

SUMMARY



Neil Evans is a development economist who specialises in regional and local economic development. He has over 20 years professional experience in economics research and analysis, covering both the public and private sectors. He specialises in land, property, skills and infrastructure and in driving the competitiveness of economies. He also specialises in a range of business sectors, including energy, tourism and leisure.

SKILLS AND EXPERIENCE

ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Neil is an expert in measuring economic impact. He has undertaken wide-ranging assessments of the potential and actual economic impact of major firms, such as Astra Zeneca, industries, energy and infrastructure projects, and government policies. He advised the Welsh Government on the economic impact of the onshore wind and marine energy sectors, and is providing on-going support to a range of energy developers including NuGen (Moorside), RWE and Dong Energy.

CASE-MAKING AND FUNDING

Neil specialises in demonstrating the economic potential of investment proposals to help investors accelerate schemes from inception to planning and delivery. Clients often use Neil's evidence to strengthen investment proposals, to secure planning permission and to support publicity campaigns. He also helps project sponsors to secure funding from the public sector. Neil has provided on-going business case and funding advice to English Heritage for the new Stonehenge Visitor Centre.

ECONOMIC AND POLICY ANALYSIS AND ADVICE

Neil has extensive experience in providing economic research and advice in a range of economic development policy areas and to various public and private sector organisations. He is particularly interested in the relationship between skills, business development and economic performance. Neil also specialises in the role of public sector in the provision of finance to SMEs, including delivery and governance issues.

POLICY AND PROGRAMME EVALUATION

Neil has managed a number of large and complex evaluation studies. These have included evaluations of national skills development programmes and initiatives, business development (including venture capital funds) and area based economic development and regeneration Programmes. He has recently led the final evaluation of the 2007-13 ERDF programme in England and the ex-ante evaluation of the new 2014-20 ERDF programme for England (and contributed to the ex-ante evaluation of Wales' new ERDF programmes).

PERSONAL PROFILE

- Hatch Regeneris: 2018—Present
- Regeneris Consulting: 2001-2018
- Head of Economics North, Arup: 1999-01
- Associate Director, DTZ Pieda Consulting: 1997-99
- Consultant/Senior Consultant, Pieda plc: 1991-96
- Economic Assistant, Department of Employment: 1987-88

QUALIFICATIONS

- University of Salford:
MSc Public Sector Economics
- Cardiff University:
BSc (Hons) Economics
- Member of the Institute of Economic
Development