

Interim Director of Strategic Transport



The South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority (SYMCA) brings together the local authorities of Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield, and the private sector through the Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP). These bodies together serve the communities and businesses of South Yorkshire. From transport to housing, from business growth to skills, the SYMCA has a great story to tell. We have ambitions to deliver recovery and renewal for people, businesses and places across South Yorkshire after the COVID pandemic.

As our interim Director of Strategic Transport you will lead the work of the Transport team to evolve, prioritise and deliver our transport strategy for South Yorkshire and its individual transport modes. In the role you will be given the opportunity shape our shared transport future, combining matrix management alongside the need to fully embed performance-driven change.

It will involve significant partnership working, as well as an appreciation of how transport sits within the South Yorkshire region's overall economic, social and environmental programmes. The post holder will be a key interface with the Mayor, the new Active Travel Commissioner for South Yorkshire and senior leaders both inside and outside the organisation. You will seek to ensure the region speaks with one voice and that key decision makers outside the region understand and act on our priorities.

Our plans are ambitious and we are therefore looking for ambitious people who are keen to make a real difference to our local communities. This is an opportunity to make a real and lasting impact on the local, regional and national stage.

You will have a strong background in Transport with a practical understanding of transport analysis and appraisal; and a proven track record of effective leadership, strategic thinking and change management, including supporting the empowerment of others to take ownership and accountability of outcomes. The role needs both first class strategic thinking and an understanding of the practical realities of real world delivery

With your proven ability of leadership at senior level you will work in a collaborative manner with elected Members, other directorates, external partners, community members and other bodies that interact with this role.

The focus should be on action plans, delivery roadmaps and delivery. The region has a large number of existing strategies on transport and related areas, we now need to focus on identifying priorities and securing their delivery.

The role will also be expected to contribute to the redesign of the team for the medium to long-term, ensuring we have the required capacity and capability

Key Deliverables

- To lead the design and development of a clear set of agreed road, rail, tram, active travel and other local transport priorities for the city-region – prioritising according to impact and deliverability. This should focus on delivery of existing commitments, key priorities for enhancing connectivity outside city-region; and local priorities to support growth hubs.
- Securing stakeholder buy-in through evidence, analysis and inclusive debate.
- Lead the development of delivery roadmaps for each of the programmes and projects so we understand who has to do what to realise them.
- Commission research/analytical studies as required, with an early study required to consolidate existing evidence on the longer term vision for growing the tram network.
- Mobilise delivery resources required from MCA local partners and negotiate commitments/investment required from DfT, Network Rail, National Highways and Active Travel England. This would include developing scripts for each of the key investment programmes and projects, so city-region stakeholders can speak with the same voice.
- Lead and drive the delivery plans to ensure their effective translation into action, addressing delivery issues upfront and ensuring that delivery capacity/capability is available.
- Ensure we have a good, up to date understanding of delivery progress for all the pipeline schemes of interest.
- Own the city-region Local Transport Plan and our evolving interest in the Key Route Network.

Experience / Skills

- Proven track record of delivering challenging / multi-dimensional projects or initiatives to a successful conclusion, ensuring continuous improvement and value for money
- Strong leadership ability in complex senior partnership environments, working with internal and external stakeholders, including directly with government Ministers and local authority leaders.
- Demonstrate commercial acumen and an understanding of how business decisions are made at Board and operational level.
- Posses substantial knowledge of relevant local and national strategies, policies and legislation
- Has the emotional/personal resilience to drive opportunities forward in the face of resistance and/or apathy.
- Ability and confidence to master complex transport policy issues and hold their own in debate with experienced practitioners both locally and nationally.
- Proven experience of the South Yorkshire transport strategy and delivery institutional eco-system – who does what, the key players, the key levers and how to pull them - is useful but not essential.

How to respond

If you think you have the skills, experience and passion to join us we want to hear from you.

Alongside an upto date CV you should submit a supporting statement that responds to the requirements set out above. This statement should be no more than 1500 words.

This should be submitted to The Human Resources Team, recruitment@southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk

Closing date: 4pm on Tuesday 6 December 2022

Interviews will take place: w/c 12 December 2022

For an informal discussion about the role, please contact recruitment@southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk

We aim to be a truly inclusive employer and welcome applications from people from all parts of the community, in particular from under-represented groups

About the appointment

Length of the Appointment

The Director of Strategic Transport will be appointed for an period of 6 months Subject to performance, future delivery requirements and the availability of resources, this contract period may be extended.

Time Commitment

The role will be based at the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority offices at Broad Street West, Sheffield.

Proposals will be considered to fulfil the role on a full or part time basis, including job-share.

Contract Value

Please provide a proposed daily rate, along with proposed monthly time commitment for the role together with an overall fee proposal for the contract period.

Discover more about the South Yorkshire Mayoral Combined Authority by visiting
<https://southyorkshire-ca.gov.uk>

