# Jamie Wheway

# Jamie entered the transport planning profession in 1985 after completing a Masters in Transport Planning and Management at the Polytechnic of Central London (now the University of Westminster). His first employer was Alastair Dick & Associates and he was lucky enough to be involved in Eurotunnel at the time the Channel Tunnel Bill was going through parliament and then during construction and the lead up to opening, which Jamie describes as ‘a really exciting time for everybody involved. After a two month assignment to Bermuda, I not surprisingly got the taste for international work and spent the 1990s in Singapore, Hong Kong and other SE Asian countries working for Wilbur Smith Associates’. In Hong Kong he was fortunate to be involved in another ground-breaking project – a Feasibility Study on Electronic Road Pricing.


# Jamie joined ITP in 2001, where he really enjoys working for a small company and hopefully helping graduates embark on an equally exciting and varied career as mine.

# Jamie, what do you do with Integrated Transport Planning?

# I am a Director based in our Milton Keynes office and we also have offices in London, Birmingham and Nottingham. ITP has around 30 professional staff and work for public and private sector clients across the country, as well as having a significant portfolio of overseas projects. In the UK, our main areas of expertise include transport strategy and policy, smarter choices and demand management, integrated land use and transport planning, public transport, low emission transport, intelligent mobility, research and evaluation. As well as getting involved in a wide range of projects, I am responsible for our Professional Development Scheme.

# Why is important for younger transport planners to work towards award of a professional qualification?

# The TPP qualification should be a goal of all graduates starting their transport planning careers. It provides a target to work towards and, on qualification, is genuine recognition that they have acquired the depth and breadth of knowledge to be called a professional transport planner.

# What do you sees as the main benefits of the TPS Professional Development Scheme

# The PDS has brought a new perspective to the development of our graduates, providing them with a structured framework and enabling them to learn from their peers and expand their breadth of knowledge in transport planning outside of any specialist areas. For ITP, the development of well-rounded transport planners enables us to plan for the future, confident in the knowledge that we have knowledgeable and experienced professionals to work on a wide range of interesting and challenging projects. The PDS is also an important part of our “offer” to new graduates.

# What advice would you give to someone just starting in transport planning on developing their career?

# Even if you end up specialising in a particular field, make sure you get involved in as many aspects of the transport planning as possible as this will provide you with a better understanding of how your specialist area fits in with the wider picture.

# You have the TPP. Are any particular occasions on which it has proved particularly beneficial to be a TPP?

# When appearing as an Expert Witness, being able to say that you have the TPP is a strong and powerful way of demonstrating that you are indeed an expert. As the TPP becomes more widely recognised in the industry, it is also provides immediate evidence, in proposals for example, that you have significant, proven, skills and experience.

# What advice would you give to transport planners wondering whether to apply for award f the TPP?

# Don’t underestimate the work that is required, but the kudos and value of achieving the qualification make the effort worthwhile.