Position description

Position title	Senior Planning Engineer
Group / Branch	Liveable Water Solutions / Network Solutions
Reports to (Title)	Water Planning Manager
Competency level	Individual Contributor

Job Purpose

The role is responsible for providing technical leadership and advice, whilst developing and consolidating the skills needed in the team to build and maintain risk models, hydraulic models, and other tools to complete planning, asset management, risk management and respond to enquiries from internal and external stakeholders and customers.

The purpose of this position is:

- To lead the planning for growth**,** reliability, compliance and improvement in the potable water, recycled water and sewerage networks within South East Water's operating area**.**

- To lead the timely production of asset management plans, provide technical leadership to development of price submission to meet customer needs, regulatory requirements and consistent with the company's Corporate Plan.

- To complete master planning, generating projects and working with resources in LWS matrix structures in preparation for functional design, optioneering and business case.

- To engage with internal stakeholders and industry partners to ensure critical water, sewerage and recycled water network assets are managed to target elimination of failure risks, and deteriorating assets are renewed in an optimal manner balancing capital investment, customer and environmental outcomes, consistent with South East Water's operating license, strategic priorities, Corporate Plan and Price Submission.

Key Accountabilities

- Develop network master plans that provide prudent and efficient servicing solutions to greenfield and infill housing development, while identifying and mitigating asset reliability and resilience risks across South East Water's jurisdiction.
- Apply asset management principles to identify risk and consequences of asset failure including water quality risk, by identifying and implementing effective mitigation strategies and controls.

- Define scope, timing and prioritization of potable water, sewerage and recycled water augmentation projects for inclusion in South East Water's Corporate Plan and Price Submission, ensuring alignment with long-term strategic objectives.
- Provide timely and accurate planning advice to support effective servicing of new development, enabling informed decision-making across the business.
- Develop, review and update asset management plans, covering multiple drivers such as growth, reliability and compliance, with contribution from other South East Water business functions e.g. the Service Delivery Group.
- Develop and implement a risk based asset renewal strategy for the potable water, sewerage and recycled water networks, ensuring compliance with ISO55001 and optimizing lifecycle performance.
- Develop asset risk profile by applying a consistent likelihood of failure framework, and asset criticality framework. Establish asset risk models that clearly capture gross asset risk, current and planned risk control and risk treatment to effectively manage asset failure risks to an acceptable residual level.
- Define the asset reliability requirements in hydraulic modelling and capacity planning and leverage pressure and flow test data and the hydraulic modelling program to support reliability planning. Apply specialist knowledge in criticality, asset management, risk modelling and product quality/ odour modelling to produce outcomes that contribute to reducing asse reliability risk for the business.
- Provide technical leadership in the annual corporate planning process, ensure that the South East Water is investing in a manner which is prudent, efficient and effective in meeting agreed performance standards.
- Preparing project statements that articulate our needs, managing planning projects, engaging consultant partners, and working with resources in LWS matrix structures in preparation for functional design, optioneering and business case.
- Develop potable water and recycled water demand forecasts, and sewerage discharge forecast to inform the growth master plans, and support internal and external stakeholder planning needs.
- Optimize potable water, sewerage and recycled water systems to deliver customer, environmental, and social outcomes while maintaining system integrity, leveraging collaborative optioneering with LWS matrix resources.
- Develop climate change risk assessment for network assets and provide input to the development of South East Water's Climate Adaptation Action Plan, ensuring infrastructure resilience and regulatory compliance.
- Provide technical leadership and advice to the Network Solutions workgroup, and other South East Water business functions.
- Identify and implement business system and process improvement opportunities such as provision of servicing advice to the development industry (via Land Development Group) and PFI (Pressure and Flow) reporting.
- By applying specialist knowledge of fire flow analysis, manage the data input to the customer PFI portal and work with BTS to resolve any issues with the software.
- Assess network hydraulic capacity to supply new customer connections for general and fire water supply.

