



2017



Air quality

Once a decade the politics of our environment captures the headlines and, 2016 saw the awakening in the public consciousness of the latest environmental calamity: air pollution. This was 'fueled' in part by the diesel emissions scandal of the previous year.

Our cities are huge polluters and, (according) to the United Nations take responsibility for 70% of the world's carbon emissions. The main contributing factor to air pollution is undoubtedly transport.

Whilst traditionally the role of environmental assessors, the role of transport planners needs to adapt to consider vehicle emissions as part of the overall Transport Assessment (in collaboration with other professional consultants). Mitigating emissions and actively encouraging greener fuel technology will become paramount.

To address this emerging policy, transport planners will need to promote a healthier approach to transport strategies in our cities through a variety of measures.

We are already highly experienced in assisting and advising our clients in relation to the impacts of existing and emerging transportation related policies.

As a company mode are committed to leaving a healthier environment to the next generation.



MD's first word

This year we celebrate five years since we opened our headquarters in Birmingham. Since then we've opened three more offices in Oxford, London and Manchester and recruited around 20 full and part time staff members. We have plans for a celebration in the summer and new staff joining us at various levels over the year. A huge thank you to all of our clients, staff and co-consultants who have made the last five years possible and enjoyable.

We have been developing a set of training programs on various key topics for our junior staff. This means that mode offer a structured career progression, ensuring that our staff are obtaining Continued Professional Development (CPD). This structure is strongly encouraged by Chartered Institute of Highways and Transport (CIHT), Transport Planning Society (TPS) and Institution of Civil Engineers (ICE).

We are also delighted to announce that mode have been selected to join the Goldman Sachs 10,000 small business programme. The 10,000 programme is a comprehensive programme of business development support for small businesses and social enterprises with high growth potential.

As air quality considerations become a paramount concern, mode is leading the way in incorporating air quality emissions assessment into our Transport Assessments and subsequently implementing emissions mitigation strategies through the delivery of well-considered Travel Plans.

mode provides the following services

- transport assessments
- travel plans
- environmental impact assessments
- transportation inputs to masterplans
- sustainable travel studies
- transport policy review
- traffic modelling
- public consultation
- inputs to public realm design
- section 106 negotiation
- expert witness at planning inquiries
- research and development



Busy in Birmingham

Our head office in Birmingham continues to grow and the start of 2017 has been extremely busy at mode with new staff joining and a plethora of new projects coming into the practice.

Our work at Long Marston Airfield was announced as one of the UK's new garden villages. The HS2 petitioning we undertook in 2015 at Parliament has assisted with the exciting announcement of the Typhoo Wharf development being announced at MIPIM 2017. And finally, the Birmingham team recently prepared the Transport Assessment and Travel Plan to support an exciting planning application for 778 new residential units at Bristol Street, located on the edge of Birmingham city centre.

Oxford success

Our Oxford office continues to grow as they welcome two new graduate transport planners.

Our projects in the region remain many and varied. Our recent success with securing planning consent for two linked developments; a new ground for Horsham Football Club and 58 dwellings for Reside Developments.

Access locations and feasibility remains a key area of Oxford work, with success recently in the village of Scaynes Hill, West Sussex in overturning a highways objection relating to sub-standard access visibility. The Oxford team are on hand to offer pragmatic advice on access arrangements, from early feasibility to the preparation of access designs and obtaining agreements with the necessary authority.



mode move north

Since launching our new Manchester office in September 2016, the team has started to grow with the addition of Luke Wheeler (Senior Consultant) who joined mode in January.

The Manchester team have been busy working on a wide range of projects across the commercial, residential, leisure and retail sectors. This includes assisting clients with planning applications, travel plans, local plan reps and site selection.

Having fully settled into the Jactin House office in Ancoats Urban Village, the team is looking forward to working with clients over the next six months (providing they can stay away from the Jactin House arcade machine).

London story

mode have expanded their offering in London with a new office location; this centrally located facility will allow mode's existing client base in London to be better served and will allow further growth in the Capital.

#themodeway

Senior staff at mode have been travelling the breadth of the UK with a presentation on access design considerations, setting out what developers and land owners need to consider in terms of obtaining successful planning permission.

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