


M6 Toll Service Area wins top Staffordshire Award

Developer, Galliford Try, and architect Turnkey Partnership have carried off one of the top prizes from the Staffordshire 'Built in quality awards' held last week. Their impressive work on the Norton Canes Motorway Service Area on the new M6 Toll road operated by Midland Expressway won the category for Commercial work over £1/2 million.

The scheme consists of an amenity building, Travelodge conference centre and petrol station and has impressive glazed panels and roofline. The building was constructed on the site of a former sewage works and so foundations had to be designed using reinforced concrete piles and ring-beams.

This was the very first Staffordshire 'Built in Quality' awards ceremony and the organisers, the Staffordshire Building Group and the sponsors, Local Authority Building Control and Lafarge Cement, were delighted with the outcome. The schemes were considered in 10 different categories ranging from domestic extensions, industrial and residential schemes through to partnership work with local authorities. The purpose of the awards was to raise the standard of building in the County and the Councils' Building Control officers were an integral part of the judging process.


Other awards were won by David Wilson Homes (residential), Laing O'Rourke Ltd (public buildings) Britcon (industrial) and Norwest Holst Construction (partnership). 



West Midlands Branching out to be a Region

At an Extraordinary General Meeting held on 5th December in the Black Country, the West Midlands RTPI 'Branch' was formerly wound up after 55 years and the West Midlands 'Region' was born.

A wake to say goodbye to the era of the 'Branch' combined with a celebration to ring in the new 'region' was held at the Wing Wah Chinese Restaurant in Oldbury.

The change of name may all seem somewhat academic, but it marks a significant shift which will herald a new more focused Branch Executive and a broader more open Branch Services Committee, reflecting the change which has occurred within the Institute at national level. If you would like to get involved in running the region or simply want to know more about the Institute, please contact paul.harris@stratford-dc.gov.uk. 

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Chair's remarks

A 'NUCLEAR' WINTER


This special energy issue of Tripwire is timely, as debate about energy has kicked off on several fronts in the press. Whether or not the Government is pro-nuclear, at one level; and whether the country has enough energy resources and networks in place to cope with the coming winter, at another. As I write, the Energy Minister, Malcolm Wicks, is saying that another Energy White Paper is due to appear next year. This after the one which was issued in 2003, which presumably didn't say what he wanted it to say.

The winter issue first. 1995/96 (remember it?) was the coldest winter in the last 18 years, yet that year overall was mild compared to the 76 years of recorded weather. This winter is forecast to be a severe one too, but it highlights the fact that we have had a run of mild winters for the last two decades. So the energy market analysts are basing their work on the case of 1995/6. Since then however, energy demands have continued to rise – by some 1% per year, higher in the south-east – and Britain is now a net importer of gas.

Summer electricity demands are higher now than they were then – we have air-conditioning to blame for that. Whilst some 'renewables' have come on-stream, traditional electricity generation has declined. A number of large liquefied natural gas (LNG) projects are underway on the coast, where LNG is imported in huge tankers and stored on shore for connection to the national gas network.

Because combined cycle gas turbine power stations (CCGT) use gas, in a 'normal' winter there is usually some interplay between the gas and electricity markets. Gas normally reserved for back-up to these stations can be diverted for other consumption. In a severe winter, there is likely to be a lot more 'demand management' from power station companies and gas companies.

The reason for this long complicated discussion about the weather and energy is to hopefully demonstrate that we should not be side-tracked into an over simplistic debate which is simply presented as 'renewables versus nuclear'. Tweedledum or Tweedledee. The reality is that Britain has a market driven energy system, with both renewables and nuclear a part of that cocktail, as are other significant generation sectors. The mix of ingredients in this cocktail is the issue. It is not necessarily a case of 'either – or'. It is also about reducing consumption (by more energy efficient buildings and so on) and about ensuring the country is not over-dependent on one or two single energy sources or markets.

