

The background is an abstract, textured composition. The upper portion is a deep, vibrant blue, while the lower and right portions are dominated by warm, earthy tones of orange, tan, and brown. The textures are layered and painterly, with visible brushstrokes and some areas that look like peeling or layered paper. The overall effect is organic and dynamic.

THE
PLANNER

**WE AIM FOR
GREATNESS**

SPRING 2020

THE LAST QUARTER

Since I wrote my last summary 3.5 months ago so much has changed. It's been a weird, unique and unprecedented first 3 months of the year. For me it started slow in January, with not so many new jobs registered, none in the first 2 weeks, and then thereafter it's been very busy. New jobs registered:

- **Jan (11 jobs)**
- **Feb (16 jobs)**
- **March (14 jobs at 23rd March 2020)**

Demand for Planners/ Project Controllers

This is still high, but demand in the last three month has been mainly for permanent staff. With the proposed IR35 changes for the private sector now being put on [hold for 12 months](#) it will be interesting to see if employers relax their viewpoint, or continue taking the same approach, as these changes will happen it's just a matter of when.

At the time of writing the world is managing the [Coronavirus outbreak](#) as best it can; all our lives have been turned upside down. How this event will impact on construction and infrastructure projects I do not know. Most of the companies that I am speaking to currently are trying to carry on as normal, allowing as many people to work from home as can be done. I just hope that the UK government does not insist that construction sites close down; as if they do this it will really knock the economy and all the companies working in the sector. Time will tell.

So far, with 10 new jobs registered last week, I have yet to see a slowdown in my workload, and I hope this continues to be the case. All we can do at this time is do what the government and our employers ask of us, and hope we get through this ASAP and back to the new normal.

Budget 2020. Personally I thought the Budget was very good, the Chancellor pushed more work to the Construction and Infrastructure sectors, and in my lifetime I have never known so much work going on or planned for these sectors. A really good thing. [Here's a summary of the Budget 2020](#). So if recruitment does slow down, this will only be momentarily, and employers need to be aware of this.

So what's hot and what's not?

Well in my opinion not much has changed in terms of what employers seek. Employers are seeking Planners/ Project Controllers that understand what's being built. Having a relevant qualification in Construction Management, Civil or Structural Engineering is great. Next, if you've been a Site Engineer/ Manager this is seen as very positive by employers. Employers seek people that understand how a project is put together & can talk the same language as the site team. Employers are not looking for software jockeys, those good with software, but just don't understand how a program needs to be put together from the site teams' perspective & their understanding.

My thoughts are with you. #staysafe #remainpositive

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

SOME OF THE KEY CONSTRUCTION JOBS THAT I AM WORKING ON AT PRESENT. THIS CHANGES BY THE HOUR/ DAY...

Construction Sector Jobs

Please note job openings change daily as jobs as are filled and new jobs secured. It is always best to call me if you want an up to date on live jobs .

Senior Planner (Berkshire). P6. INTERIM APPOINTMENT (12 months, outside IR35)

A great opportunity for an experienced construction planner, ideally that has a variety of construction and infrastructure projects experience. M&E building services, Interiors/ Fit out, heavy civils, including reinforced concrete would be highly desired. Day rate flexible, dependent on experience.

Job Ref.: #180

Senior Planner (near Milton Keynes. Site travel weekly, UK wide)

Site planning experience of either high rise commercial, high rise residential, student accommodation, or industrial buildings (distribution centres, warehouses, large sheds, etc.) from a civil engineering perspective. You'll need the flexibility to work between disciplines: civils - roads/ structures/ rail and water, to build industrial/ warehouses and commercial buildings. You will be proficient with Asta. Paying up to £75k salary, plus a great benefits package.

Job Ref.: #193

Senior Planner (near Solihull/ Coventry or Rugby)

You'll have site project experience of either high rise commercial, high rise residential, student accommodation, or industrial buildings (distribution centres, warehouses, large sheds, etc.) from a civil engineering perspective. You'll have the flexibility to work between disciplines: Civils - roads/ structures/ rail and water, to build industrial/ warehouses and commercial buildings. You will be proficient with Asta. Paying up to £75k salary, plus a great benefits package.

