Darran Leaver MEng (Hons), CEng, MIStructE
Director

Position
Director for London Structural Engineering Group

Qualifications
MEng (Hons)
CEng

Year joined AECOM
2005

Professional memberships/ publications
Member of Institution of Structural Engineers

Darran Leaver is responsible for leading the London Structural Engineering Team. Darran has wide range of experience in delivering complex and challenging projects from initial feasibility through detailed design to completion

Relevant experience

Darran is a Director and leader of the London Structural Engineering Group working out of our Central London Office. Darran has worked on a wide variety of complex construction projects, covering all aspects from structural design to strategic delivery through sequential construction. Darran is currently leading the Structural Engineering team in the delivery of a number of technically challenging projects in high-profile Central London locations.

Selected Project experience

32 St James's Square, London
Client: Confidential
Value: £50,000,000
Dates: 2015 -Present
Project Director providing Structural Engineering Design and Consultancy services for the redevelopment of a significant Central London site overlying Crossrail 2 safeguarding and featuring numerous party walls with various listed properties. The redevelopment is with MAKE architects and will feature 300,000sq.ft of prime headquarter office space upon its completion.

5-6 St James's Square, London
Client: Rio Tinto/Exemplar
Value: £80,000,000
Dates: 2010-2014
Project Director providing Structural Engineering Design and Consultancy services for the redevelopment of a prestigious Central London site which consisted of a new 280,000 sq/ft office, 13 unit residential complex, and refurbishment of an adjoining Historic Grade II* listed building. The project demanded experience with complex basement construction adjacent to significant adjoining, and often listed, structures. Detailed geotechnical assessments were undertaken to model anticipated ground movements, linking the stages of construction together for the lifecycle of the build.

Café Royal, Quadrant One, Regent Street, London
Client: Alrov / The Crown Estate
Value: £130,000,000
Dates: 2011 – 2014
Project Director for the £70m redevelopment of the Crown Estate Quadrant One site at Piccadilly Circus, London. The site consisted of the prestigious Café Royal, County Fire and Oddeninos Buildings, and is a Grade II* listed building. The technical demands of the project ranged from full façade retention, basement extension and full scale demolition and rebuild of the central third of the site.

North Wharf Gardens, Paddington Basin, London
Client: TWCL (First Phase) DMC/Meritas (Planning and Second Phase)
Value: £70,000 and £253,000,000
Dates: 2015 - Present
Project Director for the major redevelopment within the Paddington Opportunity Area, Paddington Basin, London, to provide a mixed-use residential development over two phases, providing almost one million sq. ft. (GIA) of residential, hotel, community and commercial use space across the site. The island site comprises a first phase of 9 and 15-storey buildings. The second phase comprises 4 residential buildings of 17, 19 and 21-storeys, a 21-storey luxury hotel and a 15-storey building housing serviced apartments and a free-school.

19-27 Young Street, Kensington, London
Client: Grainger Plc
Value: £35,000,000
Dates: 2013 - Present
Technical Director for the redevelopment of this complex and logistically challenging site in the heart of the London Borough of Kensington and Chelsea. The development comprises a majority of Private Rental offering of modern city apartments built on the site of an existing NCP carpark. The development is predominantly reinforced concrete frame, with flat slab floor plates, terracing back at various stages to reach its tallest point at 7-storeys high, with a mix of single and double storey basement elements.

Ferry Lane, Walthamstow, London
Client: L&G
Value: £124M
Dates: 2015 – Present
Director for the significant PRS development at the gateway to the London Borough of Waltham Forest for Legal and General. The development sits directly over the prized Thames Water Asset of the North South Spine Tunnel and on the immediate banks of the High Maynard Reservoir.
The restrictive ground conditions and constraints placed upon the developer by Thames Water had the potential to jeopardize the possibility of the site for development, but following complex and long negotiation over safeguarding parameters, the foundations and superstructure systems were arranged to the satisfaction of Thames Water.
Over 450 Units are set to be provided.

Bristol Temple Quay
Client: L&G
Value: £60M
Dates: 2016 – Present
Director for this PRS scheme for Legal and General on a tricky split site in Bristol. The scheme involves primary servicing from one site and was initially designed for either a modular (system build) or traditional build approach, in order of give complete flexibility to the tendering Main Contractors.

6-9 Buckingham Gate, London
Client: Brockton Capital
Value: Undisclosed
Dates: 2008-2015
(Short listed for Structural Heritage, Institution of Structural Engineers 2016 Structural Awards)
Technical Director for the redevelopment of an existing townhouse block opposite Buckingham Palace. The redevelopment consisted of refurbishment of the upper stories, and construction of a new 2-storey deep basement beneath the existing structures. The substructure works requires highly complex sequencing and coordination with the temporary works, whilst the retained superstructure is carried on temporary stilts, whilst the basement is dug and constructed beneath. The final development will consist of prime residential Apartments along with a single super prime house.

University Arms Hotel, Cambridge
Client: UAC
Value: Confidential
Dates: Confidential
Technical Director for the redevelopment of the University Arms Hotel, a significant landmark within the city centre of Cambridge. The existing building has developed overtime, from its beginnings in the mid-19th Century, through significant additions undertaken in the 1920's, and finally a misguided demolition and new extension undertaken in the 1960's. The redevelopment of the hotel intended to return the hotel to its pre-1960's glory, removing the modern era extension and replacing a significant section, constituting almost two-thirds of the building, with new construction undertaken in a classical style to compliment the heritage and historic retained fabric.
The engineering required to meet the brief covered restoration, repair and renovation of the existing structure and building fabric to meet the needs of a modern luxury hotel, coupled with more mainstream new frame designs to cater for the more sympathetic modern extension.

