DAVID WATSON



Associate Director

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SUMMARY



David is an Associate Director with 15 years' experience in economic development and regeneration. He works across our core disciplines of economic analysis and impact assessments, strategy development, evaluation, appraisal, business case development and preparation of Environmental Statements. He specialises in economics for the land and property sector, demonstrating the need for, and benefits of large scale development and infrastructure projects. This work is used by our clients to support planning applications, local consultation processes, and case making in support of public sector funding bids.

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

HOUSING, EMPLOYMENT LAND ECONOMICS

David provides advice on employment and housing land to both shape and challenge planning policy, as well as advising clients in support of planning applications and EIA processes. He specialises in assessing the economic benefits of a wide range of development schemes, including residential, commercial, leisure, mixed-use, energy and transport. Recent studies include: (i) the proposed 8,500 dwelling development at Carrington, Greater Manchester; (ii) an assessment of the employment land needs in Longbridge, Birmingham; and (iii) the mixed use redevelopment of Cuerden in Central Lancashire.

BUSINESS CASE DEVELOPMENT

David prepares business cases to enable clients to secure public funding in accordance with Green Book techniques and the Five Case Model. David was lead author of the successful Stonehenge business case to DCLG securing funding for the new visitor centre. He has recently been involved in business cases in Lincoln and Lichfield. He prepared economic cases and full business cases for projects including new transport infrastructure, mixed commercial and leisure uses and public realm improvement projects

PROJECT APPRAISAL

David undertakes project appraisals to determine the value for money of projects seeking public sector funding. He works on behalf of local authorities and local enterprise partnerships (LEPs) and their Local Growth Fund programmes. David appraised the Blackburn Cathedral Quarter mixed-use development project for the HCA, while he appraised Nottingham Southside Transport Strategy for the D2N2 LEP. He also managed the appraisal process for Regeneris on the Greater Manchester Textile Growth Programme.

SOCIO-ECONOMIC RESEARCH

David has an extensive understanding of socio-economic data sources. He is well versed in analysing and interpreting data, and in drawing out key messages to add value to our studies and to our clients' understanding of the issues. He is also experienced in using geographical information systems (GIS) to spatially analyse socio-economic data, as well as in undertaking consultation exercises and facilitating workshops.

PERSONAL PROFILE

- Hatch Regeneris, Associate Director, 2018-present
- Regeneris Consulting, Associate Director, 2015-2018
- Regeneris Consulting, Senior Consultant, 2009-2015
- Regeneris Consulting, Consultant, 2006-2008
- Regeneris Consulting, Research Consultant, 2003-2006

QUALIFICATIONS

- Sheffield Hallam University: MSc Urban Regeneration
- University of Hull:
 BA (Hons) Geography

