

# The RTPI Lifelong Learning Strategy 2011-2014

## Vision

The RTPI vision for Lifelong Learning is to be recognised as a leader in the field of education and lifelong learning for professionals in the built environment. We will develop and support a professional body of members who are committed to maintaining and consistently improving their professional competence to provide core and specialist planning functions at different levels of membership as they progress through their careers.

We will build a culture of learning where learning opportunities are embraced enthusiastically, and where planners at any stage of their careers can expect to be supported and encouraged by their institute, employers, colleagues and peers.

We are committed to providing the best possible support and opportunities for lifelong learning within our resource restrictions; whether this is as a benefit of membership of the RTPI, or more broadly as a means of giving communities access to knowledge about planning and to build public awareness, understanding and support for the value of planning.

The RTPI will ensure lifelong learning acts as a channel through which spatial planning policy and research are translated into practice.

The RTPI will achieve the aims of the Lifelong Learning Strategy in partnership with Government, Educational Institutions, Learning Providers, Employers and other partners.

## Aims

### **1. We will support individual RTPI members in their commitment to uphold professional standards through the maintenance and development of professional knowledge and skills.**

- a) We will set requirements in the Code of Professional Conduct and provide guidelines for CPD to ensure that members understand and embrace their professional commitment to lifelong learning. We will reinforce this commitment by monitoring the quality of member's CPD
- b) We will support and develop valuable sources of CPD for RTPI members
- c) We will cultivate a creative and proactive approach to CPD and lifelong learning that embeds learning as the responsibility of the individual and integral to their competence as a planner.
- d) We will provide support and routes for members to progress to an appropriate level of membership class
- e) We will give members the tools they need to perform as a reflective practitioner



## **2. We will lead and/or influence the provision of learning and development for planners.**

- a) We will engage with employers through the RTPI Learning Partners scheme and other methods of communication to encourage a culture of learning in all planners' workplaces.
- b) We will identify ways to assure the quality of learning either endorsed or accredited by the RTPI
- c) We will champion the importance of planning education and skills through our relationships with government and other partners
- d) We will maintain and enhance the delivery of lifelong learning opportunities through existing member services.

## **3. We will work with communities to achieve a wider understanding of the contribution of planning.**

- a) We will work in partnership to provide learning opportunities for other participants in the planning system. E.g. administrative staff, MPs, councillors natural environment professionals and other built environment professionals.
- b) We will raise the profile of planning as a career
- c) We will support and facilitate community engagement in the planning system through mediums such as Planning Aid.

## **4. We will facilitate two-way knowledge transfer between universities delivering accredited planning courses and planning practice.**

- a) We will support and assist partnership between planning schools and practitioners to foster knowledge sharing
- b) We will ensure that lifelong learning supports the translation of policy and research into professional practice

