



James Guthrie

Associate Director

MPlan, MRTPI

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Areas of expertise

James is an experienced planner, acting as strategic planning lead on major projects across the UK. He advises both national and regional clients on a wide range of development proposals, working on logistics, residential, employment and education led planning schemes.

James is also experienced in the Development Consent Order (DCO) process, having played a significant role in several successful schemes, including the West Midlands Interchange and Silvertown Tunnel.

He is a Chartered Town Planner (MRTPI), a member of the National Infrastructure Planning Association (NIPA) and is currently working towards full membership of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS). James holds a master's degree from the University of Manchester in planning (MPlan).

Key experience

West Midlands Interchange (WMI), South Staffordshire

– James provided planning input into the successful DCO application for a new Strategic Rail Freight Interchange in the West Midlands, providing 8 million sq ft of rail served warehousing in the Green Belt.

DHL Manton Wood, Worksop – James acted as strategic planning lead on behalf of DHL, successfully securing planning permission for all three phases of the Manton Wood development. The regional hub will provide over 1 million sq ft of employment floorspace.

DHL Towcester, Northamptonshire – James is acting a strategic planning lead to deliver over 1 million sq ft of employment space and land for Towcester Town Football Club.

Valor Canning Town, London – James is acting as planning lead to deliver c.30,000 sq ft of flexible B1/B2/B8 floorspace.

Key projects

West Midlands Interchange (WMI)

DHL Manton Wood

DHL Towcester

Mitre Wharf

Gulfstream MRO Hanger

Heathrow

Silvertown Tunnel

Mitre Yard

North Kensington Gate (South)

Key clients

DHL

Grosvenor

BlackRock

London Green

Valor LLP

EDF

TfL

Gulfstream

City & Docklands

Hampton School



BlackRock Birmingham Business Park, Solihull – James is acting as strategic planning lead to deliver c. 90,000 sq ft of flexible employment space.

DHL Livingston, Scotland – James is acting as strategic planning lead to deliver c. 250,000 sq ft of employment space at the J4M8 business park

Gulfstream MRO Hangar, Farnborough Airport – James led the planning team in delivering a new maintenance, repair and overhaul (MRO) hangar for Gulfstream Aerospace Corporation, at Farnborough Airport.

Mitre Yard, OPDC (London) – James led the project team on behalf of City & Docklands for a new 241 dwelling, residential-led mixed-use development. This included successful amendments via S96A and S73 to uplift the original Quod consent from 200 to 241 units.

North Kensington Gate (South), OPDC (London) – James successfully led the project team on behalf of C&D to gain consent for a 208 dwelling, residential-led mixed-use development at NKG (South).

Mitre Wharf, OPDC – James is acting as strategic planning lead on behalf of London Green to deliver a residential-led mixed use scheme.

Silvertown Tunnel, London – James assisted the TfL project team during the successful DCO application for a new tunnel linking the Greenwich Peninsula and Silvertown in London.

EDF Nuclear Decommissioning, various sites – James is leading the planning aspects in the decommissioning multiple nuclear sites, on behalf of EDF.

Heathrow Airport, London – James was part of the project team taking the third runway proposals through the DCO process ahead of the project pausing.

Hampton School, Richmond – James is retained as strategic planning lead, providing planning advice across various projects including appeals and representing the School at Planning Committee.