

Simon Elliott

BSc (Hons) MSc

Associate, Planning

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As an experienced socioeconomist, Simon helps to uplift development values by assessing their contribution to the local society.

Simon assists developers in the promotion of sites through the strategic planning process by undertaking comprehensive studies in supply and demand and economic and social need assessments, and by identifying those all-important unique selling points for a site that make it stand out from the competition.

His diligent, solution-driven approach has led to him providing crucial research for the success of several high-profile schemes including the Emirates Stadium, new White Hart Lane stadium, Stadium MK and the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. He's also undertaken numerous studies for housing schemes across the Oxford to Cambridge Arc, and redevelopments including the repurposing of a major retail store into the first UK Hilton Moto.

Undertaking investigative economic research, Simon offers evidence-based consultancy on the optimum housing mix, employment, education and health infrastructure surrounding a scheme, beneficial to the local society. His reports are given substantial weight in development planning decisions, often refuting local economic harm and dovetailing well-designed schemes with the needs of the community.

Simon gets under the skin of the local economy and has a track record of positively influencing the level of Section 106 payments.

Key relevant project experience

Dunstable Park, Surrey

Prepared the socio-economic impact assessments for the scheme as part of the environmental impact assessment. Provided advice to the master planners on the need for healthcare, education and community facilities. Provided advice on the ratio of local labour to jobs so that a balance between community and economic development could be reached.

Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire Local Plan Examinations

Prepared studies setting out the objectively assessed housing needs for the area on behalf of several clients and gave evidence at the joint examination.

Great Wilsey Park, Haverhill

Managed the preparation of the EIA for this large sustainable urban extension including 2,500 dwellings and employment development. This included preparation of the socio-economic impact assessment.

46 Berkeley Square, City of Westminster

Prepared a bespoke study into the socio-economic impact of Caprice Holdings and the Birley Group to support their successful planning application to relocate the renowned Annabel's Club.

Lea, Gainsborough

Prepared various reports including an environmental appraisal, socio-economic assessment and five-year housing land supply assessment for this 450-dwelling scheme. Also prepared EIA screening requests and secured a Screening Direction from the Secretary of State confirming that EIA was not required.