

# Senior Corporate Accountant



## Job Description

<b>Directorate:</b>	Resources		
<b>Service:</b>	Corporate Finance		
<b>Location:</b>	Preston		
<b>Salary range:</b>	£46,142 - £51,357	<b>Grade:</b>	10
<b>Reports to:</b>	Corporate Accounting Manager	<b>Staff responsible for:</b>	1

### Job purpose and scope

- Experienced professional providing accountancy service for the county council and client organisations. The work will require an in-depth knowledge and understanding of corporate accounting principles and legislation.
- The role holder will identify and interpret existing and proposed legislation and professional codes of practice, assessing and reporting on the implications.
- The role-holder will liaise with Heads of Service and service leads across the council to ensure accounting regulations are being adhered to, such that the financial information produced is reliable, and to an auditable standard.
- The role holder will be responsible for producing significant parts of the statutory corporate accounts and be responsible for ensuring the quality and appropriateness of the information being produced.
- The role holder will manage and be responsible for the day-to-day liaison with the council's external auditors.
- The role will involve drafting reports for council committees and company's board.
- The role holder will have the expertise to deal with highly complex tasks and issues across a range of situations including capital accounting, group consolidation and financial instruments and will need to manage changing priorities using professional judgment to respond to differing situations
- Although working within well-defined functional objectives, the role holder will be expected to proactively challenge procedures through an analysis of regulations, legislation or best practice.
- The post will provide professional oversight, support and line management for a small team of professionals.
- The Senior Corporate Accountant will engage in continued professional development and keep an active interest in current and emerging developments in the public sector and in accounting issue

### Performance Indicators

- Quality of advice/service against legal, safety and best practice standards
- Achievement of relevant service targets
- Adherence to internal/external quality standards if applicable
- Adherence to policies and procedures
- Accuracy and timeliness of information recording and processing
- Customer and stakeholder feedback
- Leading Lancashire Framework

## Leading Lancashire – Our Leadership Framework



# Leading Lancashire

## Our Leadership Framework

**Our Vision and Values** We are driven by a simple yet powerful vision – “Here at Lancashire County Council, we are helping to make Lancashire the best place to live, work, visit, and prosper.”

This vision is at the centre of everything we do. Embedded in our identity are our values: *Supportive, Innovative, Respectful, and Collaborative*, our guiding principles that enable everyone to thrive.



### Four Spheres of Leadership

The Leading Lancashire framework is a dynamic approach, encapsulating four key spheres:

**Responsibilities, Capabilities, Behaviours, and Results.**

These spheres form the bedrock of our leadership ethos, providing clarity and direction for all leaders. Responsibilities guide our actions, Capabilities cultivate our potential, Behaviours shape our interactions, and Results measure our impact. Together, these spheres ensure leaders deliver their best for themselves, their teams, LCC, and the people of Lancashire.



### The Lancashire Mindset

Woven through the Leading Lancashire framework we introduce The Lancashire Mindset; Growth, Ownership, Optimism and Positive Impact. Adopting this mindset across the entire organisation not only brings our values to life but also emphasises the collective commitment to delivering the best for the people of Lancashire.

The Lancashire Mindset not only shapes our approach to leadership but also serves as a guiding force for a culture rooted in growth, ownership, optimism, and the commitment to making a meaningful positive impact.



### Levels of Leadership

The Leading Lancashire framework provides an opportunity to define and clarify the focus and purpose of the various leadership levels within the organisation.

**VISIONARY** (Long-Term Direction):

**Level 1 & 2 Leadership – Executive Directors and Directors**  
Senior leaders at this level, are Visionary Leaders. They have the privilege of shaping the long-term vision for the organisation, providing strategic and visionary direction that will guide the future success of Lancashire County Council.

**SHAPING** (Medium to Long-Term Strategy):

**Level 3 Leadership – Heads of Service**

Heads of Service at this level are Shaping Leaders. They are empowered to shape strategies with a broad mid to long-term view, setting clear strategic initiatives that provide direction to the management population, contributing to the organisation's success in the medium to long term.

