

STRATEGY, PLANNING & REPORTING MANAGER [Chief Information Office]

Role Specification



BACKGROUND

We have embarked on a journey to adopt digital technologies more effectively to meet the needs of our people, our customers and the energy system. This will involve incremental change, new ways of working and the adoption of new skills for everyone.

Our Digital and IT Business Plan has been developed to support this Transformation journey and meet the future obligations arising from the NI Energy Strategy and our transition from a Distribution Network Operator (DNO) to a Distribution System Operator (DSO). The emerging requirements of DSO will drive a step change in data and the need for flexibility and agility to enable the business to respond to the new challenge. Digital transformation of NIE Networks' business processes will be a key requirement for the future as we embed continuous improvement within our business. We are increasingly becoming a data driven organisation and this evolution will require more digital solutions to support improvements in data quality and reporting. NIE Networks is working to drive a culture of openness, innovation and agility to ensure we continually evolve and adopt innovative best practices. Our digital vision supports our journey towards a technology enabled, secure and sustainable future for everyone.

Digitalisation will be of fundamental importance to the delivery of the aims of the Energy Strategy and NIE Networks' strategy and vision. Many of the additional responsibilities and services will require new sources of timely and accurate information, underpinned by data, and new digital processes which will ensure that the future needs of customers and other stakeholders are met. The right technology investments are therefore essential enablers of the NI energy system transformation.

To meet these future investment decisions in technology, NIE Networks has recently formed a Chief Information Office (CIO) which combines Digital, Data and IT functions into one directorate to affect positive Digital & IT change for the business.

To facilitate the shift toward becoming a digital and data driven utility we are seeking to recruit a **CIO Strategy, Planning and Reporting Manager** to drive strategic leadership and direction, ensure effective strategic planning processes are in place and deliver rigorous reporting against progress.

This successful candidate will be part of our senior management team reporting directly to the Chief Information Officer but with strong engagement with key stakeholders and the wider Executive team.

THE ROLE

Embedded within the CIO the successful candidate will be the key driver of strategic direction setting transformation delivery and reporting within the directorate.

Responsibilities include developing and delivering the overall CIO strategy ensuring alignment with NIE Networks strategic objectives and delivering comprehensive reporting on progress. The role will require engagement with senior leadership, supporting strategic decision making and co-ordinating across the company to execute strategic initiatives in alignment with the organisation's vision.

This role will have broad scope and license for the job holder to define their own direction however the principal duties will include the following:

- ✦ **CIO Strategy Delivery** – Responsible for formation and delivery of the CIO Strategy & overall transformation aligned to the organisational vision and strategic objectives.
- ✦ **Operating Model** – Drive the implementation and ongoing iteration of the CIO Operating Model, alongside defining and embedding digital culture.
- ✦ **Transformational Change** – Lead in the definition and delivery of key transformation activity, building alignment with NIE Networks' Transformation Management Office.
- ✦ **Metrics & Performance** – Drive the definition of Objectives & Key Results (OKRs), anchored in NIE Networks' Strategic Objectives, and lead process of benchmarking, baselining and driving ownership.
- ✦ **Reporting** - Develop and implement a robust reporting framework to track progress against strategic objectives, transformation progress and other relevant metrics. Provide regular, detailed reports to the CIO and senior leadership.
- ✦ **CIO Collaboration** – Collaborate closely with the CIO Business Partners and broader directorates. Facilitate sharing of best practices, continuous improvement, synergies and knowledge transfer through regular forums with key stakeholders.
- ✦ **Stakeholder Engagement and Prioritisation** – Proactively engage across the Executive Committee, business, and CIO stakeholders to ensure alignment and drive appropriate prioritisation of deliveries and activities.

THE INDIVIDUAL

Essential Criteria

It is essential that the successful candidate meets the following requirements:

- Minimum of 8 years' experience in strategic planning, analysis, and reporting with a strong background in stakeholder engagement.
- Proven experience of driving strategic direction and change.
- Proven track record driving Digital Transformation and delivery, with broader experience in Technology, Data, Platforms or Solution Engineering.
- Experience in developing, implementing and managing delivery against strategic roadmaps, creation of prioritisation frameworks, and management of strategic plans.
- Demonstrable experience in creating and delivering comprehensive reports and presentations to senior leadership and key stakeholders.
- Strong analytical skills with ability to interpret complex data and provide actionable insights.
- Track record building and maintaining collaborative relationships with internal/external stakeholders.
- Driving license and access to a car or ability to meet the travel requirements of the role.

