

**Pay:** £65,000.00-£75,000.00 per year

## Job Description:

Job Role:- Senior Estimator

Oxfordshire (primarily office-based, with site visits)

Full-time, Permanent

£65,000 – £75,000 + package

## The Opportunity

Benfield and Loxley are seeking a highly capable Senior Estimator to lead the commercial pre-construction function across a diverse portfolio of projects.

This is a senior, high-impact role reporting directly to the Estimating Director. You will take ownership of the tendering process from early engagement through to submission and contract award, playing a pivotal role in securing work and shaping project outcomes.

Our projects range from complex heritage refurbishments to technically challenging new-build developments across multiple sectors. This role offers the opportunity to influence projects at concept stage, contribute to bid strategy, and work closely with senior stakeholders both internally and externally.

## About Us

Benfield and Loxley are a well-established, employee-owned construction company based in Oxford, delivering high-quality projects across Oxfordshire and the surrounding region.

Our work includes:

- Heritage and listed building refurbishments
- New-build developments (including education and sports facilities)
- Sustainability and carbon reduction projects

We are trusted partners to prestigious Oxford colleges and respected institutions, with a strong track record of repeat business. With a team of c.45 employees—including directly employed trades—we offer a collaborative, agile working environment where individuals can make a meaningful impact.

## The Role

As Senior Estimator, you will be responsible for leading and delivering accurate, competitive, and commercially robust tenders. You will act as a key interface between design, commercial, and delivery teams, ensuring alignment from pre-construction through to handover.

## Key Responsibilities

- Lead the end-to-end tendering process, including first-stage budgets, competitive tenders, and negotiated bids
- Interpret drawings, specifications, and technical information to produce detailed and accurate cost plans and estimates

- Develop pricing strategies aligned with business objectives and market conditions
- Engage with clients, consultants, and supply chain partners to clarify scope, risks, and opportunities
- Identify and evaluate commercial risks, value engineering opportunities, and alternative solutions
- Build and maintain strong relationships with subcontractors and suppliers to ensure competitive pricing and reliable delivery
- Contribute to bid presentations and client interviews where required
- Develop and maintain cost databases, benchmarking data, and historical cost intelligence
- Mentor and support junior estimators, promoting consistency, accuracy, and best practice
- Ensure effective handover of secured projects to commercial and delivery teams

## Essential Criteria

Candidates must demonstrate:

### Experience & Track Record

- Minimum **5–8 years’ estimating experience** within the UK construction industry
- Proven experience operating at **Senior Estimator level** or ready to step up with clear evidence of leading tenders independently
- Track record of delivering successful tenders across **commercial, residential, or mixed-use projects**
- Experience managing tenders

### Technical Knowledge

- Strong working knowledge of **UK building regulations and construction methodologies**
- Solid understanding of **procurement routes** (traditional, design & build, two-stage)
- Proven experience working with **JCT and/or NEC forms of contract**
- Advanced capability in **Microsoft Excel**, including cost modelling and data analysis

### Commercial & Professional Skills

- Strong commercial acumen with the ability to balance risk, opportunity, and competitiveness
- Excellent analytical and numerical skills with a high level of accuracy and attention to detail
- Confident communicator with experience in **client-facing and stakeholder environments**
- Ability to manage multiple tenders and deadlines in a fast-paced environment

### Qualifications

- HNC / HND / Degree in Quantity Surveying, Construction Management, or a related discipline

## Other

- Full UK driving licence

## Desirable Criteria

- Chartered status (e.g. MRICS, MCIQB) or working towards accreditation
- Experience across both **pre-construction and post-contract/commercial delivery stages**
- Exposure to **heritage, listed buildings, or technically complex refurbishment projects**
- Knowledge of **BIM, digital take-off tools, or modern methods of construction (MMC)**
- Experience contributing to **bid strategy and win themes**
- Advanced Excel skills (e.g. macros, dashboards, scenario modelling)
- Experience in mentoring or developing junior team members

## Why Join Benfield and Loxley?

- **Employee-owned business** with a strong, people-first culture
- Opportunity to work on **high-profile, meaningful projects** in Oxford and the surrounding area
- High level of **autonomy and influence** within a senior role
- Strong pipeline of repeat business and long-term client relationships
- Collaborative environment with direct access to senior decision-makers
- Real opportunity to shape projects from concept through to delivery

### Benefits:

- Casual dress
- Free parking
- On-site parking

### Application question(s):

- How to Apply

If you are an experienced estimator looking to take ownership of high-quality projects and play a key role in a respected regional contractor, we would be pleased to hear from you.

Please submit your CV along with a short covering note outlining:

A project you are particularly proud to have costed

Your role in securing the project

Why you would be a strong fit for this position

Send applications to [ldymock@benfieldandloxley.co.uk](mailto:ldymock@benfieldandloxley.co.uk)

- Where are you based now?

Experience:

- CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY ESTIMATING IN COMMERCIAL AND HERITAGE : 5 years (required)

Language:

- English (required)

Licence/Certification:

- UK Driving Licence (required)

Work authorisation:

- United Kingdom (required)

Work Location: In person