The role of planning, in my view, is to encourage energy conservation, and to ensure that policies enable a mix of energy generation. 

Hector Pearson *Branch Chairman*

Editor's thoughts

...ON A SIMILAR THEME!

With the weathermen predicting the coldest winter on record, it seemed appropriate to include a special edition on 'Energy' in this edition of Tripwire. In the event, it has proved to be particularly topical.


The Government is currently conducting a review of energy resources and the Prime Minister is under pressure from the WWF for failing to make sufficient progress in meeting our Kyoto CO2 emissions targets. At the same time the Prince of Wales on has been criticised for objecting to a wind turbine on the grounds that it would be seen from his Scottish retreat.

Yet there are clearly some difficult decisions for politicians in trying to wrestle with the growing pressures for energy consumption; the coal industry has been reduced to almost nothing, our oil and natural gas reserves have now peaked and we now face importing increasing amounts of oil from unstable regimes in the Middle East. Tony Blair is alleged to favour a revival in nuclear energy - although the Energy Minister claims to be 'nuclear neutral'. Renewable energy resources, although growing in significance, tend to be intermittent in output and can only satisfy a relatively small proportion of total needs. A proper long term and co-ordinated energy policy is clearly long overdue.

But for all the debates about 'renewables' versus fossil fuels, planners tend to view the issue from the other end of the telescope – through the conservation of resources. Energy efficiency is undoubtedly one of the most effective ways of reducing CO2 emissions and avoiding the depletion of our energy resources. Aiming for 'sustainable development' is the natural response of planners to the global challenge – trying to order society so that things function as efficiently as possible, linking homes and jobs, reducing the need for travel and creating integrated patterns of development.

But sustainability appraisal can become one-dimensional and inflexible. If used as a 'one-size-fits-all' model, sustainability tests can simply become self-reinforcing – focusing activities entirely within urban areas and starving the remaining 80% of our region within the rural areas of much needed development.

We need to recognise that the physical relationship between homes and jobs is not the only determinant of fuel consumption. Indeed, for the young, the elderly, the unemployed and those who work from home it is irrelevant. Other factors such as community cohesion also affect peoples' propensity to travel. Moreover, transport is by no means the only element of sustainability. The use of time, money, resources, manpower and above all quality of life are equally important – but tend to get forgotten in the traditional sustainability analysis.

As planners perhaps we need to take a broader outlook on energy consumption – he says as he reaches for another log to put on the fire! 

John Acres *Editor*

Stafford Borough first to submit Core Strategy

During October 2005 Stafford Borough Council became the first local planning authority in the country to submit a Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) to the Secretary of State for independent Examination as part of the new Local Development Framework (LDF) process.

The Council has moved quickly to deliver the principles of the new LDF process since the new planning system came into effect in September 2004. Following implementation of the more complicated process of 'front-loading' consultation the Core Strategy DPD was submitted on Friday 7 October 2005 following Member approval at the end of September.

The Core Strategy contains a vision and sustainable development statement reflecting the principles of promoting economic, social and environmental well-being set out in the Borough's Community Plan. The core policies cover sustainable urban and rural living, balancing economic growth, developing accessibility and mobility, conserving and enhancing the environment, Green Belt and the development of the Borough. Furthermore, employment provision through until 2021 has been proposed for the Borough to align with housing provision, in advance of the partial review of the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy.



A variety of other documents also needed to be published at the submission stage, including the Sustainability Appraisal Report, supporting documentation setting out the evidence used for the core policies, the Proposals Map and the Pre-Submission Consultation Statement. The Core Strategy is the key policy document which will underpin future policy and site allocation decisions. It is now hoped that the more detailed Development Plan Documents can be progressed quickly to ensure the Core Strategy is supported by robust policies through until 2021.

