

CV

Glenn Athey

Economic and policy advisor

www.mylocaleconomy.org

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/glennathey/>



Objective Working with cities, localities and regions as an advisor, policy developer and strategist in economic development, regeneration, employment, skills, infrastructure and sustainability.

Skills & Abilities Executive leadership, research and policy professional, career in public sector and private consultancy. Specialises in city, regional and local economic development and regeneration. 26 years of experience. Ph.D. qualified.

Experience **From December 2021: Managing Director, Athey Consulting Limited, trading as 'mylocaleconomy'**

2020-2021: Principal Consultant, Cambridge Econometrics

- Led Regions, Cities and Local Areas Team.
- Responsible for project planning, winning consultancy projects, delivery, economic analysis and advice.
- Delivered and wrote Local Government Association report on 'A Vision for Urban Growth and Recovery'.
- Delivered and wrote Leicester and Leicestershire's new Economic Growth Strategy 2021-2030.

2013-2020: Managing Director, Athey Consulting Limited, trading as 'mylocaleconomy'

- Owner-Director of consultancy specialising in urban, local and regional economic development and regeneration, including policy and practice in enterprise, skills, employment, innovation, low carbon, and emerging technologies and sectors.
- [Highly praised](#) for managing and delivering the London Stansted Cambridge Corridor Growth Commission, and London First reports on 'Growing Together' and 'Immigration Policy Post-Brexit'.

2011-2013: Interim Executive Director, Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Local Enterprise Partnership

- Led the development of a new economic development partnership from inception to a fully staffed organisation with a budget of £16.5m.
- Organised the formal legal founding of the LEP, proper contracting arrangements for staff and a permanent office.

2008-2011: Director of Research, East of England Development Agency

- Headed up research and analysis functions of the agency.
- Delivered comprehensive research and intelligence service for the region, which was significantly lagging behind other regions for five years – and caught up within 12 months.

2006-2008: Head of Research, Centre for Cities

- Senior Economist and Research Manager of the Centre for Cities - the UK's think tank for cities.
- Research plan led to securing permanent funding from Gatsby Foundation.
- Founded successful annual report series; delivered groundbreaking research on innovation in cities for Nesta.

2005-2006: Head of Business Policy, London Development Agency

- Led policy and research team focusing on enterprise, trade, and inward investment. Led first ever comprehensive review and strategy for enterprise support in London.

2002-2005: Senior Labour Market Economist, Futureskills Scotland, Scottish Enterprise

- Led analysis of the Scottish Labour Market, the first comprehensive review ever conducted.
- Development and management of labour demand and supply forecasts. Lead for internal client, Careers Scotland.

1998-2002: Consultant, Ekos Economic Consulting Limited

- Economic analysis, strategies and evaluation.
- Projects on inward investment, European funding strategies and programmes, project evaluation, impact appraisal and grant applications.

Education University of Glasgow, Ph.D.

1999, Regional economic development economics, policy and practice in the UK, Europe and the USA. CASE sponsored studentship with Scottish Enterprise. Winner of Condliffe Bursary for overseas research. Fieldwork in Berlin, London, Scotland, Northern Ireland. Thesis title 'Evaluating a Best Practice Model of an Economic Development Agency'.

University of Hull

MA European Political Economy, 1995.

BA Joint Economics & Geography, 1993, Upper second-class degree (2i) awarded.

Organisational / managerial skills

Executive leadership: Interim Executive Director (CEO) of Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership for 18 months.

Financial management: managed budget of £16.5 million at Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership; £1 million at East of England Development Agency; £1.2 million at London Development Agency.

People/line management: managed team of 5 staff at Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership; 7 staff at East of England Development Agency; 6 staff at Centre for Cities; 6 staff at London Development Agency.

Board management and liaison: responsible for setting board agendas, writing board papers, negotiation and liaising with board members at Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership.

Relationship management: managed relationship with 12 local councils at Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership; with 1300 careers advisors at Careers Scotland in role at Scottish Enterprise.

Experienced project director for private and public sector clients. Experience includes directing and managing large projects, involving multiple collaborators for clients including UK local, regional and national government.

