



Isle of Man
Public Service
Careers

2026

PLANNING & SENIOR PLANNING OFFICERS

Department of Environment, Food &
Agriculture

Creating attractive and sustainable 'places' and an economy achieving long term growth, whilst improving the quality of life in the Isle of Man.



Welcome

Thank you for taking the time to consider joining our Development Management team. If you're thinking about applying, that's great news – we're always keen to hear from planners who care about creating good places and making sound decisions.

This is an exciting time to be working in planning on the Isle of Man. Our caseload ranges from householder applications to major infrastructure and regeneration projects, including strategically significant proposals. You'll help shape places and communities – and you'll often see the impact of your work quickly.

What really sets this role apart is that, as planners in government, our work goes beyond day-to-day casework. We have a genuine opportunity to influence and help shape Island-wide planning policy, including changes to Permitted Development and planning legislation – work that many development management planners in the UK don't get the chance to do. It means your on-the-ground experience can directly inform how the planning system evolves.

Planning on the Isle of Man offers a breadth of experience that's hard to match. You'll work across varied application types, engage directly with colleagues, politicians, decision-makers and communities, and build a genuinely rounded skillset. Professional judgement is valued, collaboration comes naturally, and good planning really matters.

We're a supportive, friendly and down-to-earth team. We aim to do things well, be fair and proportionate, and look after each other – alongside the wider Directorate' values of integrity, openness and public service. Add to that the quality of life the Island offers, and it's a great place to build both a career and a life.

We hope this pack gives you a feel for what it's like to work with us – and we'd be delighted to hear from you.

Abigail Morgan

Interim Director of Planning and Building Control



Planning Officer

As a Planning Officer, you will be part of the Development Management Team within the Planning & Building Control Directorate, based in the centre of Douglas.

Reporting to a Principal Planner, you will:

- Manage a personal workload of pre-application discussions, applications, appeals and enforcement cases, including any presentation to the Planning Committee, appeal hearings/inquiries, condition discharge, and legal proceedings in connection with planning enforcement (including in relation to Registered Buildings issues, cases and applications).
- Provide information and professional advice (including in writing, by phone and in meetings) to all customers (including developers, the public, Local Authorities and Government Departments) in relation to relevant planning matters.
- Establish and maintain effective communication and foster an effective working relationship within the DEFA, other Departments, agencies of the Isle of Man Government, Local Authorities and other stakeholders.
- Assist in the preparation of, and attendance at, meetings (including public meetings) and presentations, as required.
- Assist in the promotion of good quality in design of buildings and creation of places (including conservation matters) through the delivery of planning services on the Isle of Man.
- Keep abreast of changes in the approach to development management and planning policy off the Island and at all times observe best planning practice in the performance of duties.
- Assist in the preparation of guidance notes or leaflets, as requested by the Head of Development Management.
- Carry out such other related duties as may be requested by the Director of Planning and Building Control, including supporting the planning policy functions of the Cabinet Office, as required.



Senior Planning Officer

As a Senior Planning Officer, you will be part of the Development Management Team within the Planning & Building Control Directorate, based in the centre of Douglas.

Reporting to a Principal Planner, you will:

- Manage a personal workload of pre-application discussions, applications, appeals and enforcement cases, including any presentation to the Planning Committee, appeal hearings/inquiries, condition discharge, and legal proceedings in connection with planning enforcement (including in relation to Minerals, Waste and Registered Buildings issues, cases and applications)
- Respond to requests from other members of the team, including the Planning Officers, for day-to-day advice and support, in relation to relevant planning matters.
- Provide information and professional advice to all customers (including developers, the public, Local Authorities and Government Departments) in relation to relevant planning matters.
- Establish and maintain effective communication and foster an effective working relationship within the DEFA, other Departments, agencies of the Isle of Man Government, Local Authorities and other stakeholders.
- Assist in the preparation of, and attendance at, meetings (including public meetings) and presentations as may be required.
- Promote good quality in design of buildings and creation of places (including conservation matters) through the delivery of planning services on the Isle of Man.
- Keep abreast of changes in the approach to development management and planning policy off the Island and at all times observe best planning practice in the performance of duties.
- Assist, as required, in amendments to legislation, operational policies and processes, including the preparation of guidance notes or leaflets, as requested by the Head of Development Management.
- Such other related duties as may be requested by the Director of Planning and Building Control, including supporting the planning policy functions of the Cabinet Office, as required.