The Core Strategy Development Plan Document was first prepared and agreed by Members of the Council during the Summer 2004. However, in light of consultation guidance published by the Government, it soon became apparent that it was necessary to consult on a


Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for the Core Strategy before the Issues and Options Paper could be launched. Therefore in November 2004 the Scoping Report for the Core Strategy DPD was published for consultation over a 5 week period with a closing date of 3 December 2004. (There are statutory requirements for consultation on the Sustainability Appraisal process through the SEA Directive Regulations so be aware). A total of 37 responses were received to the Scoping Report for the Core Strategy DPD.



Consultation subsequently took place on the Core Strategy DPD – Issues and Options Paper - alongside the 'Interim Sustainability Appraisal Report' for the Core Strategy DPD during January and February 2005. The total number of responses received by the deadline was 73 responses to the Core Strategy DPD – Issues and Options Paper and 24 responses to the Interim Sustainability Appraisal Report. Consultation material was sent out to a wider range of stakeholders than required by Regulation 25 in order to engage the community at an early stage through the principles of front-loading.

Members considered the responses to the Issues and Options Paper, which were used to prepare the Core Strategy DPD – Preferred Options Report as well as the responses to the Interim Sustainability Appraisal Report. The simultaneous consultation period for the Core Strategy DPD – Preferred Options Report and the Final Sustainability Appraisal Report for the Core Strategy DPD took place through June and July 2005 with the closing deadline being 12 July 2005. In total 64 respondents made representations to the Core Strategy DPD – Preferred Options Report and 17 respondents to the Final Sustainability Appraisal Report. Members have considered representations to the Preferred Options Report, which were used to prepare the Submission Core Strategy DPD as well as the representations to the Final Sustainability Appraisal Report.

The new system certainly does not leave much time for relaxation and requires significant project management skills in order to keep to the milestones in the Local Development Scheme.

Further information on Stafford's LDF can be accessed on the following website www.staffordbc.gov.uk/forwardplanning 

For more information please contact: Alex Yendole, Principal Planning Officer Forward Planning; Tel: 01785 619536 or Paul Windmill Forward Planning Manager; Tel: 01785 619538.

ENERGY - a view from the CPRE

Climate Change is one of the biggest environmental challenges facing society. But equally, we are also concerned to protect the region's landscape.


The Regional Energy Strategy sets huge challenges, but they are not always the obvious ones. The potential for renewable energy is largely split between three sources: wind, landfill gas and sewage - although there are other important technologies in the pipeline. But the impact of using renewable resources is dwarfed by the potential savings from energy efficiency - very much the Cinderella of Energy policy.

And that's the first big problem. Wind turbines in the countryside are controversial and many will be resisted because of their impact on the landscape but they also raise the excuse: 'Why do I need to lag my home or buy energy efficiency light bulbs when there's a wind farm down the road?' CPRE strongly believes that sensitive landscapes should be protected from inappropriate wind farms. We need strong criteria to achieve that goal where they are likely to be highly visible.

And the second big problem: transport. The Regional Energy Strategy assumes that CO2 emissions from transport will level off as a result of the implementation of the Government's three Multi-Modal Studies for the region. Yet none of them actually predict an overall reduction in CO2 and only one

suggests a reduction in the growth of CO2. Add to that the depressing fact that the study packages are, by and large, not being delivered. Only the road schemes are progressing. So the picture is pretty bleak, even allowing for technological advances in cars and some use of biofuels.

But there's a worse culprit. Air travel was omitted from the Regional Energy Strategy as it is excluded from national CO2 targets. West Midlands CPRE calculated the region's CO2 emissions from aviation based on the explosion of air travel predicted in the Aviation White Paper and found that it cancelled about a third of the gains from the strategy. But because of the way aircraft pollute, their impact CO2 emissions from aviation are far worse. The simple conclusion: everything we are trying to achieve will be wiped out if air travel is allowed to grow unchecked.

We need to exploit less intrusive and more consistent sources of renewable energy, whilst driving home the energy efficiency message with added vigour. If we continue to ignore the impact of transport, downplay its significance and keep it in the 'too-hard-to-tackle' box, our attempts to tackle the biggest environmental issue of all will be thwarted. 