Possible 12 month contract.

Job Ref.: #194

Assistant Planner (near Milton Keynes)

Proficient with Asta Powerproject, or at least some experience. Ideally (but not essential) construction planning experience working on commercial, student accommodation, industrial or similar. Ongoing training provided. Driving licence - site visits - occasional initially, becoming more frequent. Responsibility from the outset for a company wide ongoing task - requires communication at Director level. You'll be a good communicator and team player. Paying up to £30k salary, plus a great benefits package.

Job Ref.: #195

MEP Planner (Buckinghamshire)

You'll have site project experience of building hospitals end to end, and the mechanical and electrical aspects of these builds. You'll have 5+ years main contractor experience. You will be proficient with Primavera P6. Paying up to £100k salary and a great benefits package.

Job Ref.: #201

More Construction Planning jobs can be viewed [here](#)

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Head of Planning (Central London)

What a great opportunity. We are looking for a very experienced Construction Planner. You will have spent the last 15-20 years working for main contractors and developers building high rise residential buildings. You will need to have a proven track record of managing multiple full lifecycle projects (15-20) at any one time and managing and developing other Planners. Paying up to £120k salary and a great benefits package.

Job Ref.: #203

Senior MEP Planner (Central Europe or Scandinavia)

What an opportunity this is. We are seeking an experienced MEP Planner that has experience of planning on either Life Science, Data Centres, Pharmaceutical or Semi-Conductor buildings. If you do not have this experience, but you are a Senior MEP (Building Services) Planner then still apply. You'll have 5+ years main contractor experience. You will be proficient with Primavera P6. Paying up to Euros 80k salary, plus accommodation, living allowance, car allowance and flights hometo the UK every 2 weeks and a great benefits package.

Job Ref.: #204

Senior Planner (Europe)

A great job opportunity and a 2-3 year project. Working for a main contractor working on redevelopment work on one of Europes airports. Experience working as a Site Engineer/Manager prior to Planning is essential. You'll have strong Asta & Primavera P6 experience. You will be able to manage a program from 1st principles to project completion. You must have good solid NEC experience and demonstrate an understanding of programme and contract obligations under NEC option 3. You'll reside in London or South East and willing happy to live away during the week.

Accommodation and flights paid for each week. paying circa £75-80k (maybe a little more), plus a very good benefits package, or 24 month contract.

Job Ref.: #186

Senior Planner (Central London)

Secure job, working for a well-known and respected business with lots of work in central London. Seeking a strong Senior Planner with luxury high rise residential or hotels experience. Strong Asta and site planning experience. Paying up to £85k + benefits package. 12-24 month contract assignment may be considered.

Job Ref.: #188

Tender Planner/ Planner (Bristol & European travel).

Tender and site planning experience. Will have worked on tender programmes, predominantly around complicated projects and large scale buildings. Experience of construction projects across a broad range of sectors (bias towards distribution centres, retail, supermarkets, car showrooms and interiors). It is paramount that you will have worked within fast paced construction projects. Paying up to £65,000, + good benefits package.

Job Ref.: #146

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JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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Lead Planner/ Regional Planning Manager. P6 (Birmingham, Litchfield, Burton-Upon-Trent, Derby)

What a great job opportunity this is. An experienced Planner you have the opportunity to join a growing business, that has a family feel, that respects the planning profession, and gives you the opportunity to spread your wings and grow a team.

You'll need to have been a Planner for several years. You'll have worked on highways and/ or heavy civils projects.

Experience on rail or water projects would be an advantage. You will be working across the Midlands so flexibility on working location is important. You will need to be professional, technically strong and charismatic. Paying up to £70k salary, plus car allowance, 6% employer pension contribution and health cover (for family).

