



RTPI

mediation of space · making of place

PIPA – the RTPI Politicians in Planning Network Bulletin 17th March 2009

Welcome

All PIPA Bulletins, including this edition, can be viewed as an Adobe pdf document using [this link](#) provided you have registered on the RTPI website. *If this email has been forwarded to you, you can take up free PIPA membership for yourself by signing up on the [PIPA website](#) or email pipa@rtpi.org.uk*

Topics beyond 'PIPA News' for you to dip into in this edition:

(click on the heading below to take you to a chosen topic, click on the main topic heading there to return↑)

Planning System: [Killian & Pretty](#); [Appeals](#); [Obligations](#); [Mediation](#); [Green Belt](#); [Urban Extensions](#); [IPC](#); [TV](#);

Local Democracy: [RDAs](#); [Rural Advocacy](#); [Act](#); [NIMBYS](#); [Upturn](#); **Sustainability:** [Carbon Budget](#); [Energy](#); [Suburb](#);

Research & Education: [European](#); [UK&USA](#); **Consultations:** [UK](#); [England](#); [Wales](#); [Events](#); [Websites](#); [Publications](#)

PIPA News

ONLY ONE PLACE REMAINING!

NETWORKS' EVENT: SECTION 106 AGREEMENTS – TIME FOR REVIEW?

Bristol City Council and the Bristol Property Agents Association have taken a lead in looking again at the Section 106 obligations attached to permissions. To hear about their approach and to consider the ways forward with Agreements in the light of the current financial climate please come along to the Networks' event on **Friday 27th March 1.30 pm in Bristol Council House**. To take the last place please email pipa@rtpi.org.uk without delay.

PIPA CONFERENCE 2009

Planning for the 2009 Conference has started – with a provisional date of Saturday 31st October - so if you have a wish for particular content for this important annual event for planning Councillors then please do let me know via pipa@rtpi.org.uk

REMINDER: PLANNING TO LIVE WITH CLIMATE CHANGE

The RTPI is examining its New Vision for Planning in the context of the importance of climate change and planning's response to climate change. The RTPI is asking its Members and Network participants:

- What are you doing and what can you do about climate change?
- How will professionals help to tackle the global issues?
- How will you engage in developing "Planning to Live with Climate Change"?

[Click here](#) to access the home page for Member engagement.

[Click here](#) to give us your answers to these and related questions ... please give us your views by Friday 10th April so that they can feed into the next meeting of the RTPI General Assembly

[Click here](#) to read an **executive summary report**, setting out our reasons for reviewing the New Vision for Planning and likely key forward directions.

[Click here](#) to read a more detailed **consultation report** developed by the RTPI Policy and Practice Committee under the leadership of Chair and Junior Vice President Richard Summers.

Email your views to nick.summerfield@rtpi.org.uk or [click here](#) and scroll to the foot of the page to participate in a public debate on the RTPI website.

SCOTTISH AWARDS FOR QUALITY IN PLANNING

The top award went to the Lerwick Waterfront Regeneration in Shetland – a project which has delivered economic, social and environmental benefits for the local community and beyond. Many other excellent projects were recognised; the Judges Report can be [accessed here](#).

REMINDER: PLANNING AID CONFERENCE 2009

Bookings are still being taken for the 2009 Conference on **Monday 6th to Tuesday 7th April in Edinburgh**. Use [this link](#) for fuller details or phone Planning Aid Scotland on **0131 220 9730**.

RTPI NETWORK OF THE MONTH

[PERN \(Planning Education & Research Network\)](#) aims to increase knowledge exchange between planning educators, researchers and practitioners.

Andrew

[Planning System](#)↑

[Killian & Pretty Review](#)

The Government has now published its response to the Review and appears to agree with much of it. However most of the commitment is to a series of consultations that will take place in the summer of 2009 with a further update expected in the winter of 2009/2010. [The RTPI](#) welcomed the recognition "that an investment in planning is essential to kick-starting the economy and readying it for the up-turn."

[Appeals](#)

The Planning Inspectorate will introduce a quicker process for householder appeals being dealt with by written representations after running successful pilot last year.

[Planning Obligations](#)

Planning Portal reports that CLG has launched an investigation into the use and value of 'section 106' contributions made in 2008 and is now carrying out research into the scale and extent of underspend.

[Mediation](#)

'A Guide to the Use of Mediation in the Planning System in Scotland' is designed help those involved in the planning system in Scotland to understand how mediation can be used to enhance the planning process.

[Green Belt](#)

Planning Portal reports that the Government has rejected proposals to scrap much of the Green Belt around Nottingham.

[Urban extensions, planning and participation](#)

This JRF Report combines the first-hand learning of practitioners – including the Joseph Rowntree Housing Trust at Derwenthorpe in York – with an analysis of the strengths and weaknesses of the current policy framework, and draws conclusions that are relevant not just to high-profile "eco-towns" but to all new communities in Britain.

[Infrastructure Planning Commission](#)

Minister Margaret Beckett has named Sir Michael Pitt as the preferred candidate for the post of Chair of the new IPC and announced it will be located in Bristol.

