

Our values and framework for success

A quick reference guide

February 2023



Values

Here at Ofwat, we're driven by the vision to make the greatest contribution possible to improving life through water. Because of this big vision, our values matter. They represent how we aspire to behave as individuals, and how we work with each other and our stakeholders in delivering our work.

We are Ofwat

We aspire to act in line with our values in everything we do



Framework for success

What is our framework for success?

The attributes that you'll need for success at Ofwat: Developing self, developing others and developing Ofwat.

How does it impact me?

Our framework can help you to identify your strengths and development areas, enabling you and your People Leader to align your development with your career aspirations.

What about recruitment?

Selected attributes from the framework will be assessed, along with your technical know-how and the way that you demonstrate our values.

Category

Description

Attributes

Developing self

Continuous improvement and learning are central to life at Ofwat, and Learning is one of our core SAILOR values. To be a SAILOR, you'll be committed to developing yourself. Aware of your impact on those around you, you'll strive to build trust and demonstrate adaptability in response to changing circumstances.

Committed learner

Builds trust

Champion and leader of change

Developing others

Being part of the Ofwat team means supporting others. As a SAILOR, you'll understand that relationships are key and that our outcomes are only as strong as our teams. You'll always be willing to help others succeed while striving to further our goals and ambitions – whether that's by leveraging your own connections or promoting collaboration between teams or with external partners.

Makes relationships count

Builds the team

Promotes collaboration

Developing Ofwat

At Ofwat, everything comes down to delivering the best possible outcome for water customers, society, and the environment. In your everyday role you'll do this by never losing sight of Ofwat's strategic priorities and business outcomes – and by delivering against these every day. The ways we adapt our thinking and bring clarity to those around us are central to our success.

Adaptable thinker

Creates clarity

Delivers outcomes



Develops self

Business Support / Apprentice / Associate / Graduate	Senior Associate	Principal	Director	Senior Director
Committed learner				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am flexible and curious, and can adapt to new processes, systems, approaches and ways of working I prioritise time for professional learning, and keep up to date with new and evolving knowledge and skills in my field I am committed to self-improvement to boost my impact and effectiveness by seeking to understand my own preferences and impact 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I actively seek feedback from varied stakeholders with an open mind. I work hard to interpret and act upon feedback I actively participate in building a culture of continuous improvement I am self-aware, understand my personal strengths and weaknesses, and am working to develop in more challenging areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am receptive to a range of learning opportunities for myself and others, integrating approaches beyond formal learning I champion a commitment to learning within my team I integrate learning in my leadership approach, sharing things I have learned for the benefit of others to drive improvement 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I create and protect an inclusive environment in which all can develop regardless of their needs or background I champion professional development I am a role model for lifelong learning and promote a proactive self-improvement approach 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I have an ongoing focus on my own growth and learning, striving for a heightened level of self-awareness to manage my own reactions and interactions to get the most from them I practice active inquiry across variety of areas, teams and connections to foster understanding and shape my approach. I connect teams and people, and avoid siloed thinking
Builds trust				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I demonstrate ownership and integrity by doing what I say I will, delivering quality work to time and managing expectations if challenges occur I proactively share ideas, knowledge and expertise I celebrate the success of colleagues 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I demonstrate expertise and good judgement in my field I admit mistakes and reflect on learning from these I actively encourage team members at all levels (within my network) to share their concerns, suggestions and learning 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I engender positive relationships and encourage an environment of safety by actively listening, withholding judgement, seeking understanding and creating rapport I help team members to collaborate effectively, and seek to understand and resolve conflict I am known for my reliability; always deliver on my commitments; and am consistent in my decision making 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am self aware. I foster an Ofwat-wide culture of trust and inclusion, leading by example and creating a safe space for constructive challenges I demonstrate integrity by creating positive relationships within and across teams, and addressing complex relational challenges I demonstrate expertise, sound judgement, and consistency. I hold the line when required. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I develop and champion the reputation of Ofwat and lead by example. I am a visible, reassuring leader in times of ambiguity I am consistent in my focus on Ofwat's core purpose and goals
Champion and leader of change				
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I notice my own reaction to and resilience to change. I am taking steps to manage and develop this as appropriate I seek to understand the direction of change and demonstrate the ability to modify my work accordingly I remain motivated by the challenge to deliver results while working through change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I scan the horizon for internal / external factors which necessitate change I contribute to maximising the positive impacts of change I articulate the rationale for, and positive and negative consequences of change to help others adapt 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I am focused on the change impact of key business issues I actively seek ways to deliver better value for our customers (either internal or external), by implementing process improvements, tools or technology which will lead to efficiencies, or encouraging and role modelling a shift in behaviours I coach others to develop stronger change management skills and actively engage with change 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I identify appropriate change opportunities to deliver Ofwat's strategy. I drive and implement change and help foster an Ofwat culture that embraces change I test potential change opportunities and strategies with key stakeholders I deliver change programmes skilfully and sensitively 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I align change initiatives with Ofwat's values, strategic intent, and practices I inspire the organisation (and external stakeholders) by presenting compelling reasons for change I facilitate the development of an organisation that continuously embraces change through systemic action (e.g. mindset, relationships, resources or time), and actively remove blockers to progress

