



Job Description

Job title:	Planning & Consenting Engineer
Team/Section:	Technical Services
Location:	Middle Level Offices, March, Cambridgeshire
Responsible to:	Head of Water Management Technical Services
Hours:	Full Time: 37 hours per week
Grade:	Spine Point 16-26 range
Employer:	Middle Level Commissioners

About us and the role

The Middle Level Commissioners have been proudly managing water levels in the Fens since 1862, building from the legacy left by the engineers and adventurers involved in the Great Drainage from the 1600s.

As **Planning & Consenting Engineer**, you will work with our in-house team, supplemented by consultants and contractors, providing planning and consenting services for the Middle Level Commissioners and the Internal Drainage Boards to whom we provide consultancy services. You may also oversee the delivery of small projects, ensuring efficient delivery, often to tight timescales.

You will build and maintain positive relationships with our customers and partners whilst undertaking our regulatory and technical functions.

You will report directly to the Head of Technical Services and work with the Technical Services team to build and maintain a strong reputation for a professional, high quality and efficient service.

The Technical Services team provides strategic and specific advice to local planning authorities, lead local flood authorities and Anglian Water to ensure appropriate controls are in place to effectively manage water in the catchment; administers planning and consent applications within the district, taking account of the impacts of proposed development and works on system capacity and conveyance, maintenance operations, asset durability, navigation and the natural environment; plans and delivers a forward thinking capital works programme for strategic and tactical navigation and flood risk management asset projects both in-house and using external suppliers.



Responsibilities

Key duties and responsibilities include:

- Ensuring consent applications are recorded, assessed and completed in a timely manner/within statutory timescales
- Ensuring appropriate pre and post app agreements are in place and fees recharged as required
- Ensuring compliance with relevant legislation
- Identifying and promoting innovative ways of working
- Developing and maintaining collaborative relationships with other relevant organisations to ensure appropriate water management within the catchment
- Representing MLC at meetings and on working groups as required
- Assisting with maintaining and updating guidance for applicants as necessary
- Providing advice to stakeholders in planning and consenting matters impacting watercourses within the Middle Level
- Advising the Head of Technical Services on the progress of planning/consenting and project delivery matters generally and, as necessary, of any resource deficiencies or where objectives set by the MLC are not being met
- Assisting with the provision of information, as required, to the Head of Technical Services for the drawing up of fees.

General responsibilities include:

- Ensuring compliance with all health and safety requirements
- Maintaining effective working relationships and clear communication with all members of the Technical Services team and other departments.
- Assisting in identifying needs and developing and implementing appropriate new technology
- Contributing, as required, to the timely preparation of MLC and Boards' Consulting Engineer Reports for review by the Chief Engineer
- Attending meetings of the MLC and, as required, meetings of any Board for whom MLC act as Consulting Engineers
- Liaising with other bodies/authorities to build and maintain good working relationships and partnerships
- Representing the MLC/IDBs at meetings and on committees of external bodies as necessary and appropriate
- Identifying needs and further developing skills and abilities by following appropriate training courses, attending seminars and events as approved by the Chief Engineer
- Undertaking such other duties as may from time to time be reasonably assigned by the Employer.



Person Specification	
Essential	Desirable
All spine points Experience in, and a positive approach to, health and safety. Able to work professionally with others at all levels, both internally and externally. Team player. Excellent written and oral communication with confident interpersonal skills. Competent IT skills using Microsoft suite of programs (Word, Outlook, Teams and Excel). A full and valid UK driving licence. Spine Points 16-18 A relevant degree or other qualification in an engineering, geographical or water management-related subject. Knowledge and experience of the Land Drainage Act and byelaws consenting process. Experience in delivery of projects to reduce flood risk and manage water levels including efficient use of resources. Proven ability to manage and prioritise workloads and to deliver efficiently. Spine Points 18-26 An understanding of Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management (FCERM) including the Land Drainage Act 1991, drainage authority Byelaws and associated planning regulations. Appropriate experience working in a regulatory or technical role within the Water Industry, Local Planning Authority, the Environment Agency, Lead Local Flood Authority or similar.	Membership of (or working towards) a relevant professional institution. Such as Incorporated/Chartered Membership of relevant professional body e.g. Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE), Chartered Institute of Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM). Commercial aptitude with a depth of experience in service provision, ensuring positive relationships with clients, customers and suppliers. An interest in the natural environment and sustainability. A good knowledge of the local geographical area.



Spine Points 18-26 continued

Evidence based experience assessing drainage strategies for major development, including:

- complex drainage and flood risk matters and emerging environmental challenges together with the relevant legal and regulatory frameworks,
- technical aspects of drainage design for new development (including SuDS design) and hydraulic principles.

Ability to read and understand technical drawings (Architectural, Engineering and Land Survey), technical specifications and documents. (Flood Risk Assessments), mapping and data (topographical, LiDAR and GIS).

Good organisational and IT skills including an understanding of hydrology and river modelling, drainage design software (e.g. MicroDrainage) and GIS software.

Ability to work under own initiative and as part of a team to understand, research and articulate new concepts using strong problem-solving skills to develop and evaluate options, anticipate problems and give sound and pragmatic advice for engineering and environmentally based solutions.

Ability to develop and maintain good relationships with internal and external stakeholders and customers.

Declaration and acknowledgement

I confirm that, as of the date stated below, the information in this job description is accurate and reflects the requirement of the role. Please note the details of the job description should be updated should substantive changes to the role occur or be proposed.

Line Manager:	Chris Bailey
Position:	Head of Water Management Technical Services
Date:	July 2026