



Dear Candidate,

Many thanks for your interest in the role of Head of Planning Services

For anyone that wants to make a lasting impact in a fast-moving and dynamic environment, Cotswold District is a great place for your next career move.

It's not often the opportunity arises to rebuild a council, but that's exactly what we're doing. The decision to repatriate a significant number of key services, (previously outsourced and delivered by our partner company Publica) has created an opportunity for transformation that simply hasn't been an option for many years. We're taking the council in an exciting new direction truly shaped around the needs of our residents, businesses and communities.

We're seeking an inspiring individual to join us as our Head of Planning Services to lead and manage the planning services team in collaboration with our new Assistant Director - Planning Services.

The Cotswolds is recognised as a fantastic place to live, visit and do business. Cirencester was recently voted the best place to live in the south west. We've got cutting edge green aviation businesses located at Kemble Airport and internationally recognised food safety business Campden BRI in the north Cotswolds. We have a significant strategic housing development known as The Steadings in Cirencester (our equivalent of a garden village) delivering over 2000 houses and 700 affordable homes. But we know we can go further and with government mandates to deliver housing like never before, we need a fresh and proactive approach to strategic development opportunities.

As a qualified planning professional, you'll drive forward these ambitions, acting as the council's lead officer at planning committees, provide expert advice and direction to the council and its members, and establish yourself as a trusted authority in the field. You'll shape planning policy and planning delivery to ensure consistently high standards. A broad awareness of local and national planning policies and the planning industry will be essential for effective management of relationships with officers, members and stakeholders.

We're looking for a leader with proven experience in development management, ideally with a strong track record of delivering major development projects, particularly in housing. A 'can do' attitude and an ability to respond to the needs of our businesses and residents will be vital. If you're motivated by the challenge of playing a key role in shaping a sustainable and modern planning service within a vibrant community, and you have a comprehensive understanding of public sector challenges and planning regulations, I'd love to hear from you.

I wish you the very best of luck with your application.

Robert Weaver
Chief Executive, Cotswold District Council