Develops others

Business Support / Apprentice / Associate / Graduate

- I build the relationships and peer networks needed to drive progress
- I demonstrate empathy for others and find mutually beneficial ways of working
- I contribute towards a supportive team environment

- I proactively share knowledge, learning and expertise where appropriate for the benefit of the wider team
- I seek and sensitively share feedback for personal growth and team effectiveness
- I focus on continuous improvement to increase efficiency and capacity within the team

- I collaborate, find common ground and build relationships when working with people with different backgrounds, styles or preferences
- I share knowledge, learning and experience openly within my networks to promote collaboration
- I help solve problems across teams where appropriate by understanding the work of others

Senior Associate

- I take time to listen to my colleagues
- I build rapport and proactively expand my internal and external network
- I help others develop new relationships and make connections
- I take action where needed to overcome conflict within the team and my own relationships

- I readily offer support and sensitively provide constructive feedback (to colleagues, peers, team members) to enable growth and development
- I am proactive in helping others to develop beyond the traditional hierarchy, encouraging and facilitating the learning of others
- I delegate and/or influence appropriately, adapting my style where required to empower and maximise learning opportunities
- I address individual and team performance issues and behavioural challenges where required, in a timely and effective manner

- I invest time in active collaboration across my team and workstreams to enhance delivery
- I connect others and seek opportunities for innovative collaboration to solve challenges
- I lead and facilitate inclusive discussions and meetings to ensure all voices are heard.

Principal

Makes relationships count

- I share my networks and relationships for the benefit of others
- I build broader Ofwat expertise so that I can represent Ofwat skilfully in external relationships
- I provide a space for inclusive conversations, creating the conditions for empowerment.

Builds the team

- I prioritise and plan workloads to achieve Ofwat's strategic goals while supporting the health and wellbeing of the team
- I define the skills and attributes needed for today and for the future success of Ofwat and am proactive in resource and succession planning
- I create an environment of continual learning within the team, empowering and equipping team members for greater contribution and fulfilment.

Promotes collaboration

- I weigh the benefits and constraints of collaboration to make sound decisions
- I encourage a culture of collaboration, coaching others to make links and exploit synergies
- I use collaboration to evolve my approach and priorities (and those of my team) to promote better outcomes in pursuit of Ofwat's strategy

Director

- I break down barriers and silos to enable relationships to flourish
- I cultivate and use relationships to unlock issues, develop policy and progress thinking
- I demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of stakeholder motivations and engagement strategies

- I create the conditions for people to thrive and deliver; empowering, coaching, valuing diversity and building capability
- I collaborate across Ofwat to ensure resources are distributed appropriately
- I anticipate future people capability needs, and proactively develop and acquire capabilities in line with Ofwat's strategy and evolving needs

- I foster a culture of collaboration within and across teams and external partnerships, and role model impactful collaboration
- I identify and implement opportunities for internal and external collaboration
- I am skilled at communicating ideas and strategy both internally and externally to further Ofwat's strategic aims and encourage collaboration

Senior Director

- I engage widely, creating the conditions for senior relationships to flourish (internally and externally) to help align strategy and plans
- I role model healthy ways to deal with conflict and complexity in relationships
- I take a long term view to relationship building with varied stakeholders to form partnerships, expand shared vision (internally and externally), influence and achieve strategic goals

