



# Planning & Environment

Excellent client service, superb technical ability and invaluable practical experience: key qualities which define the Planning & Environment Team.

Between them, the Team has dealt with around 30 planning appeals in the last two years, dealing with varied sectors such as waste/renewables, motorway services, residential, and retail schemes. Working regularly at the 'coal face' places the Team in a unique position to understand and effectively address the ever changing challenges of the planning system.

In both planning and environment law, the Team has the ability to manage cases from 'cradle to grave' providing an effective 'one stop shop' for strategic advice and advocacy services and is recognised for its formidable advocacy skills.

The willingness of its lawyers go the "extra mile" and deliver results sets the Team apart. It is respected for the rigorous assumption testing the Team brings to any matter, adding value by building solid evidential platforms for successful outcomes, whilst having an acute awareness of commercial sensitivities and objectives.



*"it really holds its own; the Team is powerful and effective"* – Chambers (planning)

*"Walker Morris is pre-eminent in the field of planning and real estate, giving the group excellent foundations in the environment sector."* – Chambers (environment)

## HOW WE CAN HELP

### Project managing complex transactions

Having worked with Hallam Land Management for a number of years, we have played a central role in a number of complex planning appeals relating to substantial development proposals, providing a full service from early strategic advice, drafting and negotiating detailed section 106 agreements, to the management of evidence for Planning Inquiries, and acting as the company's advocate. Our ability to work effectively as part of a team of experts, and capacity to handle large scale complex multi-party hearings, has allowed us to add value to the client's case and provide the best possible chance of a successful outcome.

*"We have worked with the Team over a period of many years, on a whole range of sites some of which have been difficult and complex. We have always received a first class service, with a thoughtful and careful approach to every problem. Furthermore, what has been particularly refreshing is that they have listened to and understood our own specific requirements and have responded accordingly."*

*"They are very incisive in their thinking, meticulous in their approach, cutting edge in their understanding of the problems and all at the same time as being very down to earth people to work with. We have never been let down by the talented Team and it is always a pleasure to work with them. We believe in getting good value for money and that is exactly what we get from them."* – Hallam Land Management

### Supporting you as a trusted adviser

We have a long standing relationship with several major clients in the waste and energy sector, and in particular have been a trusted adviser to companies such as FCC Environmental (previously WRG) and Green Park Energy Limited. Building long term relationships with clients and their other advisors allows us to work effectively as a team, fully understand our client's business requirements, and respond quickly to their needs. We have recently been successful as part of a wider client and consultant team in obtaining a resolution to grant planning permission for FCC's Energy from Waste scheme in Buckinghamshire, a complex process which took over two years to bring to fruition. In the case of Green Park Energy we have provided ongoing support over a number of years, advising in respect of several complex planning and environmental matters, which included assisting with regulator disputes regarding legislative interpretation and compliance.





The Team “have advised me on numerous matters ranging from complex planning appeals to the specific interpretation of Legislation and Environmental Regulations. Advice is always received in a timely fashion, relevant and incisive. Of equal importance, the service provided represents good value for money and the key personnel are a pleasure to deal with. I have had a long association with Walker Morris, and Andrew [Williamson] and his Team in particular, and without doubt they are my legal advisors of choice.” – Greenpark Energy Limited

#### Achieving results

The Team continues to advise Peveril Homes and Peveril Securities on all planning related matters and our relationship has continued to go from strength to strength. We have recently advised in respect of a residential scheme in the Midlands, the second case for the client where permission was refused by the same Council for development on greenfield, unallocated sites. Once again the Team conducted the planning appeal at Inquiry and, as in the first case, we secured a successful result with the appeal being allowed. In addition to Inquiry work the Team has delivered results by successfully negotiating and completing section 106 agreements in time sensitive situations and continues to work with the client and their advisors to provide strategic advice on complex projects.

“Peveril Homes and Peveril Securities are the property and development arms of The Bowmer & Kirkland Group. Over many years we have found the advice and support of Walker Morris invaluable to the success of our business. The Planning Team have consistently delivered results on a wide spectrum of complex cases in a constantly evolving planning environment. It is this performance that embed your team as one of our few trusted advisors.” – Peveril Homes and Peveril Securities (part of the The Bowmer & Kirkland Group)

#### AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Advocacy
- Compulsory Purchase Orders
- Environmental Impact Assessment and Biodiversity Laws
- Environmental Permit appeals
- Environmental regulation and litigation (including enforcement/prosecution cases)
- Judicial Review
- Local Plans: representations, site assessments, appraisals and Examinations in Public
- Nationally Significant Infrastructure
- Planning Appeals and Planning Enforcement Appeals
- Planning Applications
- Project Management of Planning Proposals
- Section 106 and other planning related Agreements

#### WALKER MORRIS

“A distinctive law firm valued by its clients for consistently delivering excellent results.”

We offer our clients a full service commercial law firm focused on providing a wide range of clients, nationally and internationally, with partner led high quality advice. The national centre of excellence in Leeds that we have built offers significant advantages in terms of developing a strong team-based culture within the Firm, with the inherent value and cost effectiveness that a Leeds base brings.

The success of our model is reflected by our clients, which are drawn from a broad range of sectors. We are recognised for our strong multi-disciplinary teamwork and straight forward advice. Both the Firm and our lawyers are recognised as leaders in their fields with 96 per cent of our partners recommended in either Chambers or Legal 500 for their expertise.

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