

Job profile

Service and job specific context statement

Directorate:	Central Services
Service:	Strategy and Performance
Post title:	Graduate Trainee – Strategy & Performance
Grade:	E, F and G
Responsible to:	Head of Strategy and Performance
Staff managed:	None
Date of issue:	March 2021
Job family:	P&T - Professional & Technical

Job context

The Strategy and Performance Team covers two broad areas of activity, strategic planning and performance improvement. The team co-ordinates strategy development and strategic planning to improve the targeting of increasingly scarce resources and achieve better outcomes; and provides performance challenge and evidence-based analysis to support leaders in driving performance improvement to achieve this.

Benefits of working & learning with this team:

The successful applicant will have the opportunity to develop the following:

- Understanding of the policy context of local government
- Understanding of and skills required to develop strategies and policies
- Understanding of and skills required to work in political environment
- Project management skills, leading on specific areas of development
- Research, analysis, report writing and presentation skills
- Working at a corporate and directorate level
- Partnership working
- Working across North Yorkshire – develop knowledge of the diversity of the county, and the challenges and opportunities of rurality

All graduates are expected to participate in the 'corporate graduate development programme' – the content is as follows: -

- Corporate Induction
- Aspiring Managers Programme
- Senior managers seminars (led by the Chief Executive)
- Managers webinars programme
- Access to on line material, including Ashridge Management College
- Graduate Network membership, including 'lunchtime learning'
- Mentor support
- Graduates will be offered the appropriate management skills training if they have staff to manage during their programme or to support their permanent placement following the graduate programme.

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Job specifics

To work with the Strategy & Performance Team to support work on developing strategy, policy, performance improvement and preparation of analysis/intelligence. This will involve working as part of a wider team on the development of policies and strategies and monitoring performance. This could include, specific projects, literature reviews, researching best practice and data, analysis of data and writing reports / documents.

Graduates who join NYCC are expected to:

- achieve the objectives set for them;
- ask for help/clarity where needed;
- develop their knowledge through self-directed study – further research, reading and questions;
- fully participate in all training opportunities through on the job experience, mentoring and coaching and formal training and learning;
- work toward becoming professional member/associate where appropriate;
- make the most of the opportunities available within NYCC; and
- demonstrate NYCCs expected behaviours of:
 1. focussing on customers and communities;
 2. taking responsibility;
 3. working together;
 4. acting with integrity
 5. building a culture of continuous improvement and innovation; and
 6. leading by example.

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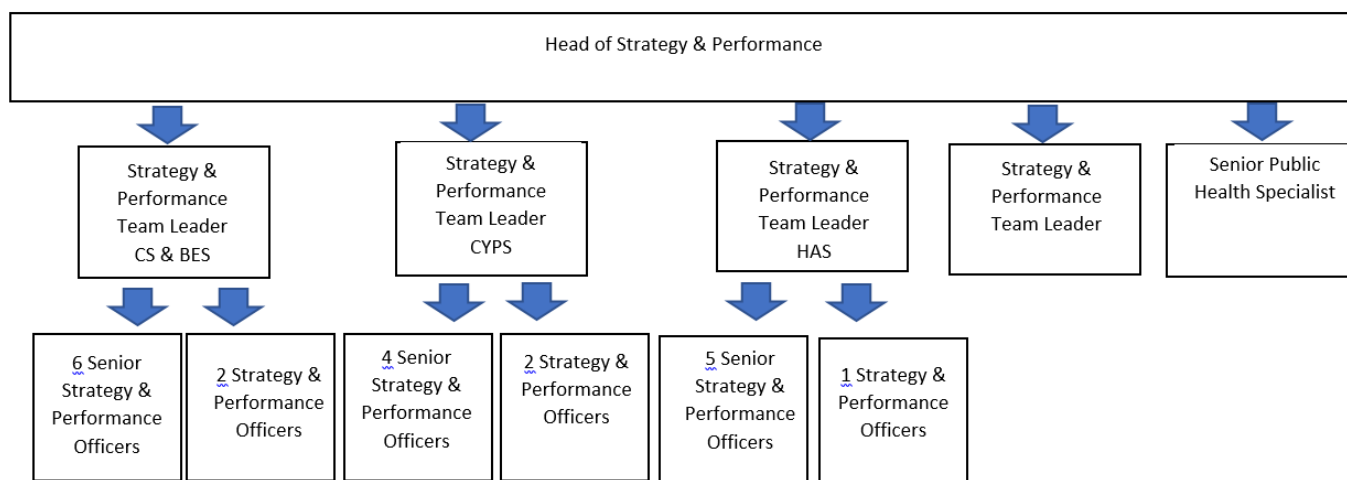
Career progression