- I ensure that people capability is central to strategy for my area and that of Ofwat
- I systematically review capability, competence and performance for today and for the future
- I help build a talent pipeline aligned to future plans, and enable development and mobilisation of those with potential

- I collaborate at a strategic level in both thinking and partnership
- I champion collaboration and inclusion as a corporate approach
- I prioritise Ofwat's collective success over personal success
- I actively build a culture of collaboration throughout Ofwat and my broader network



Develops Ofwat

Business Support / Apprentice / Associate / Graduate

- I identify problems, seek information to find solutions, and make balanced decisions to achieve continuous improvement
- I communicate with others during decision-making and understand connections to other areas of Ofwat
- I respond with agility when parameters or goals change, and adapt my approach accordingly

- I provide high quality information accurately and promptly, considering the needs of the intended recipient
- I actively listen to understand intent, and seek clarification on expectations when necessary
- I take time to understand my customer, and vary my communication style as required to ensure clarity

- I achieve my objectives in a timely manner, taking accountability and responsibility for outputs and outcomes
- I develop and demonstrate a clear understanding of how my work and objectives fit within the wider organisational objectives and strategy, seeking clarification where required
- I strive to improve my delivery to customers (whether internal or external)

Senior Associate

- I consider broader strategic priorities and stakeholders when making decisions about short-, medium- and long-term priorities
- I identify patterns or connections between longer term challenges to inform my approach
- I use data and insights to develop my work approaches to enhance delivery

- I clearly identify and communicate how my work adds value
- I understand and communicate the purpose behind my work and its link to Ofwat's broader strategic goals
- I simplify my communications and eliminate jargon
- I measure the impact of my communications and adjust accordingly

- I create plans and establish clear objectives to enable the team to achieve the required outcomes
- I support team members / colleagues to prioritise their work where appropriate
- I demonstrate resilience and tenacity in the face of challenges

Principal

Adaptable thinker

- I make informed decisions which are environmentally, ethically and commercially sound by:
 - evaluating past decisions for insights to improve decision making, understanding and accounting for stakeholder views/reactions (whether internal or external)
 - understanding and mitigating ambiguities and weaknesses in the evidence base

Creates clarity

- I communicate consistently and act as an ambassador for Ofwat
- My communications help the wider team to connect their work to the strategy
- I coach others on how to communicate effectively

Delivers outcomes

- I articulate the inputs, outputs and outcomes for the work of my area
- I set the direction, priorities and standards for the team, maintaining a clear connection to Ofwat's strategic priorities
- I maintain oversight of my teams' delivery, and adapt, intervene and escalate where appropriate
- I establish robust quality assurance for the work of my team, celebrating success and addressing performance concerns

Director

- I analyse, define and articulate evolving strategic priorities for my areas
- I coach others in decision-making and agree the most appropriate framework for decision making given the context
- I scan internal and external influences and requirements to identify linkages and synergies which support the broader Ofwat strategy

- I create compelling communication narratives for both internal and external audiences to motivate, engage and inspire
- I communicate clearly and authentically to persuade and influence a variety of audiences, demonstrating emotional intelligence
- I provide clear direction in times of ambiguity, reconciling apparently conflicting narratives and weighing trade-offs to determine appropriate approach

- I translate Ofwat's strategic aims into clear team outcomes, ensuring outputs and activities are aligned
- I make resourcing decisions within clusters in order to meet Ofwat's priorities
- I encourage my team to continuously evaluate the impact of deliverables and adapt their ways of working accordingly

Senior Director

- I articulate where Ofwat or my function needs to plan beyond a five-year timeframe with explanation and justification
- I influence Ofwat's strategy beyond my own function
- I critically assess progress on strategy at the corporate level and promote adjustments where required

- I communicate skilfully in high pressure situations, eg media, high profile stakeholders
- I demonstrate accountability for the clarity and impact of communications from my area
- I reconcile strategic tensions when communicating to represent the whole organisation
- Skilfully use varied communication methods as regulatory tools to influence behavioural shift

- I demonstrate accountability for delivery against outcomes
- With other Senior Directors, I establish and communicate Ofwat's strategic priorities, desired outcomes, and performance expectations in a consistent manner
- I am active in driving a performance focused culture

