

PLANNING CONSULTANT

The Sill, UK © Jane Darbyshire and David Kendall Ltd

Matt Brooksbank, Graduate Consultant, talks about his experience working in the planning team.

"Achieving Sustainable Development is a key aim of the planning profession – fitting with Cundall's commitment to sustainability as the first consultancy to be awarded One Planet Company by sustainability charity BioRegional."

At Cundall, we work as planning consultants on behalf of a wide range of clients, from major national housebuilders and developers, to local authorities and other public bodies. The role is mainly office-based, though there are often opportunities to attend site visits and project meetings across the country to feed into project work, be it with clients, council officers, design teams and so on. We are in constant collaboration with a variety of disciplines both within and outside of Cundall – including transport planners, civil engineers and architects.

Day-to-day we take care of a project as it travels through the planning process from inception to completion with the aim of securing planning permission to meet the needs of the client. This can include the preparation of relevant reports to feed into the submission, subsequent management of the application, undertaking of public consultation events, and all necessary communication with clients, the public and the local authority. The role requires strong skills in negotiation, project management, teamwork and the ability to engage with the public.

Recent projects are wide-ranging in terms of scale, sector and location. Recent projects in the UK include heavy involvement with Park View Student Village in Newcastle city centre on behalf of Newcastle University, a 750-unit housing development in Sunderland known as Chapelgarth on behalf of Siglion and Miller Homes, and an award-winning visitor centre in the Northumberland countryside known as The Sill on behalf of Northumberland National Park. On an international level the planning team has been involved with projects in Australia and Singapore.

Chartership with the Royal Town Planning Institute or Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors is particularly important step forward as a Planning Consultant – Cundall support graduates in their path towards completion of the Assessment of Professional Competence with the aim of securing full chartership at the earliest opportunity. More information can be found on the planning services page.



MATT BROOKSBANK

Joined 2015

Graduate Planning Consultant