

Job Title: Street Lighting Area Engineer

Grade: 8

About the Service

Council Vision and Strategic Direction

Staffordshire County Council's Strategic Direction 2026–2028 sets out a clear ambition for an innovative, ambitious and sustainable county where everyone has the opportunity to prosper, be healthy and happy. The plan focuses on five priorities: People, Economy, Connectivity, Communities, and Efficiency and Value for Money. Together, these priorities guide how the Council supports residents, enables economic growth, improves roads, transport and digital connections, strengthens communities, and makes best use of public money.

Service Purpose

The Highways and Built County service supports the Council's strategic priorities by managing, maintaining and improving Staffordshire's highway and built environment assets. The service plays a key role in delivering safe, reliable and resilient roads, footways, cycleways and transport infrastructure that connect people to jobs, education, services and communities, while supporting sustainable economic growth and creating places where people are proud to live, visit and work.

This will be achieved by:

- Maintaining and improving highway assets through evidence-based asset management, prioritising long-term condition, safety, resilience and value for money.
- Supporting the Economy priority by enabling growth, investment and access to employment through a well-managed, efficient and connected transport network.
- Delivering the Connectivity priority by improving roads, transport links and digital infrastructure so residents, businesses and visitors can travel more reliably and access opportunities.

- Creating safe, healthy and inclusive communities by designing, maintaining and operating infrastructure that supports active travel, road safety, accessibility and local place-making.
- Improving the natural and built environment by reducing waste, lowering carbon emissions, supporting sustainable travel choices, adapting to climate change and using infrastructure-light solutions where appropriate.
- Making every pound count by planning and coordinating programmes effectively, using data and local intelligence to target investment, and continuously improving how services are delivered.
- Keeping people safe from harm, empowering staff and partners to innovate, share knowledge and deliver high-quality services for Staffordshire's communities.

About the Role

This role will supervise and provide advice on street lighting works using technical engineering experience and knowledge to assist in the provision of an efficient and effective Street Lighting Service throughout the County.

Reporting Relationships

Responsible to: Principal Lighting Engineer

Responsible for: n/a

Key Accountabilities:

1. Supervision of street lighting works, carried out by the Street Lighting PFI contractor, in conjunction with the Engineering Certifier, to ensure that service standards, workmanship and safety standards comply with the requirements of the County Council's specification and policies for street lighting and illuminated sign works, and that Accruals and De-Accruals are accurately recorded and managed.

2. To liaise with the PFI contractor to ensure that pre works surveys take account of inventory discrepancies, disconnection of illuminated signs, and the removal or reinstatement of column mounted signs.
3. The supervision of non-PFI street lighting works carried out by developers/ contractors, to ensure that the specification and work complies with the County Council's specification and policies for street lighting and illuminated sign works, and also to prepare non-compliance reports for submission to developers and contractors.
4. To represent the County Council on highway lighting and electrical matters, and to maintain good relations with the public, and external organisations, including parish and district councils, and partnership groups.
5. To provide informal advice on highway-related lighting and electrical issues to district, town and parish councils, in respect of the appropriate design and specification for these facilities.
6. To provide advice and guidance to ensure that seasonal decorations placed on or above the highway are installed in accordance with the County Council's policies and specifications.
7. To comment on the highway impact of lighting proposals associated with planning applications submitted to the Department's Development Control Section by the local planning authorities in Staffordshire.
8. To liaise with customers, affected by proposed street lighting works, to resolve potential areas of conflict, and to investigate requests for improved lighting facilities.
9. To supervise the implementation of non PFI, street lighting and illuminated sign works, implemented as part of County Council's work programmes, and for the third parties, including work identification, ordering, the provision of quotations, and invoice processing.
10. To provide support to traffic signal maintenance staff in supervising the installation and maintenance of traffic signal equipment and the associated street works.

11. To undertake lighting design work in conjunction with the Lighting Design Engineer, including the checking of designs prepared in connection with Developer's and the PFI Contractor's proposals, and to offer guidance to ensure compliance with the County Council's design policies and standards.
12. To maintain an up-to-date knowledge of new technical developments in electrical and street lighting engineering and to ensure that such knowledge is applied throughout the Authorities activities.
13. To operate County Council and departmental policies, regulations and procedures in relation to all activities of the service.
14. Undertake other professional or alternative duties as may be allocated from time to time in the light of the experience, training, knowledge in line with the level of the post.

Person Specification

Qualifications/Professional membership

- A technical qualification in electrical engineering, (e.g BTEC level or equivalent), or demonstrable experience in a relevant discipline i.e. lighting services.
- Member of the Institution of Lighting Professionals at AMILP (or above) or actively pursuing.
- Commitment to personal development

Knowledge and Experience

- Experience of maintenance and installation of street lighting and lit traffic signs
- Experience in the supervision of contracts
- Knowledge of PFI contracts
- Experience and knowledge of standing orders, financial regulations and budgetary control.
- Experience and knowledge of using IT systems and facilities.
- Computer literacy
- Experience of working with multi-disciplinary teams

Skills

- Effective verbal and written communication skills
- Effective business planning skills
- Effective interpersonal skills with the ability to persuade, negotiate and manage customer expectations
- Commitment to excellence and quality
- Sensitivity and empathy
- Political awareness

This post is designated as a Casual Car user

The content of this Job Description and Person Specification will be reviewed on a regular basis.