

ROLE DESCRIPTION

ROLE TITLE: Senior Manager,
Strategic Policy

AGENCY: [Department of the Premier and Cabinet](#)

CLASSIFICATION: SM2

DIVISION: Coordinator General's Office

ROLE NUMBER: TBC

BUSINESS UNIT: Coordinator General's Office

REPORTS TO: Director, Strategic Policy & Programs

ROLES REPORTING TO THIS ROLE: 1 FTE (TBC)

BUDGET: Role has budget accountabilities

ROLE PURPOSE:

The Senior Manager, Strategic Policy is responsible for leading and coordinating the development and delivery of state development strategies, policy positions, plans and roadmaps within the Coordinator General's Office (CGO), supporting major or complex State and private sector initiatives consistent with the Government's economic, social and environmental priorities and the *State Development Coordination and Facilitation Act 2025*. The role translates government objectives into clear, coherent, and actionable strategic frameworks that guide investment, reform, and program delivery across multiple sectors.

The position plays a central role in coordinating whole-of-government inputs, aligning diverse policy positions, and resolving areas of contention to achieve a unified and credible strategic direction. This includes designing effective governance processes, engaging senior stakeholders, and ensuring strategies reflect both government priorities and delivery realities. The Senior Manager ensures that strategic outputs are robust, evidence-based, and capable of driving coordinated action across multiple agencies.

Operating within a highly complex and evolving policy environment, the role provides senior-level leadership in strategy development, and policy alignment. The role provides high-level advice on strategic risks, trade-offs, and opportunities, and shapes the public narrative around state development priorities, working collaboratively with Directors, senior executives, industry leaders and key stakeholders across government. The Senior Manager exercises strong judgement and influence to maintain alignment between policy intent, stakeholder expectations, and implementation pathways, ensuring strategies are not only ambitious but deliverable and enduring.

KEY OUTCOMES OF ROLE:

1. Develop strategic policy positions for the CGO and seek to align multiple departments with different mandates, incentives, and timelines.
2. Lead the development of whole-of-government strategies, translating political priorities into structured, deliverable frameworks, balancing ambition with what is implementable and identifying system-level opportunities and constraints.
3. Maintain regular, effective engagement with senior executives across government and provide clear, option-based advice to support negotiation of trade-offs between policy positions and delivery realities.
4. Translate strategy into delivery by mapping high-level strategies into actionable roadmaps with sequencing, milestones, and ownership; ensuring strategies are grounded in delivery constraints (funding, approvals, capacity).
5. Develop the public facing narrative and communications where required, ensuring the CGO is crafting clear, compelling narratives about state development priorities; translating complex, cross-sector strategies into accessible public messaging; and managing reputational political risks.
6. Drive systems thinking and integration through an understanding of how infrastructure, policy, regulation, and investment interact; identifying interdependencies and unintended consequences; and integrating economic, social, environmental, and regional considerations.
7. Design governance process and decision input frameworks which support timely, informed and evidence-driven decisions, establish clear roles and responsibilities, and ensure transparency and defensibility of decisions.
8. Manage political, reputational, and delivery risks, understanding Ministerial priorities and sensitivities, and providing calm, well-judged advice in high-pressure situations.
9. Drive clear and articulate whole-of-government contributions towards Commonwealth reforms, in multiple sectors.

KEY RELATIONSHIPS / INTERACTIONS:

- Coordinator General, Deputy Coordinator General and CGO Directors
- Senior executives and program leaders across State and local government
- Central agencies, statutory authorities and regulators
- Industry proponents, consultants and advisors
- Ministers' offices and senior decision-makers (as required)

SPECIAL CONDITIONS:

- Applicants will be required to undergo the appropriate and relevant Employment Screening Assessment(s) required for this role in line with the DPC Employment Screening Policy.
- This role requires (please select those relevant for the role):
 - National Police Check (required for all roles)
 - Working with Children Check
 - Security Clearance (including Baseline, Negative Vetting Level 1, Negative Vetting Level 2, Positive Vetting)
- The Incumbent will be required to participate in the department's Performance Management Program.
- The Incumbent may be assigned to another position at this remuneration level or equivalent.
- Working within a confidential, commercial orientated and at times politically sensitive environment.
- Eligibility to work in Australia.

KEY SELECTION CRITERIA:

- Demonstrated experience leading strategy development, public policy, or infrastructure planning within government or comparable environments that deliver outcomes of strategic importance.
- Strong understanding of both State and Commonwealth authorizing environment.
- Proven ability to lead whole-of-government coordination and alignment across multiple agencies.
- Highly developed executive influencing and stakeholder negotiation skills
- Experience managing stakeholder relationships at a senior level across government, industry and community sectors.
- Strong systems thinking and analytical capability - proven ability to analyse complex issues, exercise sound judgement and develop practical, defensible solutions where precedents are limited.
- Strong capability in translating strategic priorities into deliverable roadmaps
- Excellent communication skills, including development of strategic or policy documents
- Proven leadership capability, including building and leading high-performing teams and leading teams through ambiguity and change
- Sound understanding of government processes, governance, and decision-making frameworks
- A positive, "can-do" attitude, with a willingness to proactively drive projects and resolve problems as they arise.
- Relevant tertiary or vocational qualifications in public policy, economics, strategy and planning, or a related discipline (desirable).

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN PUBLIC SECTOR PURPOSE

- Making a difference so South Australia thrives

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN PUBLIC SECTOR VALUES

- | | |
|---|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Trust▪ Service▪ Professionalism▪ Respect | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Collaboration and Engagement▪ Honesty and Integrity▪ Courage and Tenacity▪ Sustainability |
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CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITIES:

Incumbents are responsible for:

- Keeping accurate and complete records of business activities in accordance with the *State Records Act 1997*.
- Maintaining a commitment to the [Public Sector Act 2009](#), [The Code of Ethics for the South Australian Public Sector](#), and the legislative requirements of the *Public Sector Act 2009* and [Work Health and Safety Act 2012](#).
- Creating and maintaining a diverse, accessible, inclusive and culturally safe workplace to enable us to reflect our community.
- At all times acting in a manner that is non-threatening, courteous, respectful, and consistent with DPC's accreditation as a White Ribbon workplace.
- Demonstrating a genuine commitment to Reconciliation, and the achievement of Reconciliation Action Plan outcomes.