Gerald Kells is Regional Policy Officer of the Campaign to Protect Rural England (West Midlands Branch).

Inspector recommends major strategic site at Tamworth

The Tamworth Local Plan Inspector has supported the Borough Council in recommending the inclusion of a major greenfield site to the north of Tamworth. The Anker Valley scheme, which has been promoted by Barton Willmore Planning on behalf of a consortium including Redrow Homes and Bellway Homes, consists of a mixed-use development including 1300 houses and 27ha of employment land together with a local centre.

The Inspector has rejected suggestions raised during the Inquiry that the proposal could be contrary to the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy. Indeed, he stresses that his principal reservation is not with policy but with practicality. But he concludes that on

balance the new homes can be built by 2011, signalling that an early start should be made on the project to meet the strategic housing target.

But he has been careful to avoid mention of the 1000 houses identified in neighbouring Lichfield District which were identified to serve the needs of Tamworth. These will no doubt become the subject of debate when the Lichfield Local Development Framework, currently 'on deposit' goes to an Examination sometime next year. The Borough Council has indicated that it will be reporting to Cabinet in January, with adoption likely in June 2006. 

Black Country Study: Choices Consultation report

The West Midlands Regional Assembly, in conjunction with the Black Country Consortium has published the Phase 1 Revision to the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy, relating to the Black Country.

The colourful document illustrated with plentiful examples of new and well designed development, poses a whole series of questions intended to provide

the starting point for the emerging regeneration in the Black Country.

Copies of the document are available from the Black Country Consortium Ltd, Black Country House, Rounds Green Road, Oldbury, B69 2DG or by contacting either blackcountrystudy@blackcountryconsortium.co.uk or rss@wmra.gov.uk The consultation period extends up until 6th January 2006. 

Tackling affordable housing need at source


South Warwickshire is leading the way with an innovative approach to planning in rural villages. A new initiative called 'Local Choice' which has been promoted through the emerging Stratford on Avon Local Plan, aims to compensate for the lack of housing in rural communities being caused by the shift in development towards the region's major urban areas as a result of the new West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy. The 'Local Choice' initiative turns the conventional approach to planning on its head, by letting local communities address their own housing development needs, particularly for affordable housing.

Stratford-on-Avon District Council has adopted this radical approach putting local communities firmly in the driving seat of development, thereby tackling 'NIMBYISM' head-on and challenging the perception that all new development is bad. The first two schemes in Stratford on Avon District, (and the first such scheme in Warwickshire and indeed possibly in the country), have just been finished at Brailes and Long Compton. The former is by Warwickshire Rural Housing Association, the latter is by South Warwickshire Housing Association.

Cllr Gillian Roache, the Portfolio holder responsible for housing stressed that "Local Choice is a 'self-help' tool for communities. It was introduced to try and tackle the lack of affordable housing for local people in the rural areas of our district, as a result of increasingly restrictive policies on housing, which severely limit new housing development outside the main town of Stratford-upon-Avon."

"Stratford on Avon District Council recognised that its rural communities needed some controlled development to keep its rural communities viable" she said "Local Choice allows small-scale housing, particularly affordable housing, identified by a local communities, usually through their Parish Plans. The District Council is still responsible for making the decisions on planning applications, but we will normally reflect the views of the housing needs survey in the relevant adopted Parish Plan."

The 'Local Choice' idea was one of the key initiatives discussed at the recent regional visit of the Government's Affordable Rural Housing Commission, which toured the West Midlands earlier this month. The Commission, chaired by Elinor Goodman, also looked at a number of new affordable housing sites in Oswestry and heard evidence from other housing experts from Worcestershire, Herefordshire, Shropshire and the West Midlands Assembly. Two of the 12 members of the Commission are based here in the West Midlands. They are James Caird (Chief Planning Officer at South Shropshire District Council) and your very own Tripwire Editor, John Acres (from Redrow Homes; representing the house-building industry).