Job reference: #74

Planner (East Birmingham). P6.

Must have experience of highways projects, highways England frameworks or practices. Must have worked for main contractors. Experience of highways, bridges, utilities diversions would be good. Can pay circa £50-60k salary (+ £4-5k car allowance), and good benefits package. Excellent career prospects.

Job reference: #93

UK Head of Planning (Birmingham or Manchester)

Experienced highways sector Planner sought, with ten plus years planning experience working on a variety of highways & civil engineering projects. This is a business level position, so experience of working at this level is important. The ability and experience of working on several planning programs as once. Experience of managing and developing planners. Excellent IT skills and relevant knowledge of Planning software including, Primavera P6 & Tilos. Understanding and experience of working to Highways England planning procedures is desirable. Paying circa £80-100k (negotiable), plus a very good benefits package.

Job reference: #208

Senior Planner (Central Manchester)

Experienced Planner sought to work on rail and civil engineering projects. You'll have strong Primavera P6 experience.

You'll be able to manage a program from 1st principles to project completion. You'll have delivered projects within a rail or civils. Must be a collaborative worker, a team player. Great career prospects. A busy and growing company. Paying circa £55-70k (negotiable), plus a very good benefits package (including £5k car allowance).

Job reference: #211

Planning Manager (Central Manchester)

Experienced Lead Planner/ Planning Manager sought to work on rail and civil engineering projects. You'll have strong Primavera P6 experience. You'll be able to manage a program from 1st principles to project completion. You'll have delivered large-scale multi-disciplined rail projects (£200m+), and managed multiple planners. Must be a collaborative worker, a team player. Great career prospects. A busy and growing company. Paying circa £80-90k (negotiable), plus a very good benefits package (including £5k car allowance).

Job reference: #212

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JOB OPPORTUNITIES

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Infrastructure Jobs

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Associate/ Head of Planning (London & Home Counties)

Looking for a well connected Planner, with consultancy background that can lead and grow a planning/ claims division. You'll need to be a strong planner, 10+ years experience working on highways, rail and water projects. Strong claims (extension or time and delay analysis) expertise and P6 and MS Project proficiency. You'll be well connected in the industry and be charismatic and able to bring work to the business and develop existing relationships. Financial package is flexible dependent on what you can bring to the business. Salary circa £90K+, plus car allowance, pension and any other benefits you want. Shares in the business longer term.

Job reference: #200

Senior Planner (East Anglia)

Experienced highways sector Planner sought, with ten plus years planning experience working on a variety of highways & civil engineering projects. You must be able to put together a program plan from tender stage, 1st principles through to project completion, using Primavera P6. Several years working on large scale highways projects. Ideally £100m+ project values. Experience of Tilos would also be highly desirable. Paying circa £80k, plus a very good benefits package.

Job reference: #205

Senior Planner (Northampton)

Experienced highways sector Planner sought, with ten plus years planning experience working on a variety of highways & civil engineering projects. You must be able to put together a program plan from tender stage, 1st principles through to project completion, using Primavera P6. Several years working on large scale highways projects. Ideally £100m+ project values. Understanding and experience of working to Highways England planning procedures is desirable. Experience of Tilos would also be highly desirable. Paying circa £80k, plus a very good benefits package.

Job reference: #206

Senior Planner (Bristol/ Somerset)

Experienced highways sector Planner sought, with ten plus years planning experience working on a variety of highways & civil engineering projects. You must be able to put together a program plan from tender stage, 1st principles through to project completion, using Primavera P6. Several years working on large scale highways projects. Ideally £100m+ project values. Experience of Tilos would also be highly desirable. Paying circa £80k.

Job reference: #207

Planner (Central Manchester)

Experienced Planner sought to work on rail and civil engineering projects. You'll have strong Primavera P6 experience. You'll be able to manage a program from 1st principles to project completion. You'll have delivered projects within a rail or civils. Must be a collaborative worker, a team player. Great career prospects. A busy and growing company. Paying circa £45-55k (negotiable), plus a very good benefits package (including £5k car allowance).

