

INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING

Understanding how infrastructure providers plan for future needs has enabled Colin Buchanan to establish itself at the forefront of infrastructure planning. We have well established working relationships with specialist consultancies to offer a comprehensive service to our clients. These include:

- Hewdon Consulting (development economics, finance and funding)
- rmjm (public policy and finance)
- UCL (policy analysis and research)

Planning Policy Statement 12 (2008) requires local planning authorities to plan for infrastructure as an integral element of their local development framework. As well as being important for ensuring that core strategies are found to be sound, infrastructure planning is also essential to:

- support competitive funding applications
- justify requests for developer contributions
- underpin a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)
- strengthen the role of local strategic partnerships

The challenge for local planning authorities, local strategic partnerships and local delivery vehicles is to plan, manage and co-ordinate investment in the necessary infrastructure to support future growth in housing and jobs.

Added value

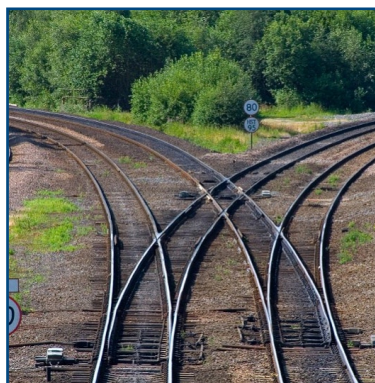
Colin Buchanan has been at the forefront of infrastructure planning for nearly 50 years. Since the 2004 planning reforms we have expanded our capabilities, further recognising the central role that the planning system should play in identifying and delivering infrastructure required for the formation of sustainable communities. We combine technical excellence with understanding and sensitivity to the political context within which our clients operate.

Our expertise has been recognised by the Planning Advisory Service which commissioned Colin Buchanan, rmjm and Hewdon to prepare and present a series of infrastructure planning seminars to regional groups of local authorities.

We have put together a team that assists local authorities, local delivery vehicles, sub-regional partnerships and regional bodies with:

- auditing infrastructure requirements and service plans
- producing developer contributions (S.106) strategies
- understanding the rapidly developing public-sector context for infrastructure planning – and know how to maximise the chances of extra funding

**TRANSPORT
TRAFFIC
DEVELOPMENT
PLANNING
URBAN DESIGN
ECONOMICS
MARKET RESEARCH**



**COLIN BUCHANAN PROVIDES THE
FOLLOWING SKILLS:**

**Demographic analysis
Public funding
Development economics and viability
Demand assessment
Consultation and engagement
Public policy**

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- advising on the practicality of public-private funding arrangements
 - understand the market, including development feasibility, phasing and the impact of alternative development scenarios on infrastructure costs – based on specific land allocations
 - developing cross-boundary arrangements to make infrastructure planning effective and cheaper
 - creating and updating authorities programme management and monitoring arrangements

Track records

Thurrock Infrastructure Prioritisation and Implementation Study

Colin Buchanan has been working with Thurrock Council over the past four years, to advise on the implications of planned housing growth for infrastructure requirements in the borough to 2026. We have assessed the ability of existing infrastructure to absorb additional growth and advised on new infrastructure required to service proposed growth and the associated capital and revenue costs. The work forms a key part of the evidence base underpinning the core strategy and the Council's advice to the regional assembly in reviewing the RSS.

East of England Regional Infrastructure Fund

We advised the East of England Development Agency on the establishment of a regional infrastructure fund. The fund is to forward fund growth related infrastructure investment in the region. The work required a comprehensive understanding of public funding regimes, planning obligations and development scheme appraisal, and involved extensive engagement with a wide range of stakeholders to secure buy-in to a workable scheme.

Surrey Infrastructure Capacity Study

We are undertaking a supply side assessment of existing infrastructure capacity across a wide range of infrastructure types. The work entails:

- engaging in a dialogue with the key service providers
- compiling and analysing key information on strategic infrastructure capacity across the county
- assessing the requirements differential between infill and large green field developments, and the most appropriate method for capturing developer contributions
- providing advice to the client group on appropriate governance structures for delivering required infrastructure

The output will be a framework which forms the basis for more detailed work at the district level.



OUR CLIENTS INCLUDE:

Thurrock Council

Luton and South Bedfordshire councils and local strategic partnership

Buckinghamshire County Council, Aylesbury Vale Advantage and district councils

East of England Development Agency

Surrey County Council

London Borough of Bexley

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