107 Cheapside, London
Client: Carlyle Group
Value: Confidential
Dates: 2007 - 2010
Associate Director on the major part refurbishment and part new build of a 10-storey office location within the City of London. The development required construction of new office space over 3 levels of existing basement, and structural alteration to the retained front wing. The new build steel structure was used to create high quality Grade A office space.

Hortensia Road, London
Client: Grainger
Value: £15M
Dates: 2014 - 2016
Technical Director for the development of this affordable housing scheme, sister project to the much larger scheme at 19-27 Young Street. The development is predominantly reinforced concrete frame, with flat slab floor plates, terracing back at various stages to reach its tallest point at 7-storeys high. The superstructure is wrapped around a rear communal garden courtyard and overlays a small single-storey basement, to provide the necessary plant room area. The site contains major underground obstacles and challenges, including a relatively high water table, build-over agreements across UKPN EHV cables and tree root constraints, with the foundation scheme designed using cantilevered ground beams and offset pile caps to bridge obstacles and maintain the architectural layouts above.

Farm Lane, Fulham, London
Client: London Square
Value: £30M
Dates: 2010 - 2013
Technical Director for the major urban residential development, in the heart of Fulham. The proposals require the redevelopment of a site occupied by industrial and small business users, to create a new residential enclave comprising 40 new townhouses and 11 apartments, centred on a new private courtyard. The development took place behind a retained entrance archway of local importance, on a 2 acre site bounded on three sides by adjoining properties demanding in region of 32 Party Wall Awards. The development include a full footprint basement, to cater for vehicles and leave the new courtyard centre piece to the development, vehicle free.

David Cuckow CEng MIStructE MIPENZ
Regional Director

David has particular responsibility for leading large commercial development projects, drawing upon a wide experience of structural projects of all sizes. Recent experience of major projects using both steel and concrete have involved developments on confined city centre sites, as well as air-rights developments.

David is able to bring to any project a broad experience gained working to international codes of practice and in seismic regions; as well as the use of a variety of structural materials including composites and tubular and tension tied steel structures supporting both glazed and fabric external skins. This experience has also been used when fulfilling due diligence and construction monitoring roles for high-rise developments and specialist museum structures.

Recent projects have varied from a 33 storey commercial development constructed both, over and under a live railway; to a 4 storey historic structure on a listed site.

Professional History
2006 - Present: AECOM, Regional Director

Affiliations
- Chartered Engineer
- Member, Institution of Structural Engineers

Project Experience
Residential - Hotels:
- East Wick & Sweetwater – London
  Architect: various
  Client: East Wick & Sweetwatre
  Concrete framed 6 storey structures, as first phases of a redevelopment of part of the Olympic site. Site challenges have been building above the HS1 tunnels and mitigating the effects of a contaminated site.
- Wick Lane – London
  Architect: drmm
  Client: Taylor Wimpey East London
  Development of concrete framed structures in support of the Planning stage. Site challenges have been building above a Thames Water flood relief sewer and gaining build-over consent, as well as mitigating the effects of a contaminated site.
- Addington Street Hotel – London
  Architect: BUJ
  Client: Galliard Hotels
  Concrete framed flat slab 14 storey structure with 2 level basement. Built alongside the Eurostar terminal at Waterloo, hence construction of basement structure required gaining approvals from both Network Rail as well as highways authority. Input to scheme development of the adjacent 'island' site as a Park Plaza Hotel with basement ballroom.

International:
- Lusail Artscape. Qatar
  Architect – AECOM
  Addition of various steel framed structures along an Expressway on the Northern approach to Doha, including 100m high arches with a suspended 3-storey building. Site based liaison role between international design teams based in UK, Qatar, UAE and Australia.
- Cleveland Clinic, Abu Dhabi: 360 bed 7 star healthcare facility, formed by a group of blocks of upto 21 stories, above a 3 storey podium. Building designed to IBC requirements. Steel framed superstructure, includes column transfers and cantilevered blocks, achieved by use of fabricated trusses. Site based liaison role between international design teams based in UK, Hong Kong, UAE and Australia.

High rise/HQ buildings:
- The Shard of Glass, London Bridge, London: 80 storey mixed use development, due diligence and site monitoring role, reporting to Allianz insurers.
- City Park, Manchester: 12 storey commercial development built over a 4 storey basement car park.
- 25 Bank Street, Canary Wharf: 33 storey, 165,000m^2. headquarters building, built over and under the DLR railway and supporting the new Heron Quays station. Transfer trusses over the railway were designed to enable construction work to proceed without interrupting the railway operation. Lead UK based design and construction supervision teams, liaising directly with the client and architect and co-ordinating input of both UK and Canadian design teams.
- Holborn Place, London
  Architect – Foster Partners
  Headquarters building comprising 8 storey superstructure built over an existing 3 storey basement structure. A 1.5m deep concrete transfer structure at ground floor level provided the interface between the new steel superstructure and the existing concrete columns and retaining walls. Reuse of existing basement structure entailed extensive testing and monitoring during the works.