

PIPA – The RTPI Politicians in Planning Network - Business Plan for 2007

1. Aims of the Politicians in Planning Network

- To gather together and facilitate interaction between a broad range of politicians involved in the democratic structures for UK spatial planning seeking a cross-party consensus
- Through an active membership, to have an insightful and practical perspective on the issues of spatial planning and its delivery structures
- Through an active membership, to respond positively and effectively to these issues
- To increase and disseminate research, analysis and ideas about spatial planning and its delivery
- To contribute to UK spatial planning policy development, in particular with the RTPI
- To promote good practice and high standards in all spatial planning and its delivery
- To raise the profile and status of the planning profession through network activities at the national /regional/ local level

2. Objectives for 2007
see attached table

3. Resources

It is estimated that PIPA will need the following resources available to it in 2007:

▪ 11.5 hours per week from the Network Manager	
▪ A sum to use to support events, publications and marketing expenses (it is probable that the value of these funds will be extended through sponsorship per activity and/or as below).	From Networks' funding pool
▪ Time and expertise of the Network Core Group and/or Task Groups Their expenses to be met at cost:	£3,000
▪ Catering	£300
▪ Leaflets for promotion/information	<i>In use</i>
▪ Revamped Network web site	

AM October 2006

OBJECTIVE	ACTIONS	BY WHOM	PROPOSED OUTCOME	BY WHEN	ACHIEVED Q1	
To gather together and facilitate interaction between a broad range of politicians involved in the democratic structures for UK spatial planning seeking a cross-party consensus	To have an approved Business Plan serving the N&A Strategy and to guide development and actions	AM/TC	Business Plan against which to monitor progress	December 06	Approved	☺
	To have an approved Marketing Strategy (incorporating elements of the N&A Strategy) to build membership and activities	AM/TC	Marketing Strategy against which to monitor progress	March 07	Delayed but in hand	☹
	Increase membership of PIPA	AM	Increase from 70 (01.08.06) to 150+	December 07	<i>Target achieved</i> (but greatly assisted by free membership offer)	☺
	Promote PIPA through items in 'Planning'	AM/LC	Raise and revive awareness	June & December 07	January article raised awareness	☹
	Compile and circulate e-bulletin	AM	Regular interaction with members facilitated	Weekly/for nightly	Fortnightly bulletin achieved	☺
	Respond appropriately to all email enquiries within a week	AM	Regular interaction with members encouraged	At least weekly	All emails responded to within 48hrs	☺
	Conduct a survey of members 2007	AM	An analysis that can inform the preparation of the Business Plan 2008	October 07		
Through an active membership, to have an insightful and practical perspective on the issues of spatial planning and its	Through e-bulletins to invite member contributions to strands of developing issues and concerns	AM	Regular interaction with members facilitated	Weekly/for nightly	Fortnightly bulletin achieved	☺

delivery structures						
	Experiment with some 'special editions' of e-bulletins to concentrate on specific or joint issues or areas	AM	Increased interaction with members facilitated (as measured by member contributions)	Quarterly	Special editions timed to coincide with events of particular interest	😊
	To respond positively to member contributions and demonstrate appropriate flexibility	AM	Positive feedback from member survey 2007	December 07	Membership is relatively new, Parish Plans has emerged as a shared interest with Planning with Communities Network	😐
	Ensure the new website, once established, is kept topical and up-to-date	AM	Monitored consistent rate of 'hits' for member pages	Quarterly	Only now are the website facilities opening up; 'hits' are not monitorable but article readings can be – Parish Plans item has been read 242 times	😐
	Offer, if members wish, on-line forums for current topics	AM	Agreed action lists with tasks allocated and monitored	As required	Forum potential only now available to explore	😐
Through an active membership, to respond positively and effectively to these issues	Ensure that PIPA events (as below) and forums (as arranged) are topical and well publicised	AM	Events achieve their attendance target and are well received (as indicated by the evaluation)	Quarterly	Major event planned for June with target attendance of 80 - 100	😐
	Ensure the new website, once established, is kept topical and a	AM	Monitored consistent rate of	Quarterly	Only now are the website facilities	😐

