

HEAD OF STRATEGIC ASSET MANAGEMENT

WHAT DOES A TYPICAL DAY LOOK LIKE FOR YOU?

My role can be summed up in one word - planning. The key responsibility leading strategic asset management function is having and implementing a plan. This ensures organisations are prepared to undertake the variety of duties and meet the responsibilities associated with owning, operating and maintaining the new facilities created through the North London Heat and Power Project (NLHPP). This requires acquiring and maintaining a good understanding of future NLHPP outputs; designing and driving forward the cross-organisational change required to ensure the Authority is successful over the long-term.



LEON

CAREERS TOP TIP:

The world is changing more now than at any time in the past, so the jobs that exist today may not exist - or pay very well - in the future. Stretch yourself and study hard, so you have more options open to you in the future.

WHAT IS THE BEST BIT ABOUT YOUR JOB?

It is very rewarding and enjoyable when plans come together and I can see the Authority moving in the right direction toward success.

HOW DID YOU END UP IN THIS ROLE?

When I was at school, the role 'Head of Strategic Asset Management' was not on the list of options given to me by the careers advisor. I studied Chemistry at university where I completed my PhD. This led me to work for the government on environmental and climate change policy. I was then recruited as a Project Director to lead on a pan-European project (working for the EU, based in Transport for London) focused on the procurement of infrastructure built in the UK, Italy, Spain and Germany. At the end of the European project, the then Head of Asset Management at Transport for London asked if I would lead a programme for her undertaking similar work. I was then head hunted by Tesco to lead a function managing their assets. My next role was at Turner & Townsend as a Principal Consultant in Dubai, leading asset management projects. I then joined North London Waste Authority in the Covid-19 pandemic.

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVOURITE SUBJECT AT SCHOOL AND WHY?

At school, I didn't really have a favourite subject. I was good at science and maths - so just stuck with that, as I was unsure what I wanted to be when I grew up. I found Chemistry the most interesting, so ended up completing a PhD in Chemistry before heading out into the world of work.