

# DARREN WISHER

**Managing Director** 

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## **SUMMARY**



Darren is the MD at Regeneris Consulting with over 20 years consultancy experience. Throughout his career he has led studies in all our main service areas, including large scale evaluations, economic impact and strategy development. Increasingly Darren now specialises in economics for the land and property market demonstrating the need for, and benefits from, large scale developments. He is a trained economist and has a Masters Degree in Research Design.

## SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

#### **ECONOMICS FOR THE PLANNING SYSTEM**

A large part of Darren's current work involves quantifying the economic need and benefits associated with large scale development activity. His work spans housing schemes, large scale commercial office development, leisure schemes and large infrastructure and energy proposals. He has recently prepared housing needs analysis for a several of locations across the UK, and evidence to enable change of use on several large industrial sites. He regularly serves as Expert Witness at s78 planning appeals and appears at EiPs on behalf of clients. His client base his a mix of private sector developers and planning authorities.

#### **BIDDING FOR PUBLIC FUNDING AND APPRAISING APPLICATIONS**

Darren has helped prepare funding applications for Lottery monies, EU Structural Funds and Growth Deal funds. He recently helped secure public funding for the flagship Surf Snowdonia leisure based development in North Wales. He also appraises large scale applications on behalf of public sector agencies. He has conducted Green Book compliant economic appraisals for several Local Enterprise Partnerships and for Homes and Communities Agency.

### **ASSESSING ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL IMPACT**

In addition to his work for large scale property schemes, Darren also assess the economic and social impact of individual organisations and the impact of policy changes on individual sectors. He has recently developed a partnership with Pro Bono Economics and has led assessments of the economic and social value of several charities and UK institutions. His work for sector bodies includes modelling the economic impacts of legislative changes on the concrete batching sector.

#### **DESIGNING ECONOMIC STRATEGY**

Darren regularly leads large scale strategy development work at Regeneris. This requires advanced economic analysis and creative thinking. Sometimes the work is in conjunction with urban designers on high level masterplans (e.g. Burnley Town Centre), at other times they are produced solely via Regeneris Consulting (such as the Midlands Way Growth Strategy and the Central Lancashire CRDP). He recently prepared a 20 year economic vision for Tameside in Greater Manchester.

## PERSONAL PROFILE

- Hatch Regeneris, Managing Director 2018—present
- Regeneris Consulting, Managing Director 2015-2018
- Regeneris Consulting, Director 2002 present
- Regeneris Consulting, Associate Director 2001-2002
- SQW Limited, Senior Consultant, 1999-2001
- DTZ Pieda Consulting, Consultant, 1994-1999

## QUALIFICATIONS

- University of Manchester:
  MA (Econ), Applied Social Research
- Leeds Metropolitan University:
  BA Economics & Public Policy

