

Role Description

Senior Economist



**Planning,
Industry &
Environment**

Cluster	Planning, Industry & Environment
Agency	Department of Planning, Industry & Environment
Division/Branch/Unit	Strategy and Reform /Economics, Population and Land-use Forecasting
Location	Parramatta
Classification/Grade/Band	Clerk Grade 9/10
Role Number	TBC
ANZSCO Code	224311
PCAT Code	1119192
Date of Approval	August 2020
Agency Website	www.dpie.nsw.gov.au

Agency overview

Our vision is to create thriving environments, communities and economies for the people of New South Wales. We focus on some of the biggest issues facing our state. We deliver sustainable water resource and environment management, secure our energy supply, oversee our planning system, maximise community benefit from government land and property, and create the conditions for a prosperous state. We strive to be a high-performing, world-class public service organisation that celebrates and reflects the full diversity of the community we serve and seeks to embed Aboriginal cultural awareness and knowledge throughout the department.

Primary purpose of the role

The Senior Economist works within a team responsible for analysis of economic issues relevant to planning and the broader economy. The team monitors macroeconomic developments relevant to the planning environment and advises on microeconomic issues such as housing, employment and land markets, including land use forecasting.

The team's work contributes to a robust and rigorous planning and economic evidence base to inform accurate and effective strategic land use and infrastructure planning and housing and employment targets aligned with NSW Government and agency objectives.

Key accountabilities

- Monitor, analyse and interpret economic data to inform departmental strategic land use and infrastructure planning, policy development, and delivery, including housing and commercial market and employment analysis.
- Provide timely, accurate and relevant advice in relation to the macroeconomic context and microeconomic developments relevant to planning and the broader economy.
- Undertake economic analysis to meet the ongoing and anticipated needs of the agency's Minister, executive and other internal stakeholders.

- Produce well written, accurate and timely reports and analytics for internal and external stakeholders to facilitate evidence based decision making.
- Collate research data to identify and evaluate emerging trends and issues to assist in the formulation of appropriate responses and options for resolution of new and emerging issues.

Key challenges

- Providing clear and succinct summaries of evidence based insights in simple, easy to understand language appropriate to a variety of users
- Providing detailed and accurate information to multiple teams across the Cluster to enable timely and integrated strategic planning and policy development outcomes
- Undertaking follow up actions and responding to enquiries in a timely manner within applicable legislative, regulatory and policy frameworks

Key relationships

Who	Why
Internal	
Manager Economics	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Receive instructions and provide support required • Provide regular updates and advice on research and analysis work • Inform of and seek guidance on new or emerging issues and priorities • Contribute to team business planning and work program development
Cluster business units	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Build and maintain effective relationships • Prepare, present and provide timely and professional advice regarding evidence data request, trends and emerging issues
Team members	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work as a team member to support team programs and projects • Participate in team meetings to share information and ideas to improve program, service delivery and work outcomes
External	
State and Local Government agencies, development industry and community stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain effective relationships and communication networks • Respond to enquiries and help resolve customer concerns and issues • Provide clear information and appropriate, accurate advice on current planning matters

Role dimensions

Decision making

The Senior Economist:

- works with, and receives advice and guidance from the Manager and other staff but has responsibility to determine day to day work priorities within the overall agreed work program
- is required to comply and work within applicable legislative and Department policies and frameworks, procedures and administrative processes

Reporting line

Manager Economics

Direct reports

Nil

Budget/Expenditure

Nil

Key knowledge and experience

- Expertise in development and application of quantitative techniques for research, forecasting and economic analysis, and in the use of statistical packages.

Essential requirements

- Tertiary qualifications in economics, property, planning, or related discipline and/or equivalent relevant experience.

Capabilities for the role

The [NSW public sector capability framework](#) describes the capabilities (knowledge, skills and abilities) needed to perform a role. There are four main groups of capabilities: personal attributes, relationships, results and business enablers, with a fifth people management group of capabilities for roles with managerial responsibilities. These groups, combined with capabilities drawn from occupation-specific capability sets where relevant, work together to provide an understanding of the capabilities needed for the role.



The capabilities are separated into **focus capabilities** and **complementary capabilities**.

Focus capabilities



Focus capabilities are the capabilities considered the most important for effective performance of the role. These capabilities will be assessed at recruitment.

The focus capabilities for this role are shown below with a brief explanation of what each capability covers and the indicators describing the types of behaviours expected at each level.