Job reference: #210

More Infrastructure Planning jobs can be viewed [here](#)

CORONAVIRUS & THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

The Coronavirus originated in China and has rapidly spread around the globe. The impact of this has disrupted many industries, including construction. As such, the construction industry is bracing for a decrease in economic growth, at least in the short-term.

Although the spread of the virus has only just started here in the UK, its impact on Chinese production has been devastating global supply chains. As we all know, the world relies heavily on China for construction materials. Quarantine conditions throughout China currently hinder the productivity of manufacturing and influence economic instability. Without the continued process of product development, raw materials remain unused and finished products cannot be shipped to their respective destinations.

The size and scale of the impact of this virus cannot be predicted at this point, but labour and supply chain issues are increasingly foreseeable which leads us to believe a substantial effect on the global construction industry as a whole.

So how does this affect the global construction industry?

As a result of China placing their country into lockdown, demand has increased for construction materials around the world. Consequently, this has potential to cause substantial construction delays and project overspend. Contractors around the world are now realising how closely they rely on China for supplies.

A country that has been hit the hardest by the outbreak of the virus is Hong Kong. Various large-scale projects already underway have been delayed, cancelled or postponed as a direct result of the virus. Reports state that Hong Kong's construction industry has laid off 50,000 workers as work slows due to disrupted China-based labour and materials supply. Not only this, but more than 80,000 have had their hours reduced.

Whereas in Nepal, several major infrastructure projects under construction could face completion delays of up to 18 months as a result of the Coronavirus outbreak. The effects of more than 300 absent Chinese workers and supply-chain disruptions in both materials and equipment have affected several airport projects in the country.

How will it affect us in the UK?

This week the UK government announced its 'battle plan' for how to deal with the virus. As of today, there are [5,683](#) confirmed cases of Coronavirus in the UK and as the country goes into self-isolation mode, we wonder what effect will this have on the current construction projects currently underway.

It has been calculated that up to 20% of workers could be unable to work during the peak weeks of an outbreak. This will have an enormous impact on large scale projects like Crossrail, UKs smart motorways and HS2. In fact, earlier this week Network Rail launched a survey of its suppliers over fears of material shortages due to the Coronavirus.

We know UK firms are planning for goods not being imported and assessing whether they can use substitute products and materials such as stone, air-conditioning equipment and cladding. The closure of UK building sites really would be construction's worst-case scenario.

Whether you are negotiating a contract for a new project or in the middle of construction, it would be wise to consider who will bear the risks and costs associated with the still evolving virus.

BUDGET (APRIL 2020) AND WHAT IT MEANS FOR THE CONSTRUCTION SECTOR

Last week Chancellor of the Exchequer Rishi Sunak delivered his first Budget speech and revealed billions of pounds allocated to the UK's roads, railways and digital networks that underpin growth for the UK economy.

£27bn has been allocated to Highways England's road building programme over the next five years, for projects including the A66 in the northeast, the Lower Thames Crossing in the southeast and the A303 Stonehenge tunnel in the southwest. The largest-ever investment in English strategic roads, with over £27bn between 2020 and 2025.

With the amount of rain we've had in the first 3 months of this year, it is no surprise that this was on the minds of the government when drafting the budget. £5.2bn going towards flood defences between 2021 and 2027, offering better protection from flooding for 336,000 homes and non-residential properties. It doesn't stop there, an additional £200m funding has been allocated to help communities most at risk of flooding recover faster.

There is also £500m a year for local authority highway maintenance - what the government likes to call 'the pothole fund'. There are also plans for a £12.2bn programme to build affordable housing.

Funding for the Shared Rural Network agreement to radically improve mobile coverage in rural areas, and a record £5bn investment in gigabit broadband rollout in the hardest-to-reach areas.

The government has also been paying attention to activists and campaigners calling for 'unsafe' cladding to be removed from residential buildings across the UK. The Budget confirmed an additional £1bn to remove dangerous cladding from apartment buildings above 18 meters to ensure people feel safe in their homes.