- Provide technical support to customer enquiries regarding pressure and flow data for fire service design.
- As a subject matter expert, provide input to specifications, codes, guidelines and standards pertaining to asset risk framework, asset management, hydraulic modelling and hydraulic assessment of networks, and network planning.
- Technical leadership to planning engineers, graduates, and technical staff to build organisational engineering capability and foster the desired organisational culture.
- Collaborate and contribute to strategic projects with external stakeholders such as DECCA, VPA, EPA, Department of Health, Melbourne Water and other retailers in line with the objectives of the branch.
- Formulate solutions to complex water supply problems impacted by water resource availability through maximizing alternative water supply, and considering supply security.
- Work with the Transformation Office & Program Management Office on performance reporting, budget review and forecast, project scheduling for the water and recycled water growth, reliability, compliance and improvement portfolios.
- Contract management and consultant management of risk modelling, network hydraulic modelling, monitoring and field tests to a value of $2 -4 million subject to funding availability.
- Provide subject matter expertise and specialist advice, planning solutions and support to other groups across South East Water and work with internal stakeholders such as Enterprise Transformation & Delivery, and Service Delivery to get input to projects.
- Contribute to the strategic direction of critical asset management, water and sewerage network optimisation through representation on the asset criticality and vulnerability committee, the water improvement committee and the sewer improvement committee.

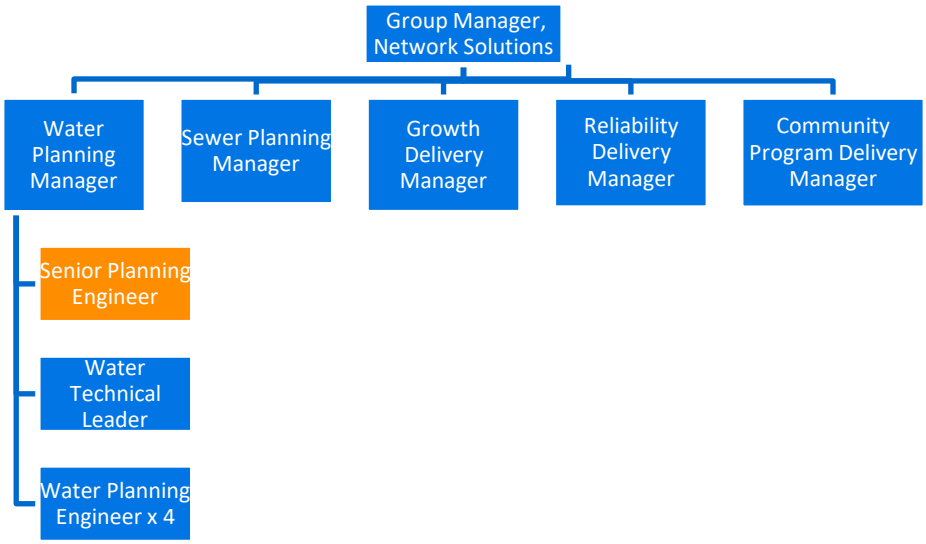
Key LWS Matrix Relationships

Further to the key accountabilities the role is also responsible for leading people to support the secondary functions consistent with the LWS matrix management structure to support the following work groups with their primary functions:

- Integrated Planning
- Customer Connections
- Development Solutions
- Resilient Communities
- Circular Economy
- Engineering and Technology Solutions

Knowledge, Skills & Experience

- The incumbent will have sound expertise in asset management, risk modelling, hydraulic engineering with extensive knowledge of South East Water's water supply, sewerage and recycle water network infrastructure and operation.
- A strong knowledge of WSAA and MRWA Codes, and other relevant standards, they will effectively apply these to achieve industry best practice in asset reliability, network planning and hydraulic modelling of water, sewerage and recycled water systems.
- The incumbent will challenge the status quo, be results driven with demonstrated project management experience, and excellent stakeholder engagement skills.
- Skills and experience to provide technical leadership and advisory services.
- Highly proficient in professional business communication and writing skills targeted at audience levels spanning from peers to South East Water Board and State Government Departments.
- Experience in similar role, proficient in leading project teams with a minimum of 10 years experience of network planning, reliability planning, hydraulic modelling and asset management.



Dimensions

Organisational Chart

Number of people managed:

No direct reports

Matrix reports (report to other managers and dotted line into this role) = 3 - 10

Ensuring a sustainable, resilient organisation:

Authorities outlined in Instrument of Delegations yes - reports to Responsible Officer

Compliance management responsibilities outlined in the compliance and obligations register yes - operational responsibilities

For Engineering roles the role requires a Professional Engineer (accredited 4 year degree) and requires professional registration in Victoria

South East Water operates a 24/7 service environment. Whilst this role does not involve after-hours rostered duty, all employees may be required to provide out of hours support from time to time as required.