

A Quod profile



## Michelle Burns Associate

BPlan (Hons), MRTPI

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### Areas of expertise

Michelle is a chartered town planner with a strong background in stakeholder engagement and the consenting of major projects. Her effective communication and leadership skills backed by sound technical competence have contributed to the smooth planning and delivery of large scale capital projects.

Michelle has experience in the development of Development Consent Order (DCO) applications for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) as well as the negotiation of agreements, including section 106 agreements. Michelle has also advised clients in the early stages of project development including the optioneering and development of consenting strategies.

### Key experience

**Northern Runway Project, Gatwick Airport Limited** – Michelle was involved in the development of the Design and Access Statement (DAS) to support the DCO application for the Northern Runway Project. Her role included authoring of the DAS text and development of the Design Principles.

**Energy NPS Review, National Grid** – Michelle undertook a review of the draft revised suite of energy NPSs on behalf of National Grid and provided an evaluation of whether the NPSs are 'fit for purpose' for the delivery of National Grid's portfolio of projects to be implemented by 2030.

**Lower Thames Crossing, National Highways** – Michelle was in the role of Deputy Negotiations Lead overseeing the team responsible for stakeholder engagement and the preparation of Statements of Common Ground with local authorities. Her role included overseeing the scoping, development and negotiation of third party agreements (such as section 106 agreements) with local authorities, as well as the preparation and review of DCO application deliverables.

### Key projects

Lower Thames Crossing  
Gatwick Northern Runway Project  
Northern Corridor Improvements  
Puhinui Rail/Bus Interchange  
Airport to Botany Business Case

### Key clients

National Highways  
National Grid  
Gatwick Airport  
New Zealand Transport Agency  
Auckland Transport



**Puhinui Interchange, Auckland** – Michelle prepared the consenting strategy for the business case for the accelerated upgrade of a strategic rail/bus interchange and subsequently led the preparation of the planning application and other statutory approvals required.

**Airport to Botany Business Case, Auckland** – Michelle developed the multi-criteria analysis assessment for the environmental and social workstreams to determine the emerging preferred option for public transport connections (bus, rail and light rail) between Auckland Airport and Botany. She subsequently scoped and managed the technical input into the optioneering assessments and preliminary environmental impact assessments.

**SH16/18 Connections Business Case, Auckland** – Michelle led the authoring of the consenting strategy for a highways upgrade and busway connection project in north-west Auckland. She also undertook the assessment of social effects as part of the multi-criteria analysis screening exercise.

**Northern Corridor Improvements, Auckland** – Michelle prepared the planning application for the Road of National Significance to be determined by a Board of Inquiry. This included supporting the writing of evidence, hearing preparation and stakeholder engagement.

**North Harbour BMX Stadium, Auckland** – Michelle led the preparation of the planning application and environmental assessments required for the relocation of a BMX stadium to facilitate the timely delivery of a highways scheme.

**North Harbour Hockey Stadium, Wellington** – Michelle was responsible for the authoring of the planning application and coordination of the supporting environmental assessments for an additional hockey pitch in the Inner Town Belt.

**Various energy storage projects, New Zealand** – Michelle has substantial experience undertaking scoping assessments and obtaining statutory approvals for bulk storage oil and gas projects across New Zealand, many of which require upgrades to continue compliance with legislation. She has coordinated the preparation of the EIA to support planning applications and led stakeholder engagement with local authorities and affected third parties.