[The Planners are Coming](#)

Three more episodes of this look inside local authority planning will be broadcast weekly from Tuesday 24th March on BBC 1 at 10.25pm.

[Local Democracy](#)↑

[Regional Development Agencies](#)

The Parliamentary Business & Enterprise Committee has warned that RDAs must be "business-focused" despite moves to give them planning powers.

[Rural Advocacy](#)

The Government has responded to the Report of the Prime Minister's Rural Advocate, Dr Stuart Burgess.

[Act](#)

Local Works have produced several 'easy to read' guides and briefings for Councillors and Officers on how the Sustainable Communities Act works and how to use it.

[NIMBYS](#)

A survey for the development industry by Saint Consulting arrived at a conclusion that "increased public consultation has had two effects: helped to increase the number of active NIMBYS,does not generate any more understanding or support for development."

[Planning for the Upturn](#)

The TCPA is calling for Councils and housing associations to join forces to act as planner-developers to deliver homes in the recession.

[Sustainability](#)↑

[Carbon Budget](#)

The Guardian reports that the [Tyndall Centre for Climate Change](#) warns that official advice used to set Britain's first carbon budget next month is "naïvely optimistic".

[Energy & Fuel](#)

The National House Building Council Foundation has published 'The Merton rule: a review of the practical, environmental and economic effects', which concludes that it is more cost effective to cut 10% off carbon emissions through a combination of energy efficiency and renewables, rather than through clean energy alone.

[Sustainable Suburb](#)

LB Sutton Council has launched a consultation on the 'Hackbridge masterplan documents', which are said to be the first UK plans for a "truly sustainable suburb".

[Research and Education](#)↑

[European Council of Spatial Planners](#)

The RTPI supports cross-national cooperation in planning through its membership of the European Council of Spatial Planners. Priorities include the spatial planning response to climate change and the concept of balanced regional development.

[UK & USA](#)

A new report from iCoCo and the Urban Institute compares approaches to community revitalization, community cohesion and sustainable neighbourhoods in cities across the UK and the US.

[Consultations](#)↑

UK

[Consultation on the term 'carbon neutral': its definition and recommendations for good practice](#)

The purpose of the DECC consultation is to seek views on a draft definition for the term carbon neutral that can be used by individuals and organisations.

England

[Financial viability study of the eco-towns programme](#)

This has been prepared by the CLG with input from an external team of advisers to assess whether, on the basis of an initial high level assessment, an eco-town could be economically viable in the locations listed.

Deadline for Submissions: Thursday 30th April

Wales

[National Energy Efficiency and Savings Plan](#)

The Welsh Assembly Government is seeking views on actions to reduce energy use and greenhouse gas emissions in Wales.

Deadline for Submissions: Friday 5th June

[Events](#)↑

[Community Infrastructure Levy Conference](#) – Wednesday 25th March, London

This RTPI Conference will consider the latest developments in this still changing debate and identify the outcomes of recent research. Use the link in the title or phone [0845 082 1171](tel:0845 082 1171)

Book now and get 50% off - quote MAR09

[RTPI's 10th Annual e-Planning Conference](#) – Friday 27th March, London

This annual event will concentrate on how local authorities can realise the benefits from the provision of e-planning solutions, giving practical examples of the issues involved. Use the link in the title or phone [0845 082 1171](tel:0845 082 1171)

[Planning Research Conference 2009](#) – Wednesday 1st to Friday 3rd April, Newcastle University

The theme of the Conference is 'Unequal Places: Planning and Territorial Cohesion'. Use the link in the title or email conference.apl@ncl.ac.uk

Earlybird Discount of 20% for bookings received before 20th March

[Cities, Regions and Multi Area Agreements](#) - Tuesday 21st April, Manchester

This Seminar will examine how Agencies acting together, sharing priorities, often pooling resources, can ensure efforts to boost prosperity are maximised, helping people reach their potential. Use the link in the title or phone [01422 845 004](tel:01422 845 004)

[Sustainable Communities Conference](#) – Friday 8th May, London

This RTPI Conference will consider the development of sustainable communities not just from the perspective of the growth agenda facing many communities, but also in the management of urban change in those communities with a declining population. Use the link in the title or phone [0845 082 1171](tel:0845 082 1171)

[Planning in a Changing Climate: 2009 Planning Convention](#) – Wednesday 17th to Friday 19th June, London

The Convention is host to a stellar line up of plenary speakers; well-informed breakout sessions; contributions from leading political figures; an informative and stimulating exhibition; great social programme; and above all interaction, intervention and engagement. Use the link in the title or phone [0845 082 1171](tel:0845 082 1171)

[Websites](#)↑

[Future Communities](#)

The Young Foundation and the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) have launched this new website aimed at everyone involved in building the successful sustainable communities of the future.

[Publications](#)↑

[Understanding Builder to Builder Residential Land Transactions](#)

This report examines the factors that influence the behaviour of housebuilders in their decision to purchase, sell and/or resell plots of land.

[Working Together](#)

The Government has set out its vision for the future shape of public services.

Footnote: [The RTPI library](#) has an on-line catalogue and operates an enquiry service. The Manager can provide advice via e-mail library@rtpi.org.uk or telephone 020 7929 9452.

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