- Job-related skills** Stakeholder communications and engagement, liaison with interest groups and communities.
- Advanced policy analysis and development skills and experience.
- Very experienced at working with boards, and in managing board meetings and agendas.
- Advanced analytical skills using socio-economic data, surveys, economic information and analysis.
- Good command of project management and quality control processes.
- International work** Review of international best practice in enterprise support – as part of review of enterprise support for Government of Wales.
- Review of international case studies for business incubators.
- 6 month part-time visitor researcher at University of Cambridge, 2011, studying [“Local Economic Development: Learning from the International Development Experience”](#)
- [7 international case studies technology regions](#), for the London Stansted Cambridge Corridor Growth Commission.
- [Enterprise support in seven world cities](#) – for London Development Agency.
- Joint event with the Brookings Institution on their metro policy programme.
- Attendance at IEDC and OECD LEED Conferences.
- Communication skills** Public speaking, media interviews, copy editing and writing, briefing the media, briefing elected members.
- Professionally trained in public speaking and media training in role as Director at East of England Development Agency.
- Professional presentation training at Scottish Enterprise.
- Experience of media interviews in roles at Centre for Cities, East of England Development Agency, Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership.
- Excellent writing and editing skills - authored several national flagship reports for the Local Government Association, London First, Scottish Enterprise, and the Centre for Cities.
- Professional development** Professional development courses undertaken in public speaking; media training (TV and radio); advanced presentation skills; line management; financial management; public procurement; project development and appraisal (in accordance with Green Book); market failure and public economics.
- IT Skills** Microsoft Office, SPSS, WordPress, social media, Canva, Adobe Publisher, Illustrator, Photoshop and Acrobat.
- Languages** English (native, fluent)
 French (A2, basic)
 German (B1, intermediate)
 Russian (A1, basic)

Selected publications [London Stansted Cambridge Corridor Growth Commission – priorities and recommendations](#) (2016) – management of 12-month growth commission involving economic research, international comparative research, commissioner and speaker recruitment, development and writing of final reports and recommendations.

Athey, G (2010) [Economic Success Requires Effective Industrial Policy](#), Local Economy, Vol 25., No. 8, December 2010: p599-606.

Athey, G. (2009) [Economic Development in the UK: Challenges During and After the Recession](#), Local Economy, Vol 24, Issue 6&7, pp. 604-611

Athey, G., Nathan, M., Webber, C. and Mahroum, S. (2009) [Innovation And The City](#), Innovation: Management, Policy & Practice, Vol. 10, issues 2-3, p156-169.

Athey, G. and Lucci, P. (2008) [Globalisation: the opportunity for UK cities](#), International Journal of Urban Regeneration and Renewal, Volume 1, Number 4 / March–June, pp. 329 – 340.

Athey, G. (1997) Berlin: Issues in Economic Development and Regeneration, Department of Urban Studies Occasional Papers, Glasgow: University of Glasgow.

Athey, G., Lucci, P. and Webber, C. (2007) [Two-track cities: The challenge of sustaining growth and building opportunity](#). IPPR: London.

Examples of recent consultancy and advisory work Local Government Association (2021) [A vision for urban growth and recovery](#).

Leicester and Leicestershire LEP (publishing in 2021) Economic Growth Strategy 2021-30. [Global Britain: a fair and managed immigration system fit for the post-Brexit economy](#) - research, report writing and business-led proposals for London First relating to the skills immigration system post-Brexit (2018).

[Growing Together](#): for London First, we coordinated the views of regional business representative agencies to develop a collaborative approach to devolution and advocacy, writing the final report and recommendations (2018).

Devolution in England: understanding Scotland's place competitiveness – an analysis of devolution in England and the new approach to skills (2018) for Skills Development Scotland.

Examples of consultancy project experience

Local and regional economic strategies

- 2021** Economic Recovery Strategy for Leicester and Leicestershire Local Enterprise Partnership
- 2020** Options development and testing for future vision and corporate strategy for Ashford, Kent (Consultant)
Options development and testing for future vision and corporate strategy for Canterbury, Kent (Consultant)
- 2016** London Stansted Cambridge Corridor Growth Commission – research programme, inquiry sessions, international case studies, priorities and recommendations (Programme manager & Lead Consultant)
Gloucester local economic assessment, strategy and delivery options; and economic analysis and advice to The Joint Core Strategy area (Cheltenham, Gloucester & Tewkesbury), (Project Director & Lead Consultant)
- 2015** Cheltenham local economic assessment, strategy and delivery options (Project Director & Lead Consultant)
- 2014** Expert advisor for Hertfordshire LEP's Strategic Economic Plan and Single Local Growth Fund submission (Advisor)
- 2013** Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership economic strategy and operational plan (Strategy Advisor)

Policy development and advocacy

- 2021** A vision for urban economies: impact of Covid-19 and Brexit on urban areas, and a vision for future policy for the Local Government Association
- 2019** Supporting councils to attract foreign capital investment into local infrastructure (Consultant with Value Adage Ltd)
- 2018** Devolution in England: understanding Scotland's place competitiveness (Project Director & Lead Consultant)
Global Britain: a fair and managed immigration system fit for the post-Brexit economy (Lead researcher)
Growing Together, an agenda for regional cooperation on devolution (Lead consultant, research, workshop facilitation, report writer)