**OPERATIONAL** (Short-Term to Immediate Effectiveness):

**Level 4 Leadership – Management Roles**

Leaders at this level, found in various management roles, are Operational Leaders. They focus on immediate operational effectiveness, ensuring their teams deliver in the short term, meeting objectives and driving success on a daily-to-monthly basis.

These refined terms more explicitly convey the visionary, shaping, and operational aspects of leadership at each level within the Leading Lancashire framework.

## Accountabilities/Responsibilities

- The following are a range of duties that are appropriate to this grade.
- Deliver and manage complex assignments to ensure regulatory compliance and achieve the best outcomes for the Council.
- Provide technical assurance and prepare standards, policies and procedures within areas of specialism.
- Shape and influence service planning and budgets, using expertise to identify relevant professional or legislative trends that may impact on delivery.
- Produce and analyse internal service and management information to contribute to the development of new services and innovative working practices.
- Lead on the development and delivery of specific small to medium improvement projects to meet a defined objective to contribute to the continuous improvement of services.

- Design, develop and deliver formal and informal technical training programmes for both internal and external service providers to ensure best practice is delivered across the service.
- Build partnerships/networks both internally and externally to shape and improve multi-agency service delivery as well as use of best practice.
- Plan, direct, control and monitor activities carried out by the team to meet the plan and deliver a high quality, efficient and effective service
- Undertake detailed financial modelling and option appraisal to assist in financial planning.

### Other

- **Equal Opportunities**

We are committed to achieving equal opportunities in the way we deliver services to the community and in our employment arrangements. We expect all employees to understand and promote this policy in their work.

- **Health and safety**

All employees have a responsibility for their own health and safety and that of others when carrying out their duties and must help us to apply our general statement of health and safety policy.

- **Customer Focused**

We put our customers' needs and expectations at the heart of all that we do. We expect our employees to have a full understanding of those needs and expectations so that we can provide high quality, appropriate services at all times.

- **Safeguarding Commitment**

We are committed to protecting and promoting the welfare of children, young people and vulnerable adults.

- **Skills Pledge**

We are committed to developing the skills of our workforce. All employees will be supported to work towards a level 2 qualification in literacy and numeracy if they do not have one already.

### Our Values

**We expect all our employees to demonstrate and promote our values:**

- **Supportive**

We are supportive of our customers and colleagues, recognising their contributions and making the best of their strengths to enable our communities to flourish.

- **Innovative**

We deliver the best services we possibly can, always looking for creative ways to do things better, putting the customer at the heart of our thinking, and being ambitious and focused on how we can deliver the best services now and in the future.

- **Respectful**

We treat colleagues, customers and partners with respect, listening to their views, empathising and valuing their diverse needs and perspectives, to be fair, open and honest in all that we do.

- **Collaborative**

We listen to, engage with, learn from and work with colleagues, partners and customers to help achieve the best outcomes for everyone.

## Person Specification

All the following requirements are essential unless otherwise indicated by \*

Your ability to meet the job requirements will initially be assessed by the information provided on your application but further assessment will be undertaken at interview and, in some cases, by using other types of assessment(s).

### Qualifications

- Professionally qualified/relevant degree (or equivalent), plus substantial experience or substantial vocational experience demonstrating development through involvement in a series of progressively demanding roles

### Experience

- Experience in preparing statutory accounts in accordance with relevant standards.
- Experience of managing external audit processes, including liaison with auditors and resolution of audit queries.
- Experience of working in a local government finance environment or similar public sector organisation\*

### Essential knowledge, skills & abilities

- Knowledge of accounting principles, financial regulations and best practices applicable to Local Authorities.
- Strong project management skills and the ability to plan and organise a range of complex activities and priorities for a team of professional finance staff.
- Excellent analytical and problem-solving skills, with attention to detail and accuracy.
- Effective communication and interpersonal skills, with the ability to explain technical issues to non-specialists.
- Strong organisational skills, with the ability to manage competing priorities and meet statutory deadlines.
- Sound IT skills, including proficiency in financial management systems and advanced Microsoft Excel skills.
- Ability to lead and support colleagues in delivering high-quality financial reporting.

### Other essential requirements

- Commitment to equality and diversity.
- Commitment to health and safety.
- Display the LCC values and behaviours at all times and actively promote them in others.