The West Midlands also played host to the Commission for Rural Communities when it came to Worcestershire on the previous day. The CRC will be reporting early next year, the Affordable Rural Housing Commission will report in May 2006. 

Lichfield District Council short-listed for Beacon status on recycling

In an earlier edition of Tripwire we featured the achievement of Lichfield District Council in topping the league for the recycling waste materials. Lichfield DC has now been short-listed for Beacon Status on a waste and recycling theme.

Currently Lichfield residents recycle some 46% of their waste through the Council's 'cutting edge' recycling scheme, leading the way as we try to reduce the amount we throw away as a nation. The Council has put it down to a combination of the initiative of the Council and the enthusiasm of their residents.


Cllr Alan White, Cabinet member for Operational Services, has emphasised that it is vital that they continue to recycle as much as possible so that they can minimise the amount of waste going to landfill sites and help save the earth's resources by re-using valuable materials.

The results of the Beacon Awards will be announced in March 2006. 

*For more information please contact Esther Epstein, Lichfield DC Tel: 01543 308778
Email: esther.epstein@lichfielddc.gov.uk*

West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy: Phase 2: Draft Project Plan

The West Midlands Regional Assembly has also published a Draft Project Plan for Phase 2 of the partial review of the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy. The draft plan covers important aspects such as the provision of housing, the release of employment land, the review of the sub-regional foci and regional centres, freight, park and ride and the impact of potential growth at the region's airports following the Government's recent Aviation White Paper.

The draft plan sets out a programme for the review which starts with the assembly of technical work and consideration of options in 2006 and culminates in an adopted revised RSS in Autumn 2008. The Draft Plan comes with a handy 'jargon buster' – an essential tool for every puzzled planner and participant. There are a series of simple questions to which responses are requested by 31st December 2005. 

Planning People

Emrys Jones joins Lichfield DC to lead major regeneration initiative.

Emrys Jones, until recently heading one of the largest planning teams in the country at Birmingham City Council has recently joined Lichfield District Council to become Director of Lichfield District Venture to manage a £200 million regeneration programme. He will specifically oversee and implement the extensive regeneration projects at Lichfield City and Burntwood Town Centres.

At the same time, Ian Thompson, who has been with Lichfield DC for 17 years, latterly serving as Corporate Director of Development, has now moved on to Stafford Borough Council to become an Executive Director.


West Midlands Planning Aid Service.

The new National Planning Aid Manager is Dave Chetwyn. Dave has a solid track record as a planner

having held senior positions at Stoke City Council for a number of years both in development control and regeneration. Dave has also been a volunteer with the West Midlands Planning Aid Service. WMPAS would like to welcome Dave to Planning Aid.

Homebuilders' Federation


Joanne Russell has been appointed as the new Regional Policy Officer for the Homebuilders' Federation, based in Birmingham. She replaces Carol Muston who moved to Birmingham planning consultant, RPS.

Joanne has joined the Federation from Nuneaton & Bedworth BC where she rose to manage the Planning policy team. Previously she held similar posts at Greenwich and Southampton. She has also worked in Redditch BC undertaking their Rural Housing Needs Survey. 

Launch of new legal commentary

November 2005 sees the addition to www.planningmatters.co.uk of a new Legal Commentary written in the form of a personal 'blog' by Martin Goodall, a partner with Sisman Nichols. The commentary, which is to be published fortnightly with each edition being archived for ready retrieval, will concentrate on the potential effects of recent changes in case law or legislation

on the planning community - rather than just detail the changes themselves.

Along with the library of knowledge builders and action lists, this new initiative from RTPI Services Ltd expands the support to planners in helping them be more effective in their jobs and continue their professional development. 

