



JUSTIN MILLS

DIRECTOR

Contact Details

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Qualifications

BA (Hons) Planning Studies

Dip Town Planning

MSc Planning Studies (Environmental Design)

Member of Royal Town Planning Institute

Justin is one of the founding Directors of Contour Planning. He has over 25 years' private sector experience providing clients with commercial planning advice on all types of land use.

Justin has a broad and diverse range of planning experience, with a focus on providing high level strategic advice to assist clients unlock the development potential of land, as well as in relation to the submission of planning applications and portfolio reviews. Whilst he has advised on a wide variety of planning issues, he has particular expertise in retail, residential and complex mixed-use developments.

Justin's commercial approach enables him to provide clients with expert strategic and practical planning advice. He is a skilled project manager, who regularly manages large multi-disciplinary teams working to tight timescales.

In addition to co-ordinating and submitting planning applications, Justin has a wealth of experience promoting developments through the development plan process, giving expert evidence at Public Inquiries and Informal Hearings, dealing with planning enforcement matters, as well as the production of technical material in support of schemes, including Planning Statements, Retail and Leisure Assessments, Design Access Statements, Housing Need Assessments, Statements of Community Involvement and the production and co-ordination of Environmental Impact Assessments.

Justin is also a skilled speaker, who has presented papers at professional conferences, presented schemes to Planning Committees and is regularly involved in public consultation exercises.

Justin has worked on planning projects throughout England, as well as in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland.

Example Project Experience

Promoting new a foodstore in a market town – work included public consultation, project management, preparation of technical reports, including Retail Impact Assessment and Employment Land Assessment, co-ordination of planning application submission, negotiation with Local Planning Authority.

Development programme management – work included advising clients on national development programmes, including the installation of mezzanine floors, opening and delivery hours, store extensions and retrofitting energy efficiency measures.

Portfolio review for a large UK landowner – work included identifying suitable development opportunities and providing strategic advice on the most approach uses which could be achieved.

Promoting a mixed-use development, including residential (230 dwellings), offices, Class B8 uses and retail/community facilities – work included preparation and co-ordination of planning application, including Environmental Impact Assessment, and ongoing negotiation with Local Planning Authority.

Removing 'range of goods' restrictions on retail warehouses units - work has included advice to clients on scope of removing bulky goods restrictions and enabling sale of a greater range of products, preparation of planning applications (supported by Retail Impact Assessments) and negotiation with local planning authorities. Clients have included a major UK department store, national fashion retailer and supermarket chain wishing to expand into the non-food sector.

Advice to a national convenience store operator - work included initial planning appraisals, submission of planning applications for new shop fronts, signage, plant and associated facilities.

Planning advice to support a large residential development (256 dwellings) and associated commercial floorspace – work included preparing a Commercial Leisure Assessment to demonstrate why the site is not suitable for leisure development (as suggested by the Local Planning Authority).

Promoting a major city centre redevelopment, including over one million sq. ft. of retail and commercial floorspace, residential and community uses – work included project management, preparation of Planning Statement, Retail Impact Assessment, negotiation with Local Planning Authority, proofs of evidence for CPO Inquiry.

Employment History

Contour Planning Services Ltd (Director), 2010 - present

DPP LLP (Partner, Associate, Senior Planner), 1996 - 2010

Donaldsons (Senior Planner), 1995 - 1996

Healey and Baker/Cushman & Wakefield (Planner), 1992 - 1995

