



Role: Statutory Planning Specialist

Area: Major Projects

Location: Dublin

Duration: Permanent **Salary:** Competitive

Ref: MPR285

Ervia is a commercial semi-state company which provides strategic national gas and water infrastructure and services in Ireland. Through our regulated business, Gas Networks Ireland, we build and operate one of the most modern and safe gas networks in the world. In 2014, we took responsibility for the operation and maintenance of Ireland's water and wastewater assets through our other regulated business Irish Water. Ervia directly employs over 1,600 people who deliver services to 1.6 million customers daily. Our infrastructure supports economic and social development, protects the environment and enhances the health and quality of life of the Irish people.

The Role:

The delivery of projects requires the relevant consents and permissions to be obtained under the Planning and Development Act and related National and European legislation. Reporting to the Planning and Compliance Manager, the Statutory Planning Specialist will work with internal and external personnel to manage pre- and post-Planning consent activities to achieve business objectives.

A key part of this role will be building relationships with Third Party service providers and driving quality outputs in accordance with established procedures. In addition, ongoing engagement and coordination of activity with other planning, legal and environmental functions within Irish Water and Ervia will be crucial.

Duties and Responsibilities include:

- Drive excellence in quality of agreed standards and procedures, and ensure compliance with such standards and processes by third party service providers
- To provide detailed guidance in respect of proper planning and sustainable development, including preparation of internal guidelines, policies and processes
- Deliver strategic planning advice to support business objectives (including seeking external advice and review of same where appropriate)
- Review technical reports to ensure quality and consistency, including associated document control and communication procedures (including Peer Reviews as necessary)
- Review and, when appropriate, prepare submissions to strategic and statutory planning documents
- Undertake safeguarding procedures in respect of Major Projects (including the drafting of observations in respect of planning applications, where appropriate)
- Review and management of all Planning application documentation (drawings; statutory notices; planning application form; EIAR & NIS; AA Screening; Planning Report etc)
- Support Project and Programme Managers in respect of Planning Compliance and post-project completion issues
- Identifying, evaluating and developing possible solutions to risks and issues arising on projects and escalating as necessary, including any Planning matters that might affect portfolio delivery
- Build and maintain relationships with key internal and external stakeholders on a range of critical planning issues in relation to the delivery of infrastructure.
- Work closely with various personnel across Major Projects and Irish Water to understand current business requirements.
- Develop and promote effective working relationships with other planning, legal and environmental functions within Major Projects and Irish Water

- Proactively recognise and drive the need for innovation or improvement within existing processes or activities.
- Actively develops and maintains skills and expertise across a number of areas that are relevant to the planning and environmental field, including legislation at national and EU levels
- Perform other such duties such as Ervia may reasonably require.

Knowledge, Skills and Experience:

- Holds a professional qualification in town planning recognised by the Irish Planning Institute or the Royal Town Planning Institute as a qualification enabling the person to seek full membership of the relevant institute.
- Have at least 5 years satisfactory post-graduate experience in a town planning role, preferably on large infrastructural projects for the utilities sectors.
- Experience and expertise in Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Appropriate Assessment (AA) and working with multi-disciplinary teams
- Knowledge and experience of GIS desirable
- Expert knowledge and experience of Planning, its legislative context, nature, strategic objectives and processes.
- Demonstrated project management skills, particularly in respect of multifaceted projects requiring document control and decision tracking
- Detailed knowledge and experience of planning application assessment procedures applied by consenting authorities (An Bord Pleanála/ Local Authorities).
- Strong interpersonal skills with an ability to build and maintain relationships with internal and external stakeholder
- Strong communication skills with an ability to communicate technical issues clearly and effectively (both verbal and written)
- Ability to achieve delivery of competing demands within prescribed timelines and deadlines.
- Detail oriented with an ability to connect issues and think laterally
- Excellent analytical and problem solving skills and ability to identify, propose, and implement solutions

The closing date for receipt of applications for this vacancy is the 16th September 2021

Applications, including a current Curriculum Vitae should be emailed to: recruit@ervia.ie

Please include the Reference Number for this Role when making an application

We are committed to providing a diverse and inclusive place of work and have a robust strategy and framework called *ibelong* to enable this. We are an equal opportunity employer and through our recruitment process we welcome and encourage applications from interested and suitably qualified individuals regardless of gender, age, racial or ethnic origin, membership of the traveller community, religion or beliefs, family or civil status, sexual orientation/gender identity or disability.

Ervia is an equal opportunities employer