Diamond Light Source
Head of Programmes
June 2023
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Diamond Light Source is one of the most advanced scientific facilities in the world, and its pioneering capabilities are helping to keep the UK at the forefront of scientific research. The facility is at a turning point with all its instruments now fully operational. Alongside the continuing growth in scientific output, Diamond is planning for a major upgrade to deliver a 4th generation high brilliance synchrotron light source at a higher energy of 3.5 Giga electron volts (GeV). To maintain its world leading position, Diamond is planning for a programme of development that combines a new machine and several new beamlines with a comprehensive series of upgrades to existing ones. Diamond-II will bring transformation in both improved spatial resolution for imaging and higher throughput of samples for both the Life and Physical Sciences.

The upgrade of the light source will be matched by upgrades to the existing instruments and some completely new instruments, designed to enable scientists and engineers to undertake highly innovative research across a wide range of fields, with a wide variety of potential applications impacting industrial competitiveness and quality of life. In addition to its synchrotron-based instruments, Diamond also offers complementary access to a range of advanced electron microscopes and other laboratories.

Diamond offers its facilities free at the point of use and available to researchers through a competitive internationally reviewed application process, provided that results are published in the public domain. Over 14,000 researchers from across life and physical sciences from both academia and industry conduct experiments at Diamond.

Diamond is a dynamic organisation employing around 800 people from around the world and is set-up as a not-for-profit limited company funded as a joint venture between the UK Government through UK Research & Innovation (UKRI) and Wellcome.

Diamond now has an exciting opportunity for a Head of Programmes, responsible for driving the successful delivery of the portfolio of Diamond projects, including the Diamond-II Project - a complex, multi-disciplinary, £500m major scientific project, spanning approximately 7 years.
The Head of Programmes

Key Duties:

• Manage the overall portfolio of Diamond projects.
• Responsible for forecasting, managing and controlling expenditure and schedule adherence across the project portfolio.
• Project Director for the Diamond-II Project, reporting to the Senior Responsible Owner, responsible for directing the project, taking day-to-day decisions, and for ensuring that:
  - the project is appropriately resourced and organised
  - the budget requirements are defined and managed within agreed delegation limits
  - risks, issues, assumptions and dependencies are identified and managed
  - there is effective communication with key stakeholders internally and externally
  - effective project controls are in place
  - business case benefits are translated into project outcomes and that delivery of these outcomes is managed
  - accurate and timely reporting is carried out to the Diamond-II Project Board and Sponsor Group
• Manage the Diamond Project Management Office function and provide leadership in developing and improving project management processes.
• Own strategic and directional issues and dependencies between projects within the overall portfolio and escalate to the Diamond Executive where necessary.
• Accountable for ensuring that strategic and operational risks and issues are identified, prioritised, assessed and mitigated.
• Ensure a robust change control process is in place and is managed.
Selection Criteria

You will possess substantial experience in the management of large-scale programmes (£100M+), ideally in a technology or engineering sector and will be a strong leader with possibly an international leadership profile. You may have previous experience and understanding of the wider issues impacting the UK science and innovation landscape, ideally with significant experience in management of similar complex programmes.

You will have demonstrable experience of fostering relationships across diverse disciplines and will have gained exceptional stakeholder management skills as part of a large project delivery. To succeed in this role, you will have experience of managing complex scientific and engineering requirements, which will be the key driver of the delivery of the Diamond-II upgrade, whilst balancing current operational needs of the facility together with the Executive team and senior leadership staff involved in Diamond-II. Furthermore, you will possess the ability to lead and motivate a team, drive delivery performance and cultivate innovative processes as part of the delivery of this large programme.

**Essential criteria:**
- Proven experience of managing and delivering complex, multi-disciplinary, multi-million pound major scientific or engineering projects spanning periods of years, ideally Government Major Projects Portfolio, including management/oversight of finances, resources, risk, change etc.
- Significant proven practical experience of modern project management tools and methodologies.
- Experience of working at the industry/academic interface.
- Experience of budgets, analysing figures and apportioning costs.
- Ability to foster teamwork and innovation and the ability and professional standing necessary to gain and retain the confidence of the programme team as a whole, across the range of subject areas and of scientific and managerial issues.
- Strong leadership and decision-making skills and ability to resolve conflicting issues.
- Proven ability to successfully direct and motivate high performing teams.
- Excellent interpersonal skills with the ability to build and manage internal and external relationships.
- Experience of managing change.

**Desirable criteria:**
- STEM degree or equivalent experience.
- Chartered Project Management Professional.
- Member of the APM or PMI or other project management related professional body.
- APMG Managing Successful Programme Practitioner or other relevant Project Management Methodology qualification.
Further Information

- We provide 25 days annual leave plus 13 days statutory and company holidays.
- An exceptional public sector pension scheme is available.
- Assistance with relocation and visa costs will be offered where applicable.
- Flexible working options are available including family friendly policies.
- There is access to a range of amenities on site including a nursery, sports and social activity, and a staff restaurant.
- We ensure a culture committed to being fully inclusive focused on our values (Innovation, Excellence, Collaboration, Integrity and Respect).
- An Employee Assistance Programme and various health and wellbeing initiatives are in place.
- A wide range of career development opportunities are available.

Deadline for applications:
16th July 2023

Interviews:
August 2023.

To apply click here

For more information contact recruitment@diamond.ac.uk