Triptease

The 'Triptease' quiz published in the last issue of Tripwire proved so popular that we have decided to include another version this time. Sadly only three people actually got all 6 questions right last time (and also worked out the theme of the quiz), all of them were members of the Branch Executive. So unfortunately all three were disqualified from winning the 'Region and Regeneration' book. Two of the winners wrote it anyway!

For those who are interested the questions were:


1. What is the more common name of *prunus campanulata*? *Answer: Flowering CHERRY*
2. What building was originally designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott and converted by Swiss architects Herzog & de Meuron? *Answer: TATE Modern*
3. What was the name of the strict warden in the TV series *Porrige*? *Answer: Fulton MACKAY*
4. Where is the International Courts of Justice based? *Answer: The HAGUE*
5. Which movie actor was born in Indiana in 1931 and died in a car crash in 1955? *Answer: James DEAN*
6. Which West Indian Cricketer was born in Antigua in 1951? He played in 47 Test matches where he took 202 wickets at an average of 25.61, he also played for Hampshire and Leicestershire. *Answer: Andy ROBERTS*

The theme running through the questions was that they were all names of *former RTPI Presidents*.

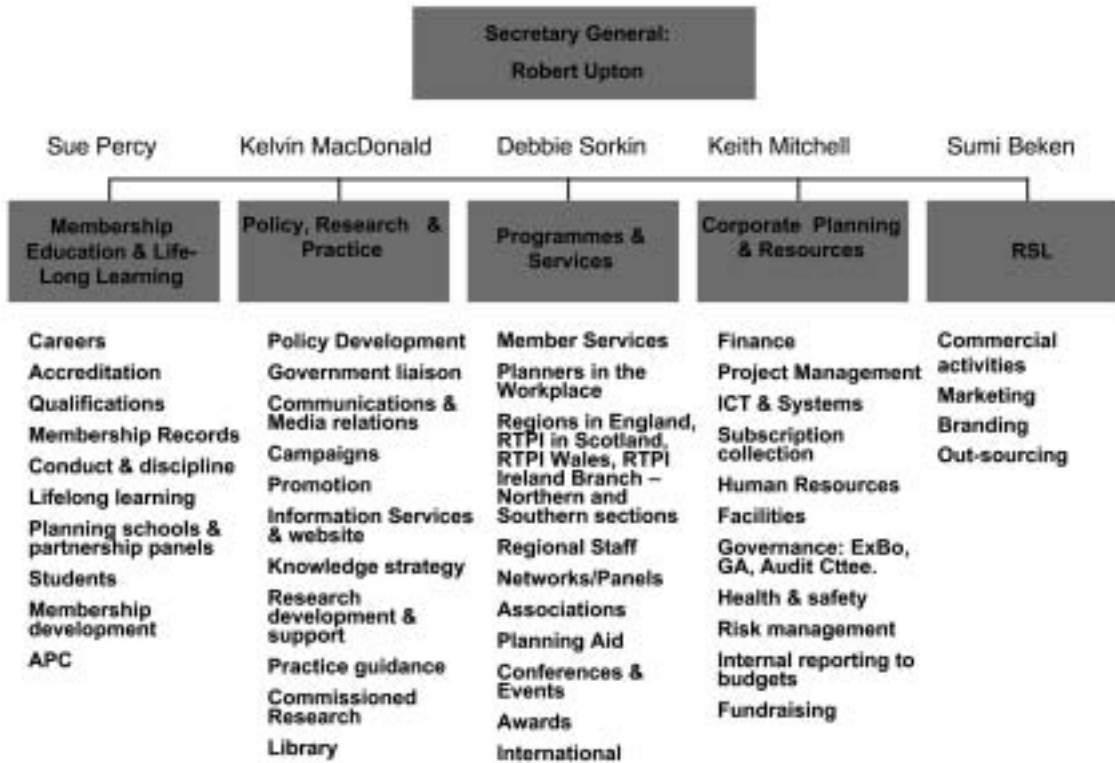
So now you know what you are doing, the questions for this issue's quiz are:

1. Who won the 1980 Olympic Gold Medal in the 100m for men?
2. Which schoolboy featured in the books written by Anthony Buckeridge?
3. Which battle fought in July 1644 is considered to be a major turning point in the English Civil War in favour of Cromwell?
4. Who married the Indian Princess Pocahontas?
5. Who was the 1st actress to demand and receive a fee of \$1 million for a single film role?
6. Which Area of Outstanding Natural beauty was designated in 1971 and straddles the English - Welsh Border.