Desirable Criteria

It would be advantageous if you have any of the following:

- More than 10 years' experience in strategic planning, analysis, and reporting with a strong background in stakeholder engagement

- Background in consulting environment or in-house strategy role/equivalent.
- Knowledge of strategic planning frameworks and digitally driven change management.
- Diploma, Degree, Masters, or equivalent in IT, business or a related discipline.
- Change Management experience.
- Experience in Waterfall, Hybrid, and Agile project management methodologies.
- Relevant utility sector experience.

CORE COMPETENCIES

The person appointed must demonstrate the following core competencies:

Communication

Able to communicate information, strategic vision and ideas clearly both in oral and written form. Uses appropriate language, style and methods depending on audience and the purpose of communication. Able to convey complex information clearly. Anticipates the information that others will need.

Influencing Others

The ability to influence others to be excited and committed to furthering the organisation's objectives, whilst driving involvement from senior managers in strategy formation processes.

Attention to Detail

Ability to process detailed information effectively and consistently. The ability to accomplish/complete a task while demonstrating a thorough concern for all the areas involved, no matter how small. This means monitoring and checking work or information, while organising time and resources efficiently.

Organised

Able to achieve results in a quality, timely, and cost-effective way. Sees priorities, plans the efficient use of resources, and monitors progress against objectives. Anticipates crucial stages in projects. Formulates alternative means of achieving objectives. Responds effectively to unforeseen events.

Team Work

Actively participates in the team. Encourages co-operation. Aware of the needs of others and responds flexibly. Shares information and supports other team members. Can get things done through others and set realistic objectives. Seeks opportunities to develop others. Prioritises team goals over individual goals.

Trust - Confidentiality

Builds trust easily and generates feelings of goodwill, enabling successful collaboration and more productive outcomes. Is honest and authentic and acts with integrity, showing consistency, and being credible.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The nature of the job will change over time in line with the needs of the business. It is a requirement of the jobholder to contribute to the development of the role reflecting these changing requirements.

THE PACKAGE

An attractive salary and benefits package commensurate with experience and qualifications will be available to the successful candidate. The company also offers many other [benefits](#). (The QR code will take you to the benefits section of our website)



OUR PEOPLE MATTER

At NIE Networks we realise our employees are at the heart of our success and they are the future of an ever-changing energy industry. With employee wellbeing at the core of our approach, we are continually investing in our people and are committed to helping every individual reach their full potential through both professional and personal development. We believe in nurturing effective teams and high performing leaders to deliver the best possible service for our customers.

DISABILITY

NIE Networks will provide reasonable support to disabled applicants throughout the recruitment process. Applicants who may require special arrangements should identify this clearly within their application form to enable us to make any appropriate adjustments.

DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

NIE Networks has achieved Silver, Diversity Mark Accreditation and is committed to equality of opportunity and acknowledges the unique contribution that all potential candidates can bring in terms of their education, ethnicity, race, gender, nationality, age, religion, disability, sexual orientation and opinions. Applications are positively welcomed from all backgrounds and appointments are made on merit following a fair, open and transparent selection process.

HOW TO APPLY

Please submit a CV and cover letter together (detailing alignment to the essential criteria) via the NIE Networks recruitment portal www.nienetworks.co.uk/jobs (The best experience of this portal will be through the [Google Chrome](#) internet browser or click on the QR code.)



- Once you are in the careers page select the [Strategy, Planning and Reporting Manager](#) role and click on **“Apply Now”**.
- You will initially be asked to create a “Candidate Area” by inputting your email address and a secure password – once you select “Create Candidate Area” you can then log in directly using these same details. The address that you register with will be the address that we contact you on.
- Select **“Apply for Vacancy”**
- Once you have created your profile upload both your CV and Cover Letter within your application.

- Please ensure to review your CV before submission as you will not have the opportunity to amend the CV once it has been submitted.
- You will receive an email confirmation once your CV and Cover Letter has been submitted (Please check your junk mail too).
- Late applications will not be accepted

Completed CV's and cover letter must be submitted no later than **11pm on Sunday 26 January 2025**

NIE Networks is committed to the principles of public appointments based on merit with independent assessment, openness and transparency of process

FOR YOUR INFORMATION

If you would like to view up to date information about NIE Networks please visit our website www.nienetworks.co.uk or scan the QR codes below.



Or alternatively check out our social media platforms via the links provided on each graphic below.

