



Manifesto



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Transport Planning and Infrastructure Design Specialists



Astute was formed by a team of experienced industry professionals who have a shared vision to help clients create successful places for people to live, work and play. We bring our collective knowledge to every project, operating as independent transport planning and infrastructure design specialists.

Having worked together for many years, we are able to advise on the full range of projects, from a single dwelling to a new garden village, a community sports pitch to a football stadium, local shops to a regional shopping centre, medical centres to hospitals, commercial floorspace to urban regeneration projects and everything in-between.

Our approach to transport planning and infrastructure design is flexible – we adapt to meet the brief without compromising our core values.

Our experience allows us to successfully navigate projects through the planning system and beyond. We treat every project individually and enjoy providing bespoke transport solutions that achieve the best outcomes for our clients.

Our strength is our ability to advise clients early about the feasibility and viability of project lifecycle, taking through to delivery.

We are:

- **Approachable**
- **Rigorous**
- **Astute**

Our Values

Approachable

APPROACHABLE | RIGOROUS | ASTUTE

We love working together and are an approachable team. There is no such thing as a stupid question. We know that our profession is based upon relationships and have built up close connections with an extensive network of clients and co-consultants that we enjoy working with, together with Officers in the public sector.

We endeavour to understand our clients' objectives and to provide them with timely and balanced advice. We seek to simplify our input, keeping in active contact with the project team and positively contributing to the project design process.

We have a simple fee structure, with many projects being undertaken on a fixed-fee basis where the scope of work is clear.

We enjoy working collaboratively, often from our office in central Manchester, and are always happy to meet in person.

Our Values

Rigorous

We bring a rigorous approach to our work for our clients. We assess, navigate and deliver transport strategies from concept to conclusion. We assess each project in detail, weighing up local knowledge, facts, options, opinions and cost implications.

We navigate development proposals past challenges, applying our knowledge of the planning system, assessing data and engaging with Officers. This allows us to provide insight, creativity and expertise. We offer expert evidence at Inquiries, public hearings and via written representations.

We deliver transport strategies to successful outcomes, and can then assist clients with discharging planning conditions, negotiating legal agreements, and progressing the detailed design and implementation of transport infrastructure.

Our Values

Astute

APPROACHABLE | RIGOROUS | **ASTUTE**

We provide astute advice to our clients. Whether a single dwelling or a strategic site, we allocate a Director to every project who will be involved from inception through to delivery. We consider that our focus as specialists allows us to work more effectively and to provide better advice.

We know that our clients like a clear early steer, and we are always happy to provide our initial thoughts regarding potential challenges and solutions.

Our experience means that we are able to assess the feasibility and viability of transport-related elements of schemes, including sustainable transport options, public transport provision and highway improvements.

Whilst located in the northwest, we advise clients on projects across the UK, including in London, Wales and Scotland. This allows us to provide expert advice that is tailored to reflect the site location, local policies and design standards.

We undertake our own research and visit examples of best practice to ensure that we provide practical, innovative and astute advice.

Improving Communities

We are aware of the long-term impacts that our projects have on people's lives. We strive to work with our clients to:

- Improve the infrastructure of the built environment
- Underpin regeneration and renewal
- Provide social benefits and social value
- Support local communities and boost their economies
- Improve sustainable travel options and enhance environments



Perspective & Balance

Our experience allows us a clear understanding of the client's brief.

We apply a rigorous perspective to enable us to research, develop and support every client's project through the planning and implementation process.

We understand the importance of listening to the views of key stakeholders and exploring how

these can be incorporated. We have significant experience of attending public consultation events and collecting data through various techniques.

We know that a balanced, well considered and collaborative approach greatly increases the potential for a successful outcome.



Experience & Intuition

Our collective industry experience allows us to combine a detailed knowledge of the planning process and policy frameworks with an astute understanding of the technical issues and commercial considerations that influence decision-making and implementation.

- We're experienced and versatile negotiators and we've honed our processes to be as friction-free as we can make them
- We provide our clients with peace of mind, alleviating pressure and earning their trust
- We relish meeting each challenge and making a positive impact
- We have high standards and a fierce dedication to transport planning, infrastructure design and the built environment
- We uncover options to unlock value for our clients and the communities benefitting from these schemes



Our company is founded on the relationships and trust we have with each other, and applying these foundations to the work we do with and for our clients.

Directors - Transport Planning



Phil
Tilby



Oliver
McLaughlin



Adam
Smith



Richard
Whiting

Directors - Infrastructure Design



Lewis
Brimmell

We are supported by a team of experienced Transport Planners, Engineers and other third-party specialists.

We are **astute**
and we look forward
to working with you.

Transport Planning Services

Site access strategy development and preliminary highway design

Provide evidence as an Expert Witness

Feasibility Studies

Assist with masterplan development and urban regeneration

Site promotion through the Local Plan process

Active travel and accessibility assessment

Resolution of existing access problems

Infrastructure design and costing

Parking and delivery strategies

Preparation, analysis and review of transport data

Junction modelling

Transport Statements and Assessments

Input into Environmental Assessments, Design & Access
and Planning Statements

Attendance at public exhibitions and consultation events

Prepare and implement Travel Plans

Post planning input, negotiate planning conditions, S106 and
other agreements

Advice on legal procedures such as Stopping Up Orders

Construction Traffic Management Plans

Stage 1 Road Safety Audits and Designer's Responses

Infrastructure Design Services

3D design of highway, active travel, drainage, and plot levels

Preparation of detailed design drawings and technical reports

Support through Section 278 and Section 38 agreements

Tendering, contract management and site supervision

Stage 2, 3, and 4 Road Safety Audits and Designer's Responses

Preparation of construction details and specifications

Coordination with statutory undertakers for utilities design and diversions

Drainage strategy development including sustainable drainage (SuDS)
solutions

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