Who we're looking for

Below are the essential and desirable requirements for our Planning Officer and Senior Planning Officer positions.

Planning Officers

Essential:

- At least ONE of the following
 - A degree that is fully accredited by the Royal Town Planning Institute
 - A degree that is non or part accredited but can be demonstrated to be fully relevant to planning
 - A degree which is not relevant to Planning AND 1 year of work experience*
 - An RTPI Technical Support Apprenticeship AND 1 year of work experience*
 - 5 years of work experience* Note: Reference to "Work experience" in this only relates to experience gained at a professional level in planning (for example Development Management, Enforcement or Policy) or a related and relevant field.
- Experience of using IT in projects, and in particular of using Microsoft Office, email, and the Internet
- An eye for detail, ability to keep accurate notes and have good organisational skills including working to tight deadlines
- Negotiation skills - undertaken in a professional and diplomatic way when dealing with customers

Desirable:

- At least 1 years work experience (including technical support) within a planning or related environment

Senior Planning Officers

Essential:

- Chartered Member of the Royal Town Planning Institute
- Experience of presenting evidence / applications to formal meetings (such as Planning Committees, Public Inquiries and/or Examinations in Public)
- Experience of using IT in projects, and in particular of using Microsoft Office, email, the Internet, GIS and planning related packages
- An eye for detail, ability to keep accurate notes and have good organisational and project management skills including working on complex projects to tight deadlines.
- Strong negotiation skills - undertaken in a professional and diplomatic way when dealing with customers.

Desirable:

- At least 2 years' work experience within a Development Management context at a professional level
- Must be able to professionally and effectively give evidence in court

Who we're looking for

In addition to the essential requirements above, we welcome applications for both positions from individuals who:

Essential:

- Have good written and oral communication skills, including being able to prepare, write and present clear and accurate reports.
- Have awareness of and adherence to Health and Safety procedures whilst carrying out duties
- Have the ability to work effectively as part of a team by developing and maintaining good working relationships with wide range of stakeholders and customers
- Have the ability to demonstrate resilience, work on own initiative with minimal supervision, prioritise work and meet tight deadlines
- Are committed to providing high quality, customer focussed Development Management services and assisting customers understanding of the processes involved
- Are self-motivated with demonstrable commitment to personal, professional and technical development and training
- Are able to travel to various sites for work purposes across the Island in the course of their duties and you must be able to demonstrate how you would be able to achieve this (pool cars are available).
- Have a flexible attitude and approach to work
- Have a willingness to attend occasional meetings outside normal working hours.
- Are future focused
- Make considered decisions
- Encourage innovation and support change
- Have open conversations
- Address the issues
- Build supportive relationships
- Are professional and credible
- Trusts and is trusted
- Has positive energy and drive
- Inspires, motivates and empowers

Desirable:

- Have experience of collecting, analysing, presenting and disseminating data
- Have awareness of the operation of the Isle of Man planning system and legislation
- Have awareness of the differences in town and country planning legislation in the Isle of Man, the British Isles and other planning jurisdictions
- Have an interest in developing use of information and communications technology within the planning service
- Are classified as an Isle of Man Worker



A special place to live and work

The Isle of Man occupies a central position in the Irish Sea and the British Isles – between England and Ireland and is accessible by sea and by air, with over 200 weekly flights off Island.

We are blessed with an extensive coastline, stunning natural landscapes and unspoilt beaches and it is a popular holiday destination. Measuring 33 miles long and 13 miles wide, with a population of approximately 85,000 people, the Island has a diverse landscape, including glens, rolling hills and beaches.

