

PLANNING SKILLS FRAMEWORK

Skills

There are a variety of skills that planners need and these can be acquired by training and/or experience. The following is not an exhaustive list of skills but includes in summary the range of skills required.

Planning related skills

- Conceptual/intellectual thinking – producing strategies and plans
- Managing change
- Spatial thinking
- Problem solving and analysis
- Knowledge of planning law
- Aesthetic awareness
- Partnership working

Transferable skills – planning

- Written/oral communications
- Presentation skills
- Team work
- Managing meetings
- Ability to read maps/plans
- Data collection, investigation and research
- Negotiation, mediation and advocacy

Transferable skills – generic

- Project and resource management
- People organisation and leadership
- Creativity
- Flexibility and adaptability
- ICT skills

As a planner within the Civil Service these skill requirements complement and add to the core competencies all civil servants must have as set out in the Professional Skills for Government framework.

Career progression as a planner in the Civil Service will have regard to length and nature of your experience.

- There will be opportunities for graduate or newly qualified planners at EO or HEO grades.
- Within 3-5 years experience there will be opportunities at HEO or SEO grades.
- With experience in excess of 5 years then opportunities exist at SEO and Grade 7 (6).
- Beyond that, opportunities exist to progress into the Senior Civil Service.

This experience can be gained within the Civil Service and the experience can be in other Government Departments provided it is evidentially planning related.

Relevant experience can be gained from outside the Civil Service.

Evidence of continued professional development will be sought in all cases.

Eligibility for corporate RTPI membership is required.