What is the theme which links all 6 questions?

The first correct entry to reply by email or letter to the usual Ripon Cottage address will win a copy of the award winning 'Region and Renaissance' book about planning in the West Midlands over the past 50 years. For those people simply keen to buy one as a Christmas present - please contact the editor. 

RTPI Responsibilities Chart



Judd Farris
property recruitment

Plan ahead with Judd Farris

Senior Planner

--- BIRMINGHAM - Up to £31k + Benefits

A leading independent consultancy in planning, environment and design are now seeking a Senior Planner to join their expanding team. Your workload will be varied and will include a wealth of eclectic projects for a number of private sector clients. You will possess a genuine passion and enthusiasm for planning supported by at least 2 years PQE. With genuine career progression available for the right individual this could be the ideal next step to further develop your skills and career.

steve.simmonds@juddfarris.co.uk Ref: 15557

Urban Designer

--- BIRMINGHAM - Up to £35k + Benefits

One of the largest Urban Design & Planning Practices in the UK are currently seeking Senior and Principal Urban Designers. A Sunday Times 'top company to work for' this is an outstanding opportunity for the right individual. The role offers exciting projects within both the Midlands and further a field with a strong possibility of short assignments in Europe. You will possess a relevant qualification and at least 4 yrs experience. The role offers a competitive salary and excellent benefits.

steve.simmonds@juddfarris.co.uk Ref: 16024

--- For more opportunities throughout the Midlands contact Steve Simmonds on 0121 200 0800.

Principal Planner

--- BIRMINGHAM - Up to £33k + Benefits

Well renowned consultancy specializing in Town Planning and Environmental Assessments, are seeking a Principal Planner to join their team. Looking for a dynamic individual with the motivation to succeed, you will be supported to develop new client contacts whilst working on an existing caseload. An ideal opportunity for an ambitious individual to take the next step in their career and play a real part in the development of a growing organization. Impressive salary and benefits package on offer.

steve.simmonds@juddfarris.co.uk Ref: 12855

TEMPORARY OPPORTUNITIES

Town Planner - STAFFS - Up to £18 per hour

Experienced Town Planner required to work within the Development Control as a Senior/Principal Planner. Ideal candidate will have at least 2 years Local Authority experience.

steve.simmonds@juddfarris.co.uk Ref: 19987

Policy Planner - WARWICKS - Up to £18 per hour

Policy Planner required for busy Local Authority department. Ideal candidate will have at least 2 years of Policy experience with Local Authority environment.

steve.simmonds@juddfarris.co.uk Ref: 14279

--- LONDON

020 7494 2555

--- MANCHESTER

0161 834 8666

--- BIRMINGHAM

0121 200 0800

--- BRISTOL

0117 974 2000

--- SYDNEY - AUSTRALIA

00612 9232 8188

--- HONG KONG - ASIA

00852 2802 8062

For our latest vacancies please visit www.juddfarris.com

tripwire

Nov / Dec 7

events events events events events

• BRANCH PROGRAMME •

Non-members of RTPI welcome to attend.