Innovation, technology & industry studies

- 2021** Economic Markets Foresight project, profiling 28 emergent markets for North East LEP
Covid-19 Sector Study: for Leicester and Leicestershire Local Enterprise Partnership
- 2017** Warner Brothers Creative Incubator/Workspace feasibility study, for Leavesden Studios, Hertfordshire (Consultant)
Options for a new National Innovation Body for Wales (Expert advisor)
- 2007** Innovation and the city: how innovation has developed in five city-regions (Project director)
- 2002** Creative Industries Baseline for Scotland (Consultant)
- 2001** Evaluation of Targeting Technology Ltd (Consultant)
- 2000** Review of digital media sector in Tayside (Consultant)
Evaluation of LINC Scotland Business Angels initiative (Consultant)
Evaluation of Information Society Initiative for Scottish Enterprise (Consultant)

Regional and local economic assessments, analysis and reviews

- 2018** Hertfordshire LEP: Hertfordshire Economic Outlook 2018 (Project Director & Lead Consultant)
- 2016** Hertfordshire LEP: Hertfordshire Economic Outlook 2016 (Project Director & Lead Consultant)
Stockton-on-Tees Economic Assessment, (Project Director, Lead Consultant)
West of England LEP and Bristol Economic Assessments (Project Director and lead)
Making the economic case for the West Anglia Mainline / Crossrail 2 – for the London Stansted Cambridge Corridor, (Consultant)
- 2014** New Anglia LEP Economic Assessment, (Project Director & Lead Consultant)
LEP Network - Review of LEP Area Economies (2014 edition) (Project Advisor)
Hertfordshire LEP: Hertfordshire Economic Outlook 2014 (Project Director & Lead Consultant)
- 2013** LEP Network - Review of LEP Area Economies (2013 edition) (Project Director & Lead Consultant)
- 2012** LEP Network - Review of LEP Area Economies (2012 edition) (Project Director & Lead Consultant)
- 2008** The East of England response to the recession, (Lead researcher and author)
Cities Outlook 2008 (Project manager)
- 2007** Cities Outlook 2007 (Project manager)
- 1999** Rural Lancashire economic study and survey (Consultant)

Skills, labour markets and inclusion

- 2019** Review of economic inclusion, skills and labour market in Luton – responding to the Luton Inclusive Growth Commission (Project Director & Lead Consultant)
- 2018** Southend-on-Sea Skills Strategy (Project Director & Lead Consultant)
- 2017** Evidence base for Liverpool City Region Skills Strategy (Lead researcher)
- 2004** The Scottish Labour Market 2004 edition (national review of labour market evidence and performance), (Project manager and lead researcher)
Scotland's Labour Market Forecasts 2004 (Project manager and lead researcher)
- 2003** The Scottish Labour Market 2003 edition (national review of labour market evidence and performance) (Project manager and lead researcher)
Scotland's Labour Market Forecasts 2003 (Project manager and lead researcher)
Labour Market Analysis for National Training Programmes in Scotland (Lead researcher)
Sector labour market profiles for Scotland, (Project manager and lead researcher)
Employability in Scotland (Project manager and lead researcher)
Scotland's labour supply forecasts, (Project manager)
- 2002** The Scottish Labour Market 2002 edition (national review of labour market evidence and performance), (Project manager and lead researcher)
Scotland's Labour Market Forecasts 2002 (Project manager and lead researcher)

Enterprise, investment and place promotion

- 2018** Enterprise support strategy for Wales (Expert advisor)
- 2017** SME and sector growth in Stockton-on-Tees (Project Director & Lead Consultant)
West of England Growth Study, (Principal Consultant)
- 2009** The Economic Role of Higher Education Institutions in the East of England (Editor)
- 2006** London Business Support Review (Project manager, lead author)

Appraisals, evaluations and funding applications (including green book)

- 2021** Leicester Pioneer Park Levelling Up Fund Bid – provided economic advice, economic case, economic impact appraisal for Leicester City Council, successfully awarded £28m
- 2020** Harlow Towns Fund bid, successfully accessed £23.6m
Harlow Future High Streets Fund bid green book and MHCLG appraisal; lead author of initial business case; conducted economic impact appraisal and fulfilled MHCLG impact estimate requirements (Consultant)
- 2019** REPAY Strength in Places Fund bid (Consultant)
RE:FIT London Evaluation and continuation funding application, (Consultant)
- 2016** Evaluation of Stockton Town Centre Regeneration (Project Director and Principal Consultant)
- 2015** Eastern Plateau Leader bid (Project Director and Principal Consultant)
- 2013** Administration and authority for Growing Places Fund (Executive Director)
- 2001** Evaluation of the Scottish Business Start Up Support Programme (Consultant)
Ex-Ante Evaluation of Scottish LEADER+ Programme (Consultant)
- 2000** Evaluation of European rural development funding programme - Scottish Lowland Leader II Programme (Consultant)
- 1999** South West of England Objective 2 Economic Audit (Consultant)
Facilitation and writing of a successful Single Regeneration Bid application for East Lancashire Partnership (Consultant)
South of Scotland Objective 2 Economic Audit (Consultant)