**Head of Net Zero Candidate Pack**

Welcome and thank you for your interest in working as part of Brighton and Hove City Council’s new Net Zero team.

The Net Zero team is based within the City Services directorate and City Development & Regeneration service, operating as a team of technical and specialist officers translating the Council’s net zero carbon, sustainability and biodiversity ambitions into a reality.

**City Services vision:** The directorate’svision is for the city to be a vibrant place where people want to live, visit and do business, and where the natural environment and unique character of Brighton & Hove is protected and improved.

**City Services mission:** The directorate’s mission is to support sustainable economic growth and deliver reliable services that make the city an attractive, connected, well-run place for residents, businesses, and visitors.

**City Services Directorate objectives:**

1. Make the city a place where people want to live, work and visit.
2. Deliver an accessible, well connected, and sustainable city.
3. Protect and enhance the city’s built and natural environment.
4. Use our assets to regenerate the city and support an inclusive economy.
5. Ensure good governance and best use of resources to run services well.

You can read the full [**City Services plan here**](https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/economy-environment-and-culture-directorate-plan-2023-2027)**.**

**City Development & Regeneration**

The remit of City Development & Regeneration encompasses the shaping and managing of development in the city; promotion of good urban design and protection of heritage; monitoring compliance with building regulations; delivering major regeneration projects; and working with partners to create the right conditions for a prosperous local economy.

The service also drives the city’s progress towards net zero carbon by 2030, delivering high impact projects to address the effects of climate change and sustainable development, as well as major regeneration and investment projects. This includes through the development of new affordable, sustainable homes as part of the Homes for Brighton & Hove joint venture and New Homes for Neighbourhoods Programme.

The team leads on the council’s work with Greater Brighton and city partners to develop a flourishing and inclusive local economy that attracts sustainable investment and nurtures business and innovation.

**The role of Head of Net Zero**

In 2018 the Council declared a climate and biodiversity emergency and committed to becoming carbon neutral by 2030. In Autumn 2020, the council held a Climate Assembly and local young people delivered a Youth Assembly, both on the topic of travel and transport. Ongoing development of climate action work was brought together in the 2030 Carbon Neutral Programme.

The creation of a new Net Zero team renews our focus on achieving net zero carbon by 2030 and enhancing biodiversity. It places importance on delivering high-impact net zero projects with a clear carbon saving and cost saving emphasis.

The Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment undertaken in 2023 also sets out recommendations for further climate adaptation work which the Head of Net Zero will be accountable for planning and managing. The transformational projects will be across multiple sectors, including transport, open spaces, energy, housing and property. This post is critical role for setting strategy and driving the delivery of a range of infrastructure, policy and culture changes across the organisation and the city.

This role has been designated a politically restricted post. This means that political activity is restricted through the Local Government and Housing Act 1989 and prevents post holders from taking part in certain political activities outside of work.

Working for Brighton & Hove City Council means you’ll be joining one of the largest employers in Sussex and an organisation that’s active in its community. For us, a better Brighton and Hove is:

* A city to be proud of,
* A fair and inclusive city, and
* A healthy city where people thrive, with
* A responsive council with well-run services

I look forward to receiving your application.

***Max Woodford, Assistant Director City Development & Regeneration***

**Key Information about the City Council and the Service**

You can find more information about the current political makeup of the Council and our governance system by visiting our [‘Council and democracy’](https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/councillors-and-committees) webpages.

**City Services directorate structure chart**

**Key metrics for City Development & Regeneration:**

* One of the top twenty busiest unitary authority Planning services in England.
* 15 projects and 269 new council homes delivered via New Homes for Neighbourhoods.
* Managing the UK’s only urban UNESCO Biosphere Region on behalf of the Living Coast Partnership.
* Engaging over 200 stakeholders in developing a citywide Economic Plan for 2024-27 to grow a more thriving and inclusive economy, capitalising on the city’s comparative advantages.
* Supporting more than 1,700 entrepreneurs during 2023/24 (against a target of 750) through the Business & Intellectual Property Centre (BIPC) Sussex.

**Key metrics for Net Zero:**

* Manages high-profile external relationships with public bodies (e.g. Environment Agency), commercial operators (e.g. global utilities providers), and other government authorities (e.g. as part of the Aquifer Partnership)
* Core team budget of c.£500,000 (excl. any external funding raised and capital project values).
* Delivering a multi-million-pound programme of carbon reduction and adaptation projects.
* Responsible for managing and monitoring the delivery of more than £20m Carbon Neutral grant funding (includes funding allocations back to 2019/20)
* Oversight of the Living Coast Partnership, influencing the sustainable and diverse management of 390km2 of coastline and working with more than 40 partners from across the voluntary, conservation, education, local government and private sector.

**Useful links:**

* [2030 Carbon Neutral Programme](https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/climate-action/climate-action-what-were-doing/full-carbon-neutral-2030-programme)
* [Climate Risk and Vulnerability Assessment 2023](https://democracy.brighton-hove.gov.uk/ieDecisionDetails.aspx?AIId=99580#:~:text=The%20Climate%20Risk%20and%20Vulnerability,the%20impacts%20of%20climate%20change.)
* [Decarbonisation study](https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/climate-action/net-zero-brighton-hove)
* [The Living Coast Partnership: UNESCO Biosphere](https://thelivingcoast.org.uk/)
* [Sustainability checklist (Planning)](https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/planning/planning-applications/sustainability-checklist)
* [Biodiversity Net Gain Technical Advice Note 2024](https://www.brighton-hove.gov.uk/planning/planning-applications/biodiversity-net-gain)

**Recruitment process and indicative timetable**

This guidance contains important information to help with your application:

* Please apply by submitting a CV and answering the application questions; ensure that you consider the values and behaviours that you bring to your leadership, and how you will transfer your skills and experience into this role when answering.
* Please ensure your full employment history is outlined in your CV; and that where there are essential criteria, competencies and/or qualifications you make clear how you meet these. We may wish to verify this information during the recruitment process.
* Please complete the Equal Opportunities Monitoring Form when you upload your details.
* Please return your application by the closing date – no applications will be accepted once the long listing process has begun.
* Following shortlisting, you will be contacted directly to update you on the status of your application.

The following timetable sets out the key dates in the recruitment process:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Activity** |
| 7th July 2024 | Closing date |
| 18th and 19th July 2024 | Interviews |

For further information or confidential discussion, please contact: Max Woodford, Assistant Director City Development & Regeneration ([Max.Woodford@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:Max.Woodford@brighton-hove.gov.uk))