One Public Estate, Cabinet Office**

Directorate/team: **Workforce, Leadership and Productivity/One Public Estate Team**

Grade: **Grade 7**

Background:

OPE is an established national programme delivered in partnership by the Office of Government Property (OGP) within the Cabinet Office and the Local Government Association (LGA). It provides practical and technical support and funding to councils to deliver ambitious property-focused programmes in collaboration with central government and other public sector partners.

Since our first pilot phase in 2013 we've expanded to cover over 90% of all English councils working in 76 partnerships whether in City Deal, Combined Authority, or some other arrangement for cross Whitehall/local government land & property programmes:

- We've distributed over £50m in revenue grants to councils to deliver over 450 projects that will see the creation of 25,000 homes and 44,000 jobs by 2020, as well as £615 million in capital receipts and £158 million in running cost savings;
- In 2017 we administered MHCLG's Land Release Fund, a capital allocation that will unlock a further 7000 homes on tricky, often unviable, public sector sites;
- And this year we cemented that relationship with MHCLG who are funding most of the latest OPE Phase, targeted specifically at producing new homes.

Since OPE started with 12 pilot councils in 2013 we now have over 300 local authorities participating individually, as Combined Authorities, and as LEP partners, giving coverage of around 90% of English councils. We are looking at significant benefits arising from collaborative working on public land – over 25,000 new homes, 43,000 new jobs, and almost £100m saved in running costs.

An opportunity now exists for a Regional Programme Manager covering our North West region.

Job Purpose:

Regional Programme Manager working with a group of councils, Combined Authorities, City Deal authorities and Government Departments across England to deliver the *One Public Estate* programme, Land Release Fund and other programmes that may emerge to 2020. Ensuring key programme outputs are achieved:

- Creation of local economic growth, particularly homes and jobs, from pan-public sector strategic asset management
- Delivering integrated (central/local) public services where appropriate
- Generating capital receipts, and reducing operational running costs.

Core Accountabilities:

1. Arranging for a number of central/local government partnerships to work with the Cabinet Office's Office of Government Property to deliver OPE/LRF programme outputs.
2. Ensuring individual Partnership performance is maintained, from the mapping and publication of public assets, to the establishment of local property fora, to the development of local Strategic Asset Plans.
3. Identifying and escalating risks to delivery as well as working with partnerships to mitigate these.
4. Responsible for negotiation with key government landholders, whether Departments or Agencies (HCA, CHP, DIO, NHS Foundation Trusts, etc.)
5. Negotiating with Chief Executives of local authorities and government landowners' specific sites for disposal or re-development, or on complex service integration programmes (e.g. Better Care Fund; Universal Credit pilots; etc.)
6. Arranging properly qualified technical support (land & property; valuation; legal; etc.) where appropriate. Assisting councils to tender for specialist advice, appoint those advisers, and where necessary assist in their management.
7. Write reports for LGA Boards, Programme Executive Group etc.; briefings for LGA members; press releases; etc.
8. Represent the LGA as the membership body for English local government, and the interests of its constituent members.

Relevant Contacts:

Professional Bodies

CIPFA, RICS

Cabinet Office

Head of Government Estate Strategy
OPE Programme Manager, GPU

LGA

Members
Senior Management Team
Programme Teams

Business support staff

Local Authorities

Members
Chief Executives
Directors of Property

Others

Senior figures in the private and voluntary sectors

Person Specification: Regional Programme Manager

Qualifications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None specific, but substantial experience of regeneration, housing, and economic growth is essential
Knowledge and experience	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good understanding of local and central government, their roles structures and relationships • Experience of running a major programme – this may be around service transformation, housing development, regeneration, other land & property initiatives, etc • Successful track record of delivering complex programmes • Previous experience of working in or with a complex political environment, preferably in local or central government • Understanding of the local government policy and improvement agenda • Significant senior level experience of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - building and maintaining strategic relationships and partnerships - leading teams, providing direction and managing performance - operating as part of a senior team - working with multiple organisations in a political context to deliver programmes
Skills and abilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good level of political awareness and sensitivity • Ability to lead, inspire and motivate others • Integrity and credibility with politicians, senior managers, key stakeholders and staff. • Able to deliver and lead others under pressure, prioritising work against competing demands to meet deadlines. • Well-developed written and oral presentation skills with ability to present complex ideas in a clear and comprehensible way. • Ability to create a culture of innovation and enterprise based on trust, fairness and openness. • Personal drive and commitment to the <i>One Public Estate/LRF</i> programme objectives • Creative thinker with high intellectual capacity, capable of translating ideas into policy and practice • Ability to negotiate with and influence a wide range of stakeholders • High level awareness of media and presentational issues, and ability to work with politicians and media professionals to shape and project credible public positions • Ability to anticipate and understand the needs of local authorities and translate them into solutions and outcomes • Commitment to personal and professional development • Significant experience of leading policy development and managing complex projects across dispersed organisations