

**PIPA – The RTPI Politicians in Planning Network - Business Plan for 2007  
Quarter 4 Monitoring**

**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

OBJECTIVE	ACTIONS	BY WHOM	PROPOSED OUTCOME	BY WHEN	ACHIEVED Q3	
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	Deferred to 2008 pending resolution of Networks' charges; some post Conference advertising in 'Councillor' secured; POS agreed to promote membership through its membership	☹
	Increase membership of PIPA	AM	Increase from 70 (01.08.06) to 150+	December 07	<i>Target exceeded</i> (greatly assisted by free membership offer); 229 members by end December	☺
	Promote PIPA through items in 'Planning'	AM/LC	Raise and revive awareness	June & December 07	January article made aware; member survey featured in 'Regenerate'; 2 pieces booked for 'Councillor';	☺

					Climate Change article and political perspectives series lined up for 2008	
	Compile and circulate e-bulletin	AM	Regular interaction with members facilitated	Weekly/fortnightly	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	2007 surveys deferred pending decisions on membership charges	😐
Through an active membership, to have an insightful and practical perspective on the issues of spatial planning and its delivery structures	Through e-bulletins to invite member contributions to strands of developing issues and concerns	AM	Regular interaction with members facilitated	Weekly/fortnightly	Fortnightly bulletin achieved; positive response to Climate Change article request	😊
	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 1215 times ( an increase of 239 since last Q)	😊
	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; sign-up to website is still limited	😊
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	PIPA Conference a success with target attendance of 80 – 100 achieved and high levels of satisfaction. However, very English attendance.	😊
	Ensure the new website, once established, is kept topical 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 1215 times ( an	😊

					increase of 239 since last Q)	
	Provide support for members committing to tasks in support of PIPA initiatives	AM	Monitored achievement of action lists as agreed	Per Action List	Task group proposed for commenting on Planning & Energy White Papers – in the event became a joint Networks event; proposal to look at 2008 legislative programme	☺
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; other publication routes also used	☺
	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	PIPA hosted the opening Reception at 2007 Summer School and raised profile; feedback from PIPA Conference will help planning of 2008 events	☺
	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	Successful joint Networks meeting around Planning & Energy White Papers and Core Group meeting around regional structures	☺

	Establish up to 3 Task Groups as suggested by members	AM/JC/RS	Agreed documents with tasks allocated and monitored	Per Terms of Reference	Task group proposed for commenting on Planning & Energy White Papers – in the event became a joint Networks event	☹
	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 development, in particular with the RTPi	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	Successful joint Networks meeting around Planning & Energy White Papers and Core Group meeting around regional structures	😊
	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 (yet to be published) 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	PIPA Conference a success with target attendance of 80 – 100 achieved and high levels of satisfaction. However, very English attendance so examining needs in other Nations.	😊
	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 1215 times ( an increase of 239 since last Q)	😊
	Provide support for members committing to tasks in support of good practice initiatives	AM	Monitored achievement of action lists as agreed	Per Action List	All Bulletin items 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	Task group proposed for commenting on Planning & Energy White Papers– in the	😊

					event became a joint Networks event; proposal to look at 2008 legislative programme	
	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 a significant success as a 'relaunch' event; PIPA members joined in discussions of Planning White Paper & Housing Green Paper; attendance at Regional structures event limited to Core Group	☺
	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	PIPA Conference had active support of regional Planning Aid	☺
	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	Completed	☺