

...of Jack Hearnshaw

Senior Transport Planner, Local Transport Projects



I work as a Senior Transport Planner at Local Transport Projects, based in Beverley and it's something I've been doing for over 6 years now. My job role is quite varied, but can basically be described as being involved in planning the transport environment we all use on a daily basis, whether that be roads, footpaths, cycle routes or public transport.

I work locally and around the country and although my work is mainly office based, site visits are an important part of my job and can be as varied as cycling planned routes in Cardiff, counting cars in Cleethorpes and even pedalling a smoothie bike at Yorkshire Tea HQ! I'm most often found in the office though, writing reports and liaising with clients.

Transport planning is all about **problem solving** and can be challenging, so **being able to think on your feet and outside the box** is a key skill to have. You also have to be **adaptable** as the transport planning world never stays still, and sometimes a little bit **thick-skinned** because people often aren't afraid to disagree with your ideas!

I went through sixth form to do my A-levels and then moved to Hull to do a Geography degree at Hull University. I entered transport planning as an intern with no real experience, and have been lucky enough to **train on the job**, applying the key skills I developed during school and university to my job role. I was never the most confident person, but my skills have developed over my academic and professional career and now I help to deliver transport planning training courses!

I can honestly say that I didn't know what career I'd end up in when I was at school, but I just **followed my instincts** and made choices to do things that I enjoy, that way I knew I'd ultimately end up in a career that I enjoyed, and that's what really matters.

I first moved to Hull to come to university, it wasn't my first choice at the time but I came on an open day and felt a connection. I have a memory of sitting on a bus going down Newland Avenue and thinking that my decision was made, I wanted to come to Hull. I'd been to a lot of open days by this point but there was charm about the area that you didn't get elsewhere, and it's easy to take that for granted sometimes. Fast forwards 10 years and I'm still here, **I love the people in this area** and we're lucky to have **close access to the city, coastline and countryside**. There are so many industries and **a wide range of career paths** available, and **the opportunities associated with the energy estuary are so exciting** for the future of this region.

