

Coast to Capital Director Recruitment

The Organisation

Coast to Capital is the Local Enterprise Partnership for one of the most diverse and exciting areas of England. Business is thriving across our area, covering the M23 corridor from Brighton to Croydon including Coastal West Sussex, the Gatwick Diamond and the wider rural area. Our economy is broad based and resilient, a net contributor to the Exchequer, with historically low levels of unemployment and a wide range of successful businesses.

In the six years since we were created, Coast to Capital has made significant progress in attracting investment and support to help our economy grow; including:

- Attracting more than £300m of public investment to upgrade our regional infrastructure, and to invest in the growth of business in the region
- Developing and delivering services to businesses in the region, focusing on SME and scale-up growth, exports and helping the education sector align with business needs
- Demonstrating leadership on strategic issues facing our regional economy, including around transport infrastructure, the development of skills to serve our future economy, and the economic importance of housing in the region.

The Opportunity

Chaired by Tim Wates, the Coast to Capital Board brings together regional business leaders alongside senior politicians and leaders from Universities and Further Education. We form a unique partnership which makes us a powerful voice of challenge and advocacy for our region.

We are now looking to bring further business sector skills onto the Board in order to help lead the region through the economic challenges of the years ahead. These include our ageing population, our over-reliance on commuting to London, the impact of technological change on jobs, the need to balance environmental and economic priorities, and the changing international context. An important aspect of this role will be to help develop a Local Industrial Strategy for our region which addresses these challenges.

To do this, we are looking to appoint a **Board Director**, in order to bring specific skills and expertise into the organisation to address challenges in our operating environment over the coming years. This role will include:

- Contributing to the development of an effective private and public sector partnership
- Contributing to the implementation of the overall strategy and priorities and to help the Board maintain focus
- Contributing knowledge and expertise to illuminate the business issues facing the area, the strengths and opportunities and the initiatives which could be taken to drive business growth
- Attending meetings of the Coast to Capital LEP Board

- Attending and possibly chairing working groups and other meetings on specific issues
- Represent Coast to Capital from time to time.

Person specification

- Established in your field, with significant experience in senior roles. Experience and understanding of the challenges facing small and medium size companies would be a particular advantage
- Excellent communication, influencing and problem solving skills
- Strong reputation and wider professional network
- Experience of working well with non-executive Directors or of performing a non-executive role
- Ability to engage with a wide range of stakeholders from local government, education and business sectors
- Proven track record in demonstrating leadership to deliver business strategy
- Ability to work closely with the Chief Executive and his senior team to support the work of Coast to Capital
- Understanding of the challenges and opportunities facing the economy in our region, and a commitment to creating an environment where business can flourish
- Familiarity with the wider issues affecting our region and a desire to make a difference to the area
- Able to offer the time and commitment necessary to make a success of these roles
- Live and/or work in the Region; or have or have had experience of participating in a business or businesses based in the Region

Terms and conditions

The term of appointment will be for three years, with an option to renew for a further two three-year terms if necessary. You will be required to attend five Board meetings a year, with an expectation that you will offer 2 days a month to this role.

As an organisation which allocates public money on behalf of Government, Coast to Capital holds itself to the highest standards of public accountability and transparency. We set out how we do this in our Assurance Framework, which sets out the high quality governance arrangements that we have in place in order to ensure that our partners have confidence in the decisions that we make. All Co-opted Directors are subject to the provisions of this assurance framework, and are given support and training as required by the Executive team to support them in doing this.

The post is not remunerated, although reasonable travel and expenses will be paid.



Recruitment process

For a further discussion about these roles and the challenges of the specific posts, please contact **Jonathan Sharrock** (Chief Executive) either by telephone on 01403 333840 or by email at jonathan.sharrock@coast2capital.org.uk

To make an application please send, by **Wednesday 21 February**, a full CV with a covering statement setting out how you believe you could fulfil the requirements of the key role to Katie Nurcombe, Head of Communications & Corporate Affairs at katie.nurcombe@coast2capital.org.uk

We will acknowledge your application within 24 hours. If you have not received confirmation please contact Katie Nurcombe on 01403 333840 to ensure we have received your application.

Interviews are expected to take place on **Wednesday 7 March**.

Further information

Further information about Coast to Capital may be found at our website: www.coast2capital.org.uk

Coast to Capital is committed to achieving diversity and equality of opportunity both as an employer and as a commissioner of services.