THURSDAY 9 FEBRUARY 2006

PLANNING LAW UPDATE

-in association with Hammonds, Solicitors
 Joint conference with RTPI East Midlands
 Venue: The TechnoCentre, Coventry University
 Technology Park, Coventry CV1 2TT
 Programme:
 Planning Obligations - Current Issues: Glenn Sharpe
 Compulsory Purchase Orders as a Tool of
 Regeneration: Philip Maude
 The Secret Green Belt - Town and Village Greens:
 Patrick Walker
 Public Rights of Way and Planning: Martin Walker
 Planning Enforcement and Certificates of
 Lawfulness: Tracy Ofarn
 Time: 10am – 4.30pm
 Cost: £88.13 including VAT (reduced rate £44.07)
 Details & booking: Sue Griffith-Jones
 Tel 0121 705 0136
 Email: rtpiwestmids@btinternet.com
USE BOOKING SLIP OPPOSITE

TUESDAY 14 MARCH 2006

PLANNING & HOUSING UPDATE

Joint conference with CIH
 Venue: Auditorium, Wolverhampton Science Park,
 Glaisher Drive, Wolverhampton WV10 9RU
 Time: 10am – 1.30pm
 Details & booking: Sue Griffith-Jones
 Tel: 0121 705 0136
 Email: rtpiwestmids@btinternet.com
USE BOOKING SLIP OPPOSITE

WEDNESDAY 15 MARCH 2006

PLANNING BASICS

Joint conference with RTPI East Midlands
 A day conference providing an explanation of the
 planning system for non-planners. Suitable for
 planning support staff, councillors, those working
 alongside planners, representatives from
 voluntary organisations etc.
 Venue: Austin Court, Birmingham B1 2NP
 Time: 10am – 4.30pm
 Cost: £88.13 incl. VAT (reduced rate £44.07)
 Details: Sue Griffith-Jones Tel: 0121 705 0136
 Email: rtpiwestmids@btinternet.com
USE BOOKING SLIP BELOW

BOOKING SLIP FOR BRANCH EVENTS

Title & date of event.....

 Directions needed to venue YES / NO
 Number of places required
 Payment enclosed / to follow £.....
 Please make cheques payable to:
 "RTPI West Midlands Branch".
 Names of those attending.....

 Organisation & Address

 Contact telephone number and email address

 Send slip to Sue Griffith-Jones 147 Hampton
 Lane, Solihull, B91 2RS.

• OTHER EVENTS •

You are welcome to attend a
Young Planners' Christmas Party
 hosted by
Judd Farris Recruitment Consultants
 on
Tuesday 13th December 2005 from 7pm
 at the Pitcher and Piano, Brindleyplace,
 Birmingham.

(Please contact
steve.simmonds@juddfarris.co.uk or
 Ashley Baldwin, Chair of Young Planners'
 Group if you would like to come)

TUESDAY 24 JANUARY

The Role of Retail in Town Centres
 Venue: Town Hall Council Chambers, Chester
 Organiser: RTPI North West
 Details and booking: Tel: 0161 969 3815
 Email: northwest@rtpi.org.uk

THURSDAY 26 JANUARY 2006

**Quality & Speed in Development Control:
 Overcoming Challenges in 2006**
 Venue: Jurys Inn, Birmingham
 Time: 9am - 5.10pm (registration from 8.15am)
 Cost: £299 - £449 + VAT
 Organiser: Haymarket Conferences
 Details & bookings: Tel 0208 267 4011
 Web: www.developmentcontrolpractice.com

tripwire

CPD

RTPI
 mediation of space · making of place

Judd Farris
 property recruitment

Christmas party drinks

event: planners christmas drinks
 date: tuesday 13th december 2005
 venue: pitcher & piano, the water's edge,
 brindley place, birmingham
 time: 7:00pm onwards

Judd Farris in conjunction with the RTPI Young Planners are holding a Christmas drinks evening for all planners in the Region.
 RSVP to Ashley Baldwin (RTPI) apb376@bham.ac.uk or steve.simmonds@juddfarris.co.uk

Editor - John Acres, Ripon Cottage, 5 Manor Road, Kilsby, Near Rugby, Warks, CV23 8XS