- The post is a 24-month development post which can be tailored (within reason) to meet the career aspirations of the postholder.
- The first 6 months will focus on learning the business of the team. In the second 6 months the postholder would take on more independent project work, in the final 12 months they will be expected to manage a project independently with oversight rather than close supervision. They will also fully understand the nature of the business and be able to suggest organisational/operational change/developments as part of the leadership team.

Pay progression will be based on performance review at 6 months and then 12 months as follows:

- Months 1-6 spinal point 6, Grade E
- Months 7-12 spinal point 8, Grade F
- Months 13-21 spinal point 13, Grade G

Structure



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Job Description

Job purpose	Typical graduate placements are required to deliver a range of projects within an area of specialism within the County Council to effectively meet the organisation's needs.
Operational management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deliver a quality service to internal and/or external customers as required; • Provide a complete 'end to end' service delivery, establishing ownership and closure as needed. • Support on the development, delivery and evaluation of interventions, including training and workshops to managers on the specifics for the project/service area. • Support the corporate lead for a specialist subject area including acquiring and maintaining specialist knowledge, supporting on related policy and processes.
Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide advice and guidance on the area of the service delivery the graduate is placed within as part of the project development and implementation. • Clearly communicate the requirements of the project and prepare clear written reports on progress and analysis carried out.
Partnership / corporate working	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Working with staff from across the different services of the County Council and partner organisations in some cases to support the efficient and effective delivery of services and achievement of project objectives. • Ensure links between the project and stakeholders are developed and maintained to provide an efficient service. • Develop a understanding of the wider role of the County Council
Resource management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and recommend appropriate action to service manager, and develop and implement guidance and action plans to enable and facilitate the delivery of key initiatives.
Systems and information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilise management information to facilitate achievement of objectives. • Use a range of computer systems to manage and progress case work, analyse and report on relevant data and to maintain effective communication. • Adopt new ways of working when new systems are introduced,
Policy and projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contribute to policy development, consultation and implementation process. • Support on Directorate and Corporate projects as appropriate with support from relevant service colleagues.

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Person Specification	
Essential upon appointment	Desirable on appointment
Knowledge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good understanding of how policies/procedures can be applied in practice to result in required outcomes. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Good knowledge of relevant legislation Knowledge of change management processes
Experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of project work Experience of managing a busy workload within set deadlines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Experience of working in a corporate and political context
Occupational Skills <ul style="list-style-type: none"> IT skills and ability to interpret and analysis data Communication, presentation and interpersonal skills Problem solving skills and the ability to find innovative solutions Influencing and negotiating skills Commitment to the performance management culture with the ability to set high standards, deliver objectives and challenge managers appropriately A coaching based approach to support managers and develop Delivering briefings and training to managers/other staff Flexibility and ability to work with ambiguity 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Policy formulation skills Coaching/mentoring Policy implementation skills
Professional Qualifications/Training/Registrations required by law, and/or essential for the performance of the role <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education to first degree level Good standard of literacy and numeracy to level 2 or equivalent 	
Other Requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team worker/collaborative working Self-motivated and commitment to equal opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Some roles will require the ability to travel across the County.
Behaviours	Link