

Business Case and Benefits Executive

Employer:	East West Railway Company
Location:	Milton Keynes
Basis:	Permanent
Role Summary:	Unique opportunity to support the development of a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project by taking responsibility for developing the company's economic analysis and shaping how it drives decision-making across the project, including through high-quality business cases.

A little bit about us:

East West Rail is a new direct connection, linking communities between Oxford and Cambridge, including Bicester, Milton Keynes and Bedford by rail.

Oxford, Cambridge and the communities in between are renowned for their vibrant economy, educational excellence and scientific innovation. They deliver growth and prosperity both locally and for the whole country; connecting these two cities and the communities in between is crucial to the social and economic future of the region.

East West Railway Company was set up to accelerate the delivery of the East West Rail infrastructure and passenger services, bringing faster journey times and easing pressure on local roads.

We were set up by the Secretary of State for Transport in 2017 to do things differently. We aim to innovate, positively disrupt, and challenge the status-quo, leading to quicker and more cost-effective project delivery, and an improved experience for passengers and the communities we serve.

As we build our team, we're looking for people with the right skills and mindset so that we can innovate, positively disrupt and set new industry standards. Whether you've been working on some of the world's most exciting rail and infrastructure projects or can inspire us with your ideas and expertise from other sectors, we want to hear from you.

Responsibilities and accountabilities

Provide critical analytical advice, support evidence based decision-making and develop EWR business cases. There is a breadth of priorities we face as a team and the post-holder will be expected to autonomously lead on at least one of these and support on others. These priorities are most likely to include, but are not limited to:

- Lead the analysis that will shape decision-making across the company, for example identifying the preferred locations for new stations between Bedford and Cambridge
- Oversee the implementation of the benefits realisation strategy for EWR, including managing the work of other members of the team to track progress against delivering the benefits identified in the EWR benefits register
- Engage with a range of stakeholders within the DfT and other government departments to ensure that EWR Co's plans and activities support the government's overarching ambitions for the Oxford-Cambridge Arc, including realising the potential growth and housing opportunities identified by the National Infrastructure Commission (NIC)
- Support the early work to prepare the supporting evidence base for the Development Consent Order (DCO) application that will authorise the construction of the railway
- Scope out the content of the Outline Business Case (OBC) that will be submitted for government approval (DfT and HMT) and enable EWR Co to submit the DCO application
- Develop and refine the plan for producing the OBC, ensuring it is fully integrated with the wider programme of activities across the business over the next couple of years
- Commission, shape and influence analysis from the consultants that EWR Co is procuring to model the wider economic benefits of the EWR scheme
- Support EWR Co's commitment to customer service and an excellent customer journey, for example by using economic analysis to inform design decisions (e.g. station design)
- Take responsibility of your own and others' health and by adopting and working to the EWR Co Health and Safety principles
- Champion and act as a role model for EWR Co's vision and values, behaving in ways that are in alignment with EWR Co's Ways of working, encouraging and supporting others to do so too
- Promote diversity and inclusion in the workplace and adopt appropriate behaviours when interacting with colleagues
- The role will involve matrix management of at least one assistant economist to begin with

Experience and skills

- Experience of and a passion for developing and using analysis to support robust decision-making
- Experience of developing and/or reviewing business cases within a government context, or in a closely related field, i.e. appraising or evaluating investment decisions or regulatory changes

- Evidence of working proactively and flexibly within a dynamic environment to influence policy and decision-making
- An ability to communicate analysis clearly, concisely and effectively, including to senior decision-makers
- Strong interpersonal and influencing skills, and are comfortable in pushing back and providing direction to internal and external colleagues
- Strong project management skills (or a willingness to develop this in the role), experience in managing multiple work streams and aligning project work with business priorities
- The ability to give credible advice even when the evidence is incomplete or ambiguous
- The ability to proactively seek opportunities robust evidence to impact investment decisions, giving well-judged analytical advice to a range of stakeholders
- A comprehensive understanding of government appraisal standards
- Knowledge of the rail sector is not essential, although experience of transport policy or related economic development area (e.g. housing, local growth) is desirable

Join the team!

Please send your resume and a covering letter explaining why you are interested in the role and meet the above experience requirements to: **recruitment@eastwestrail.co.uk**