FOCUS CAPABILITIES

Capability group/sets	Capability name	Behavioural indicators	Level
 Personal Attributes	Manage Self Show drive and motivation, an ability to self-reflect and a commitment to learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Keep up to date with relevant contemporary knowledge and practices Look for and take advantage of opportunities to learn new skills and develop strengths Show commitment to achieving challenging goals Examine and reflect on own performance Seek and respond positively to constructive feedback and guidance Demonstrate and maintain a high level of personal motivation 	Adept
	 Relationships	Communicate Effectively Communicate clearly, actively listen to others, and respond with understanding and respect	Adept
	Work Collaboratively Collaborate with others and value their contribution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Encourage a culture that recognises the value of collaboration Build cooperation and overcome barriers to information sharing and communication across teams and units Share lessons learned across teams and units Identify opportunities to leverage the strengths of others to solve issues and develop better processes and approaches to work Actively use collaboration tools, including digital technologies, to engage diverse audiences in solving problems and improving services 	Adept

FOCUS CAPABILITIES

Capability group/sets	Capability name	Behavioural indicators	Level
	Deliver Results Achieve results through the efficient use of resources and a commitment to quality outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Seek and apply the expertise of key individuals to achieve organisational outcomes • Drive a culture of achievement and acknowledge input from others • Determine how outcomes will be measured and guide others on evaluation methods • Investigate and create opportunities to enhance the achievement of organisational objectives • Make sure others understand that on-time and on-budget results are required and how overall success is defined • Control business unit output to ensure government outcomes are achieved within budgets • Progress organisational priorities and ensure that resources are acquired and used effectively 	Advanced
	Think and Solve Problems Think, analyse and consider the broader context to develop practical solutions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake objective, critical analysis to draw accurate conclusions that recognise and manage contextual issues • Work through issues, weigh up alternatives and identify the most effective solutions in collaboration with others • Take account of the wider business context when considering options to resolve issues • Explore a range of possibilities and creative alternatives to contribute to system, process and business improvements • Implement systems and processes that are underpinned by high-quality research and analysis • Look for opportunities to design innovative solutions to meet user needs and service demands • Evaluate the performance and effectiveness of services, policies and programs against clear criteria 	Advanced
	Technology Understand and use available technologies to maximise efficiencies and effectiveness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify opportunities to use a broad range of technologies to collaborate • Monitor compliance with cyber security and the use of technology policies • Identify ways to maximise the value of available technology to achieve business strategies and outcomes • Monitor compliance with the organisation's records, information and knowledge management requirements 	Adept

FOCUS CAPABILITIES





Capability group/sets	Capability name	Behavioural indicators	Level
	Project Management Understand and apply effective planning, coordination and control methods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Perform basic research and analysis to inform and support the achievement of project deliverables Contribute to developing project documentation and resource estimates Contribute to reviews of progress, outcomes and future improvements Identify and escalate possible variances from project plans 	Intermediate

Complementary capabilities

Complementary capabilities are also identified from the Capability Framework and relevant occupation-specific capability sets. They are important to identifying performance required for the role and development opportunities.

Note: capabilities listed as 'not essential' for this role are not relevant for recruitment purposes however may be relevant for future career development.

COMPLEMENTARY CAPABILITIES

Capability group/sets	Capability name	Description	Level
 Personal Attributes	Display Resilience and Courage	Be open and honest, prepared to express your views, and willing to accept and commit to change	Adept
	Act with Integrity	Be ethical and professional, and uphold and promote the public sector values	Intermediate
	Value Diversity and Inclusion	Demonstrate inclusive behaviour and show respect for diverse backgrounds, experiences and perspectives	Intermediate
 Relationships	Commit to Customer Service	Provide customer-focused services in line with public sector and organisational objectives	Intermediate
	Influence and Negotiate	Gain consensus and commitment from others, and resolve issues and conflicts	Intermediate
 Results	Plan and Prioritise	Plan to achieve priority outcomes and respond flexibly to changing circumstances	Intermediate
	Demonstrate Accountability	Be proactive and responsible for own actions, and adhere to legislation, policy and guidelines	Intermediate
 Business Enablers	Finance	Understand and apply financial processes to achieve value for money and minimise financial risk	Intermediate
	Procurement and Contract Management	Understand and apply procurement processes to ensure effective purchasing and contract performance	Intermediate