



Economics e-update

Nathaniel Lichfield and Partners (NLP) has advised on the economics of development for over 40 years. In this e-update, we review some of the firm's recent commissions and latest company news.

National Planning Policy for Economic Development

Kate Barker's Review of Land Use Planning drew similar conclusions to a recent NLP study identifying the need for a new PPS on economic development. Based on a national survey of local planning authorities, this study for the Regional Development Agencies highlighted that economic development currently does not have the same priority as other competing land uses.

Executive Summary available at www.nlplanning.com

A Sound Approach to Employment Land Reviews

An NLP review of employment land studies, published in *Planning* magazine, found significant variation in the scope and approach to such studies across different local authorities, and recommended points of good practice; a copy can be downloaded from www.nlplanning.com. NLP's supporting evidence on employment land and economic policies to Hambleton District Council's Core Strategy, was deemed sound at a recent Examination-in-Public.



Economic Impacts of Regional Shopping Centres

Should Regional Shopping Centres form focal points for sustainable new mixed use communities? This potential role, and the economic impacts of such Centres, were considered in a recent article in the *Journal of Retail & Leisure Property*, drawing on several recent economic studies undertaken with the Oxford Institute for Retail Management

Viewable on www.nlplanning.com

Oxford Higher Education & Health Study

This study for Oxford City Council highlights the importance of the higher education and health sectors as key drivers of the City's knowledge-based economy. It assessed the economic contribution, growth prospects and land needs of the City's universities, medical schools and research hospitals, and their support for Oxford's high-technology cluster and regional economic growth.



Swindon Employment Land Study

The need to avoid short term land shortages constraining growth was a key finding of this recent NLP study of Swindon's employment land needs. The potential of various emerging sectors, and Swindon's planned city centre regeneration and office development, were considered in assessing land needs up to 2026.



Further project examples available at www.nlplanning.com

Tynemouth Outdoor Swimming Pool Feasibility Study

An interesting recent NLP commission examined the feasibility of re-opening a decommissioned 1930's outdoor tidal swimming pool/lido in North Tyneside. This included assessing the viability of re-opening the pool, reviewing examples of comparable facilities elsewhere, as well as compliance with modern regulatory standards. NLP evaluated the feasibility of a range of potential options for the pool's future use.

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