

Declan Hughes

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Profile

Declan is a versatile professional with a passion for innovation and collaborative solutions. His analytical and project management skills enable him to tackle diverse challenges and deliver timely results. He thrives in multidisciplinary environments, using strategic thinking to address complex issues and guide teams through high-pressure projects. With strong communication skills and a proven track record of managing intricate projects, Declan is well-positioned to drive success across sectors.

Qualifications

BEng (Hons) Mechanical Engineering	2:1	Mechanical Engineering with Honours University of Warwick (2018-2021)
APM Project Management Qualification		(2022)
PRINCE2® Foundation		(2023)
A Levels Maths Economics Physics	AAB	Harlington Upper School (2016 - 2018)

Work History

PA Consulting - Business Transformation Analyst - September 2022 - September 2024:

In this role, I contributed to transformation projects across public, defence, and energy sectors, managing multiple stakeholder engagements and delivering tailored strategies aligned with client goals. Through this, I garnered a comprehensive skill set and wide-ranging experiences.

Public Sector

Supported key projects across government bodies and educational institutions, focusing on operational readiness and strategic alignment.

- **Major Government Department – Operating Model Redesign:** Played a pivotal role in redesigning a major government department's operating model, ensuring readiness for a 2024 go-live. Developed a comprehensive assurance framework, facilitated stakeholder discussions to address blockers and created key deliverables to support the programme's successful implementation. Managed key financial reports and sourced a digital solution for the common user charge, streamlining operations. This work resulted in the new model being implemented within the 2-month window before go-live.
- **Local Governments (Westmorland Council, Lincolnshire Council) – Strategic Refresh and Technical Infrastructure Design:** Collaborated with local government leaders to refresh strategic approaches, aligning PA Consulting's capabilities with emerging opportunities. Developed an initial strategy that evolved into actionable propositions for clients. Additionally, led the creation of a comprehensive technical

infrastructure strategy, working closely with stakeholders to design solutions that seamlessly merged functionality with client needs.

- **Private Sector Education Client - Operating Model Redesign:** Contributed to the redesign of the client's operating model by supporting stakeholder interviews, designing current and future-state models, and developing implementation and communication plans for broader business integration. This resulted in the organisation centralising the different procurement, IT and facilities and maintenance operations under one roof.

Defence Sector

Supported a major UK defence project and contributed to the integration of strategic process models in a highly secure and collaborative environment.

- **Major UK Government Defence Project - Project Delivery support:** Supported a diverse consortium to advance a major defence project from Pre-PQQ to ITT. Managed the project plan using MS Project, coordinated Red Team reviews, and facilitated workshops to ensure effective collaboration among subject matter experts. Conducted in-depth research, competitor analysis and developed a project CRM.
- **Major Defence Company - Spiral Process Integration:** Supported the integration of a risk-driven process model into the commercial function. Developed a navigation guide and impact assessment to address key obstacles, proposing actionable solutions based on stakeholder engagement. Enabled the wider commercial function to start implementation of this model into live projects with a handrail on how to do so.

Energy & Utilities sector

Contributed to several high-impact projects, supporting clients in navigating complex energy transitions, including offshore wind and green hydrogen.

- **Offshore Wind Team - Bid and Auction Round Support:** Conducted detailed site analysis for UK auctions, evaluated parameters and cost structures, and supported the team in preparing bids. This provided key insights for Auction Round 7 and enabled the team to provide well-informed recommendations to clients, strengthening our competitive positioning.
- **Green Hydrogen (Terna Group) - Bid support:** Led market research and competitor analysis for a green hydrogen proposal, shaping the overall bid strategy. Utilised design skills to enhance the pitch deck and create a compelling narrative.

Additional experience:

- **Customer Service – Costa Coffee (2021-2022):** Developed versatile skills while managing daily operations in a fast-paced environment. This role honed my organisational, conflict resolution, and adaptability skills, and improved my attention to detail.
- **Assistant Teacher – STEM Internship (Summer 2019):** Taught maths and science lessons, coordinated extracurricular activities, and gained insights into teaching responsibilities. This experience sharpened my collaboration and management skills, particularly in handling diverse groups and challenging behaviour.