



Role profile

Science and Research Strategy Team Leader

Civil Service Grade: Grade 7	Salary Minimum: £54,105	Contract Type: Permanent
Job Type(s): Strategy Science Security	Civil Service Profession: Science & Engineering	DfT Directorate: Transport Security, Resilience and Response
Location(s): London	Reporting to Job Title: Head of Innovation, Strategy and Resilience	

Job description

Job summary

Transport Security, Resilience and Response (TSRR) leads on national security matters, ranging from counter terrorism and cyber security to planning for and responding to natural hazards or civil contingencies. We deliver expertise to support security and resilience policy teams whilst also providing the department's 24/7 response for all security or civil contingency incidents. The team works with security and intelligence partners from across government to mitigate risk to the UK's transport sector.

TSRR is a major player in delivering both the Government's counter-terrorism strategy (CONTEST), and the department's aim for a transport system that works for everyone and balances the needs of society, the environment and the economy. A key factor in that aim is to deliver a safe, secure and resilient transport network, for people and goods, for today and tomorrow.

The Science and Research Strategy (SRS) Team within the National Security Science and Research (NSSR) division of TSRR deliver a more strategic approach to transport security science and technology (S&T), both in the work we do and how we engage most effectively with our cross-government partners, academia and industry. The team's work cuts across all transport modes and national security risks, with the team also currently developing the delivery of our Civil Contingencies & Resilience research to support teams across DfT.

The team leader is responsible for the implementation and delivery of the Transport Security and Resilience S&T Strategy which sets out how we will transform our delivery of key science research, advice and solutions for a range of transport and national security and resilience challenges to meet demands. This is a great opportunity for someone who wants to set the direction and drive how we deliver our security and resilience S&T within DfT and across government for the future. Through their own team

and others within the division, the post-holder will lead delivery of several projects to deliver against a challenging strategic and innovation agenda within the S&T space.

The post holder will lead for the division in engagement with other departmental and government strategies; to ensure that transport security S&T is effectively aligned and embedded, that DfT is able to influence those strategies and to leverage opportunities across government to better enable delivery of DfT's national security S&T objectives. They will build relationships with industry and academia to improve communication of transport security challenges and better leverage external investment. They will also lead on engagement with policy colleagues to drive holistic thinking on how S&T can support strategic policy objectives.

We are a passionate, friendly, dedicated and supportive team that is committed to ensuring the security of transport, as well as the prosperity of the UK and transport industry. We are internationally renowned as a technical authority on transport security, and have strong collaborations with many international partners, including the US and Europe; and the SRS team works closely with colleagues across the wider government community to ensure effective co-ordination. As such some travel will be required for this role, under normal circumstances some travel within the UK and occasional international travel.

Additionally, NSSR plays a crucial role in the Department's emergency response mechanisms. You therefore may be required to participate in the Department's response to a security or civil contingencies incident. This may include out of hours working on occasion, but we make every effort to allow for your personal circumstances.

Transport Security, Resilience and Response invests significantly in training and developing staff to prepare them not just for an interesting and challenging job, but also for a rewarding career in the Government security profession. Our expectation is that our staff will remain in post for at least two years.

Duties and responsibilities

The post holder will have a broad range of key responsibilities, including:

- Lead implementation and delivery of the Transport Security and Resilience S&T strategy, embedding new ways of working across the division and ensuring a coherent, long-term approach.
- Establish and deliver through appropriate governance structures for the strategy.
- Deliver a horizon-scanning capability, linking to wider cross-government initiatives that informs transport security and resilience policy development and drives our innovation and research programmes.
- Lead DfT engagement in delivery of the cross-government National Security S&T strategy, on behalf of the DfT Chief Scientific Advisor.
- Build a sustainable Resilience Research capability that is driven by prioritised risks and policy needs drawn from across DfT, building a programme of work that addresses priority gaps, and also building a community across the department that brings together all national security and resilience S&T to maximise benefit for DfT and wider government.
- Deliver a comprehensive external engagement strategy which enables DfT to effectively leverage national security research undertaken by academia, industry and international partners.

