



Homes
England



Senior Manager, Community Engagement and Participation

Department	Greater Cambridge Development Corporation
Reports To	Head of Strategic Communications
Grade	Senior Manager
Job Level	17
Location	Cambridge
Team Size / Direct Reports	TBC

Our Role and Mission

Greater Cambridge is one of the UK's most important innovation hubs. The area's concentration of science and technology companies, and research-intensive clusters in life sciences, AI, biotech and advanced manufacturing means it's one of the country's strongest drivers of future economic growth.

However, the pressures facing the area are real and structural. Water scarcity, grid capacity, significant transport congestion and housing affordability constraints are all holding growth back. Removing the barriers to growth could generate significant national economic benefits. The magnitude of the challenges means they cannot be overcome through incremental change. A bold, long-term approach, and a genuine step change in how infrastructure is planned, coordinated and delivered is required, which is why the government has established the Greater Cambridge Development Corporation

The **Greater Cambridge Development Corporation** is a statutory body set up as a new local-national partnership. Steered by our Board, chaired by Peter Freeman, and comprising the mayor of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, the leaders from the City and South Cambridgeshire District and the County Council, and leaders from industry, innovation and the health sectors, we are responsible for aligning the investment for, and overseeing the delivery of, significant infrastructure and homes that will underpin long-term, ambitious sustainable and inclusive growth across Greater Cambridge.

Working with local, regional and national partners, our core mission is to secure Greater Cambridge's success as Europe's most innovative city ensuring that growth transforms the quality of life of our communities and becomes the best place in Europe to live, work and innovate. By coordinating infrastructure, unlocking investment and accelerating the delivery of jobs, homes and great places, together we will help create a more liveable, better connected and more inclusive Greater Cambridge. We will demonstrate how coordinated, infrastructure-led development can improve quality of

life and support sustainable, more equal economic growth for the benefit of existing and future communities.

All our actions will be guided by six core objectives: achieving **transformational economic growth**; delivering **Infrastructure-led development**; enabling **innovative investment**; enhancing the **environment and climate resilient communities**; furthering **inclusion and opportunity**; all enabled by **local representation, participation and transparency**.

This role is being recruited by Homes England to support the establishment and operation of the Greater Cambridge Development Corporation. The successful candidate will initially be employed by Homes England and will work predominantly on matters relating to the Greater Cambridge Development Corporation and its activities.

Job Purpose

The postholder will play a pivotal role in the Development Corporation's work to involve local people in shaping the long-term future of Greater Cambridge. They will make sure residents, partners, and stakeholders have opportunities to influence priorities, plans and projects helping to create places that meet local needs and deliver benefits for communities.

Working with colleagues, central government, the Mayoral Strategic Authority, local authorities, and a wide range of external partners, the postholder will bring specialist knowledge and practical experience to create innovative, best practice approaches to engagement. They will promote inclusive placemaking principles, and optimise community buy-in, ensuring that engagement activity aligns with the Greater Cambridge Development corporation's goals.

The role will involve planning and managing a wide range of activities, including community conversations, consultations and other engagement approaches. The post holder will work with Project teams to advise on engagement best practice and create local engagement plans, manage specialist consultants where needed and monitor and measure how well engagement is working.

This role requires strong people skills, sound judgement and the ability to lead engagement on complex and high-profile projects.

Key Relationships

The role will require working collaboratively with a wide range of partners. Principal partners include:

- Colleagues across the Development Corporation, specifically project teams responsible for place-making, environment, sustainability and social inclusion, consultants and communications and engagement teams.

- Local stakeholders, including business, representative organisations and universities, community groups and residents' associations, and directly with residents.
- Local MPs, the Mayor, council Leaders, members and officers of Cambridgeshire LAs (District/Unitary Councils/ ward and parish, the Mayoral Strategic Authority and the Greater Cambridgeshire Shared Planning Service (GCSPS))
- The Development Corporation's board and committees.
- Neighbouring local authorities and/or national agencies.

Key Accountabilities & Responsibilities

1. Develop and maintain Community Engagement and Participation Strategies, setting clear principles, standards and objectives for community engagement, stakeholder involvement and social impact across all programmes and projects.
2. Provide oversight and expert advice on engagement, participation and social impact activities to project teams responsible for development, infrastructure and placemaking projects, ensuring approaches are inclusive, evidence-led, proportionate and deliver value for money.
3. Build and maintain effective relationships with communities, local authorities, partners, statutory bodies and other key stakeholders to support successful project delivery and strengthen public confidence.
4. Commission and manage specialist engagement consultants where required, acting as an intelligent client to ensure high-quality delivery to agreed objectives, timescales and budgets.
5. Lead the monitoring, evaluation and reporting of community engagement and social impact activities capturing outcomes, lessons learned, costs and benefits to drive continuous improvement and demonstrate impact.
6. Identify and manage stakeholder-related opportunities, risks and issues, providing advice to programme and project teams on navigating competing interests and building consensus.
7. Represent the Corporation at public meetings, engagement events and external forums, promoting good practice, strengthening relationships and communicating the benefits of meaningful community participation.
8. Promote collaboration and knowledge sharing across the organisation and with delivery partners, embedding best practice in engagement, participation and social impact.
9. Support governance and decision-making processes, including preparing high-quality reports, briefings and approval papers for senior leaders, committees and the Board.

Greater Cambridge Development Corporation employees are expected to be flexible in undertaking duties and responsibilities commensurate with the general character of the role and level of responsibility. As a Senior Manager this is likely to include attendance at public consultation events and committees outside of ‘core working hours’

Key Skills, Knowledge & Experience

1. Significant experience leading community engagement, stakeholder participation and consultation programmes for major development, infrastructure or placemaking initiatives.
2. Strong knowledge of best practice community engagement, public participation and co-design methods, with the ability to select and apply appropriate approaches for different audiences and contexts.
3. Experience of developing engagement strategies and translating policy and organisational objectives into effective delivery plans and measurable outcomes.
4. Strong understanding of the planning, development and infrastructure delivery environment, including relevant government policy, regulatory frameworks and stakeholder interests.
5. Proven ability to build relationships, influence decision-making and achieve consensus across diverse stakeholder groups, including communities, partners and statutory bodies.
6. Experience of working in complex and politically sensitive environments, engaging effectively with local authorities, government departments, elected members and community representatives.
7. Ability to provide strategic advice to senior leaders on engagement, participation, reputation and stakeholder risks, supporting informed decision-making.
8. Experience of commissioning and managing external consultants and partners, ensuring high-quality delivery to agreed objectives, budgets and timescales.
9. Strong analytical and evaluation skills, with experience of measuring engagement outcomes, capturing learning and using evidence to improve practice.
10. Excellent communication, facilitation and presentation skills, with the ability to engage confidently with a wide range of audiences and represent the organisation publicly.

Key Performance Measures

1. Establishment and/or maintenance of key relationships referenced above.

2. Establish, maintain and execute a robust public engagement strategy through the delivery of delegated responsibilities and assigned priorities
3. Delivery of innovation around engagement practices, policy and technique and how this is translated into action on the ground.
4. Establish a priority place presence across key communities and stakeholders
5. Attendance and effective performance at key meetings mentioned above.

Values and Behaviours



Further information about the Greater Cambridge Development Corporation

Click [here](#) to learn more about the GCDC and its work.