The Isle of Man is a self-governing country, but has always had and continues to have very strong ties to the UK. The Island offers an excellent education and an NHS style free healthcare system.

The Island has a strong national Manx identity and culture that is community spirited and celebrated with cultural, food and drink and sporting festivals throughout the year including the world renowned TT races and the Manx Telecom Parish Walk.

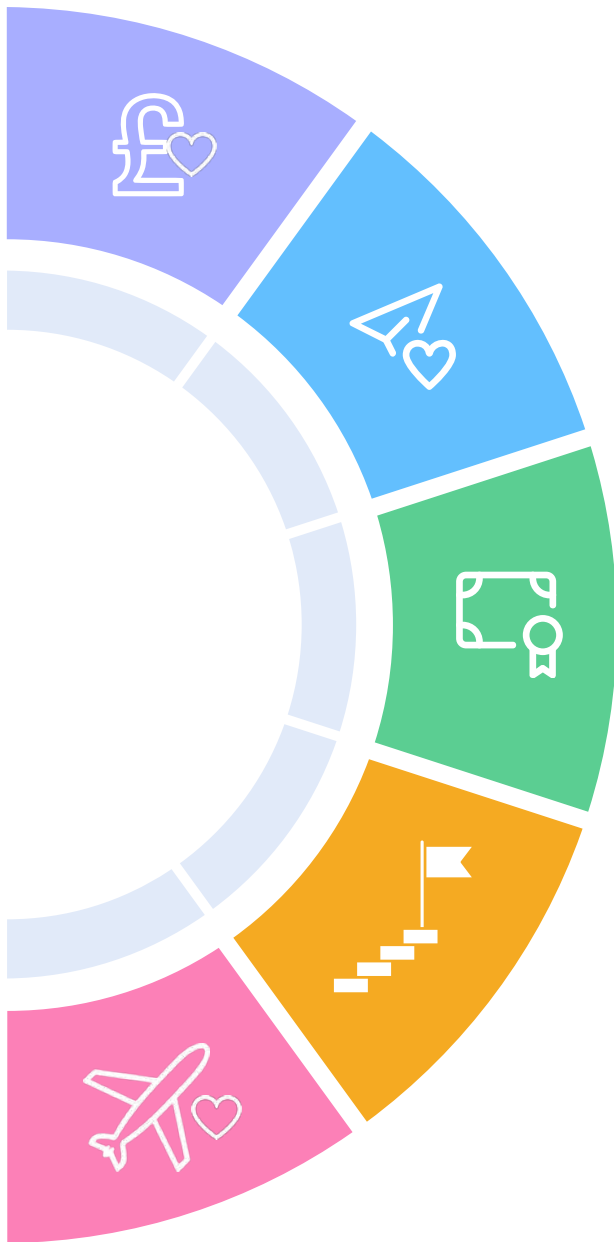
Those living in the Island benefit from an unbeatable quality of life and great lifestyle opportunities. We are one of the safest places to live in Europe and are the only Island nation in the world to be awarded UNESCO Biosphere status, making it a truly unique location to live and work.

All the information you could need on your new life in the Isle of Man is available for you at www.locate.im.

LOCATE 
ISLE OF MAN



Your benefits



1

Competitive salary and Pension

A competitive salary that increases each 12 months until you reach the salary maximum. Subject to meeting eligibility criteria, the IOM Public Service offers two pension arrangements.

2

Generous Annual Leave

A generous annual leave entitlement, a Privilege Day and 10 Bank Holidays.

3

Professional Development

Excellent opportunities for professional learning, including access to the Learning, Education and Development training facility, which is exclusively for Public Service employees, to keep on top of your continuous professional development.

4

Opportunities for promotion

Good opportunities for promotion within our education sites.

5

Relocation Package

A generous relocation package to help support your move to the Isle of Man based on receipts.





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APPLY TODAY

GET IN TOUCH



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