



Consultancy Ltd

Your Local Plan

Developing & Strengthening the Transport Evidence Base





Transport Evidence in the New Plan-Making System

Planning authorities must now produce Local Plans on shorter, more frequent cycles, requiring a more streamlined and coordinated approach to evidence. Transport and travel will remain among the most scrutinised elements of any plan, with inspectors increasingly focused on clarity, proportionality and alignment with national policy and local ambitions.

A Local Plan is about shaping *place*, while transport is about connecting *places*. Transport evidence must therefore develop in step with plan-making and function as a continuous process that spans—and extends beyond—the 30-month timetable in the Planning Act.

The key challenge is to ensure that transport considerations do not delay or undermine the plan. This relies on developing transport evidence that is:

- aligned with the Vision and Objectives of the authority
- proportionate to the scale and nature of the plan
- integrated with sustainability, viability, infrastructure, climate and health
- produced to a timetable that fits the overall plan-making programme
- able to address risks early, including modelling timeframes and stakeholder input

The Edwards & Edwards Approach

EA brings extensive experience from supporting both the Leicester City Local Plan and multiple district councils, where we have prepared targeted and proportionate transport evidence.

We understand what inspectors expect, how to structure transport narratives that integrate with the wider evidence base, and how to present findings clearly to officers, members and stakeholders



How EAE Can Support You

Comprehensive Transport Strategy Support

EAE can lead the development of the transport strategy that underpins the Local Plan—ensuring alignment with infrastructure priorities, agreeing the required evidence with officers, and delivering or managing the delivery of that evidence.

Our support can include:

- Project management of all transport-related evidence, aligned to the Local Plan timetable
- Engagement with key partners and statutory stakeholders
- Assessment and management of risks associated with modelling, infrastructure assumptions and stakeholder positions
- Ensuring transport work integrates with viability, infrastructure planning, climate/Net Zero objectives and wider Local Plan evidence
- Attendance and support at the examination, including summarising evidence and responding to inspector queries



Key Advantages of Working With EAE

- **Flexible expertise:** We deliver core tasks directly and bring in the right external specialists only when needed.
- **Local Plan EiP experience:** Proven track record preparing evidence and supporting councils at examination.
- **Stronger value for money:** SME efficiency with meaningful local insight and continuity of personnel.
- **Understanding of highways and stakeholders:** Direct LHA experience ensures aligned, credible evidence.
- **Clear, timely, solution-focused delivery:** Strong programme management and clear communication to resolve issues early

Next Steps

We would be pleased to deliver a short workshop covering:

- The transport evidence needed for a sound Local Plan
- The sequencing and “critical path” for timely delivery
- The engagement required with key stakeholders
- Opportunities to streamline evidence requirements and optimise any essential transport modelling

The workshop provides an opportunity to explore issues, ask questions and ensure you are fully informed when deciding how best to develop the transport evidence for your Local Plan.



Our Team



Neal Edwards IEng, FIHE **Managing Director**

Neal has detailed knowledge of all aspects of Highway development management and related highway law with over 30 years experience providing support to both the public and private sectors..



Duncan Forbes BEng (Hons) CEng MIET **Technical Director**

Duncan specialises in obtaining evidence including specifying and overseeing transport modelling to provide robust evidence for public- and private-sector projects. He has strong knowledge of DfT guidance and LHA/LPA requirements in the planning process.



Mark Wills CEng MICE **Managing Consultant**

Mark has detailed knowledge and experience of highways and transport strategy. He was formerly the head of Transport Strategy at Leicester City Council where his responsibilities included policy development, stakeholder engagement and member briefing



Steve Clarke Dip TP, MRTPI **Managing Consultant**

Steve supports both our private and public sector clients in progressing major planning applications and is expert in representing clients at Planning Appeals.



Duncan Clarke **Principal Consultant**

Duncan has detailed knowledge and extensive experience in Development Management providing highway and transportation advice to Planning Authorities and representing clients at Planning Appeals.



Our Team



Ian Rowlett **Principal Engineer**

Ian is our senior inspector with extensive East Midlands experience. He supports the team technically and advises on S38/S278 approvals.



Mick Green **Senior Engineer**

Mick has over 35 years' of relevant Highway Authority experience focusing on S38 / S278 Technical Assessment and Approvals.



Sue Highley **Senior Consultant**

Sue specialises has detailed knowledge and over 20 years experience in providing Highway Development Control services for Local Highway Authorities.



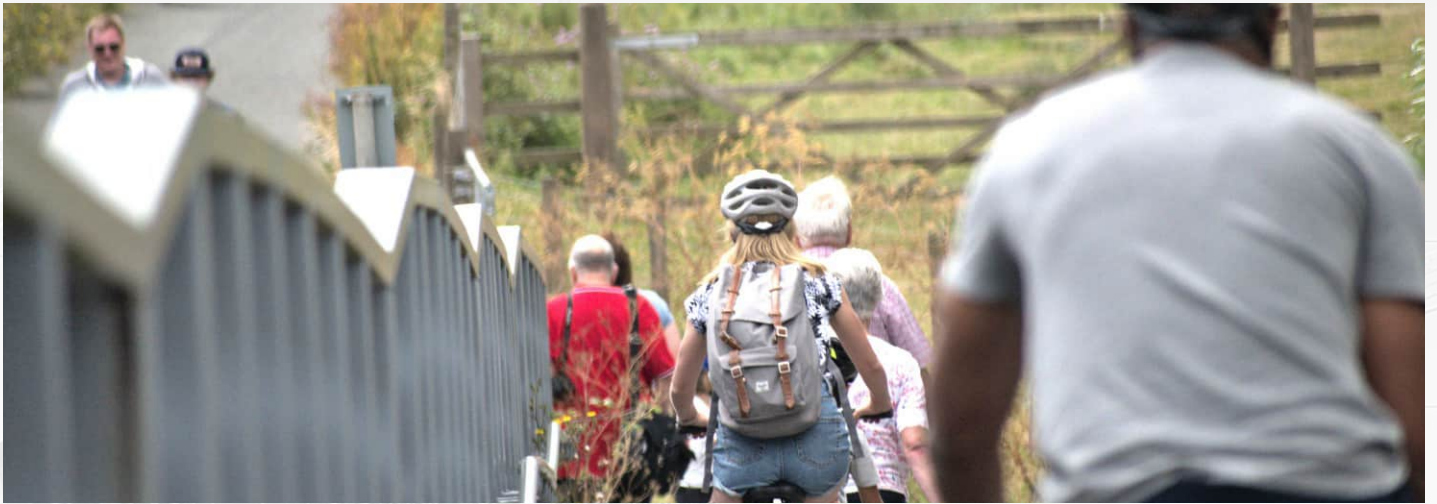
George Edwards **Engineer**

George has worked in the design office on residential developments and then over 5 years experience in Development Control including conducting site inspections of highways to be adopted.



Kian Woodhead **Assistant Engineer**

Kian has a comprehensive knowledge of highway construction with over 7 years of hands on and inspection experience working in both the private and public sector."



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