- Lead Division and Directorate engagement in relevant cross-departmental S&T projects and governance, for example the Evidence and Research Summary, Futures and more.
- Lead engagement for DfT with the cross-government National Security Technology & Innovation Exchange (NSTIx) and support key deliverables which benefit DfT, as well as the cross-government national security S&T community.
- Coordinate DfTs input into the Integrated Review and Spending Review bids.
- Commissioning and delivering briefings for senior officials and Ministers for relevant National Security S&T meetings.
- Leadership and management of the Science & Research Strategy team (currently two SEOs and a Science & Engineering Fast Streamer).
- Deputising for and supporting the Head of Innovation, Strategy and Resilience and Deputy Director as required.

The post holder will need to deliver through their own team and virtual teams within the Division and across government.

Person specification

Behaviours

Leadership: Promote diversity, inclusion and equality of opportunity, respecting difference and external experience. Welcome and respond to views and challenges from others, despite any conflicting pressures to ignore or give in to them. Stand by, promote or defend own and team's actions and decisions where needed. Seek out shared interests beyond own area of responsibility, understanding the extent of the impact actions have on the organisation. Inspire and motivate teams to be fully engaged in their work and dedicated to their role.

Communicating and Influencing: Communicate with others in a clear, honest and enthusiastic way in order to build trust. Explain complex issues in a way that is easy to understand. Take into account people's individual needs. Deliver difficult messages with clarity and sensitivity, being persuasive when required. Consider the impact of the language used. Remain open-minded and impartial in discussions, whilst respecting the diverse interests and opinions of others. Introduce different methods for communication, including making the most of digital resources whilst getting value for money. Monitor the effectiveness of own and team communications and take action to improve where necessary.

Seeing the Big Picture: Develop and maintain an understanding of economic, social, political, environmental and technological developments to ensure activity is relevant. Ensure plans and activities in your area of work reflect wider strategic priorities and communicate effectively with senior leaders to influence future strategies. Adopt a governmentwide perspective to ensure alignment of activity and policy. Bring together views, perspectives and diverse needs of stakeholders to gain a broader understanding of the issues surrounding policies and activities.

Delivering at Pace: Ensure everyone clearly understands and owns their roles, responsibilities and business priorities. Give honest, motivating and enthusiastic messages about priorities, objectives and expectations to get the best out of people. Comply with legal, regulatory and security requirements in service delivery. Set out clear processes and standards for managing performance at all levels. Ensure delivery of timely quality outcomes, through providing the right resources to do the job, reviewing

and adjusting performance expectations and rewarding success. Maintain own levels of performance in challenging circumstances and encourage others to do the same.

[More information about Behaviours](#)

Experience

Experience in one of the following areas is required:

- Implementation and delivery of strategy
- Project or programme management
- Science delivery for Government

In addition, the post holder must have experience of leading teams to deliver clear outputs to time and quality. This could be through a team leader/management role or through leading a virtual team.

[More information about Experience](#)

Strengths

You will be assessed against Civil Service Strengths at interview. For further details, please see the [Civil Service Strengths Dictionary](#).

[More information about Strengths](#)

Technical

Applying scientific and technical knowledge: Applies knowledge, experience and skills effectively, providing innovative solutions to problems. Works effectively on cross-cutting projects and establishes positive links with other professional streams. Understands longer term and strategic issues related to the projects and programmes. Identifies and assesses risk, uncertainties and confounding factors, can respond effectively to unforeseen situations, understands the limitations of their own expertise and knows when to call in external experts or flag an issue.

[More information about Technical](#)

Essential criteria

- Formal qualification in a STEM subject to at least degree or equivalent level
- This role is open to UK nationals only
- Candidates will also be expected to demonstrate their technical experience against the Government Science and Engineering Career framework.

Other helpful information you need to know

Level of security clearance: Security Check (SC)	Working Pattern: Full-time; Part-time; Job share; Flexible working	Contact Information: Jess Sorrell Jessica.Sorrell@dft.gov.uk 07977 428448
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