	shop-window for member contributions		'hits' for member pages		opening up; 'hits' are not monitorable but article readings can be – Parish Plans item has been read 242 times	
	Provide support for members committing to tasks in support of PIPA initiatives	AM	Monitored achievement of action lists as agreed	Per Action List	None to date	☹
To increase and disseminate research, analysis and ideas about spatial planning & its delivery	Sustain links with Haymarket and arrange for the publication of articles in 'Planning' and other periodicals as appropriate	AM/TC	Agreed documents with tasks allocated and monitored	Monthly	January article raised awareness	☺
	Sustain links with Hawksmere and the Elected Members' Summer School and arrange for events that network feedback indicates are marketable	AM/TC	Agreed activities with tasks allocated and monitored	Monthly	No specific events identified to date though incentives requested	☹
	Liaise with RTPI policy and research colleagues as appropriate to the development sound and productive working relations	AM/TC	Monitored achievement of action lists as agreed	Per Action List	No specific joint initiatives identified to date – beyond an increased membership	☹
	Establish up to 3 Task Groups as suggested by members	AM/JC/RS	Agreed documents with tasks allocated and monitored	Per Terms of Reference	None to date	☹
	Contribute to meetings / conferences as appropriate by enlisting member support	AM	An enlarged sphere of influence (monitored by achievements)	Quarterly	All Bulletin items included as requested though feedback limited	☺
To contribute to UK planning & housing policy	Liaise with RTPI policy and research colleagues as	AM/TC	Monitored achievement of	Per Action List	No specific joint initiatives	☹

development, in particular with the RTPI	appropriate to the development sound and productive working relations		action lists as agreed		identified to date – beyond an increased membership	
	Actively to involve the professional contacts external to RTPI but represented in the membership	AM/JC/RS	An enlarged sphere of influence (monitored by achievements)	Quarterly	Liaison with Planning Portal over note for MPs and 'Regenerate' over member survey	😊
	In particular to develop active co-operation with the Local Government Association and others	AM/KMcD	An enlarged sphere of influence (monitored by achievements)	Quarterly	Liaise through LGA Chair of Environment Committee who is now a member and with Professional Land Reform Group through Core Group	😊
To promote good practice and high standards in all spatial planning and its delivery	Ensure that Network events (as below) and good practice exchanges (as arranged) are well set-up and publicised	AM	Events achieve their attendance target and are well received (as indicated by the evaluation)	Quarterly	Major event planned for June with target attendance of 80 - 100	😊
	Ensure the new website, once established, is kept relevant and a shop-window for member contributions	AM	Monitored consistent rate of 'hits' for member pages	Quarterly	Only now are the website facilities opening up; 'hits' are not monitorable but article readings can be – Parish Plans item has been read 242 times	😊
	Provide support for members	AM	Monitored	Per Action	All Bulletin items	😊

	committing to tasks in support of good practice initiatives		achievement of action lists as agreed	List	included as requested though feedback limited	
To raise the profile and status of the planning profession through network activities at the national /regional/ local level	Convene, service and support Task Groups of members to progress relevant activities	AM	Monitored accountability to the membership	Quarterly	None to date	☹
	Organise with members at least 4 network events during 2007	AM	4 events delivered and evaluated	March, June, September, December 07	Programme set out, initial event in June is a 'relaunch' event	☺
	Liaise with RTPPI regional and Planning Aid colleagues as appropriate to the development and/or delivery of these events	AM	4 events delivered and jointly evaluated	March, June, September, December 07	At least 1 event to be arranged alongside regional staff.	☹
	Respond appropriately to all email enquiries within a week	AM	Reputation for professional conduct upheld	At least weekly	All emails responded to within 48hrs	☺
	Prepare an annual report on the activities of PIPA	AM/TC	Monitored accountability to the RTPPI	December 07		