'If the country needs it, we will build it' proclaimed the new Chancellor, Rishi Sunak.

Are you looking for a planning job in construction?

We have a long list of planning jobs on our website, take a look and see whether your next career opportunity is here for you: [VIEW JOBS HERE](#).

Can I suggest that you follow our LinkedIn company page [here](#) where we post news, views, jobs, career advice, our quarterly newsletter and more.

I am always available for a chat. I'm normally in the office between 7.30am and 6-7pm weekdays.

Get in touch on 0203 887 1893 | bill@constructionfuturesuk.com

What did you think of the April 2020 budget. Personally I thought it was a really positive budget and I feel very positive about the future.

IR35 RULES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR DELAYED UNTIL APRIL 2021

Good news for PSC contractors amid the Coronavirus outbreak, the government announced plans last night to delay the IR35 private sector implementation changes. The changes to off-payroll working (IR35) rules effective from 6th April 2020 would affect any contractors working through a Personal Service Company, Recruitment Agencies, all large and medium-sized end-clients in the private sector and all organisations in the public sector.

Chief Secretary to the Treasury Steve Barclay said: "The government is postponing the reforms to the off-payroll working rules, IR35, from 6 April 2020 to 6 April 2021". Stating the suspension is in "response to the ongoing spread of COVID-19 to help businesses and individuals," but vowed it will still go ahead as planned the following year.

Andy Chamberlain, Director of Policy at IPSE (the Association of Independent Professionals and the Self-Employed) said: "The government has done the sensible thing by delaying the changes to IR35 in the private sector. These changes have already undermined the incomes of many self-employed businesses across the UK. However, they would have done even more serious damage if they had gone ahead as planned. It is right and responsible to delay the changes to IR35 for at least a year during the Coronavirus crisis, to reduce the strain and income loss for self-employed businesses. This is a sensible step to limit the damage to self-employed businesses in this grave and unprecedented situation, but we also urge the government to do more. It must create an emergency Income Protection Fund to keep the UK's crucial self-employed businesses afloat."

Seb Maley, chief executive of insurance group and IR35 specialist Qdos, said: "The government has seen sense in these unique circumstances. Given the economic challenges that lie ahead of the UK, now certainly would not have been the right time to roll out needless tax changes that endanger hundreds of thousands of contractors' livelihoods. That said, this is only a delay, albeit a very welcome one. It does, however, give private sector firms vital time to prepare for reform, which can only be a good thing for contractors. What matters now is that businesses use this time wisely. Announcing last month the changes were going ahead as planned, the government argued it was right to address what it called "the fundamental unfairness of the non-compliance with the existing rules".

This no doubt comes as a relief to many self-employed contractors who are struggling to keep afloat with the recent outbreak of the virus affecting their daily lives. With the announcement of the delay this should reduce the strain and stress this has been causing PSC contractors, hiring companies and recruiters will give breathing space for the next 12 months.

What are your thoughts?

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Get in touch on 0203 887 1893 | bill@constructionfuturesuk.com

THE PLANNER

GET IN TOUCH

Who knows the future?

Historically, I've been registering new jobs daily/ weekly, so to be up to date with live requirements & the pipeline of jobs coming through these are the ways you can best keep in touch:

No.1: Make sure you are registered with me & that I have all your best contact methods. Mine are bill@constructionfuturesuk.com & telephone number (0203 887 1893).

No.2: Keep in touch. Regular telephone calls. Weekly/ fortnightly.

No.3: If you are a LinkedIn user & we're not already connected, you can connect to me here: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/willwynn/>

No.4: I also strongly recommend that you follow my LinkedIn company page where I post jobs, career advice, salary surveys & more: <https://bit.ly/2IHbdS3>

I'm generally available from 7:30am to 6-7pm Monday to Friday:

0203 887 1893 | bill@constructionfuturesuk.com