



RTPI

mediation of space · making of place

PIPA – the RTPI Politicians in Planning Network Bulletin 31st 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↑)

Local Democracy: [Stand up to the downturn](#); [Strong & Prosperous Communities](#); [In with the new](#); [Civic Awards](#);

Planning System: [Rural communities](#); [Countryside](#); [Chief Planner](#); [Transport](#); [Conservation](#); [Travellers](#); [Economic strategies](#);

[Eco challenge](#); [TV](#); **Sustainability:** [Without growth?](#); [More trees](#); [Economic impact](#); [Taskforce](#); [Village heart](#); [Cycle-friendly](#);

Research & Education: [PAS](#); [Climate](#); [Urban Knowledge](#); **Consultations:** [England](#); **Events;** **Websites;** **Publications**

PIPA News

MEMBER SURVEY 2009

I will shortly be urging you to give me feedback via the annual PIPA Member Survey, which will be available to complete quickly & easily on-line. In preparation for this you may wish to think about what the Network could do more of or differently that would help you and the communities which you serve to get the most from the many facets of planning that can be highlighted through the Network. If you are keen to offer an event or make more of an input that would be a bonus and I will ensure that there is space for offers to come forward!

PLANNING CONVENTION 2009

PIPA will be offering a debate on the Friday (19th June) of the Convention on the topic of 'Does recession mean "sellout"? – maintaining quality in a cold climate'. [Have you booked your place yet for the Convention?](#)

REMINDER: PIPA CONFERENCE 2009

Planning for the 2009 Conference is progressing – 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

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. The full-to-capacity Networks' event on Friday 27th March in Bristol Council House discussed this initiative and a note from the event will be available shortly. If you feel that a similar event in your part of the UK would be helpful (the relevant piece of legislation will vary across the UK), then please contact me pipa@rtpi.org.uk.

Andrew

[Local Democracy](#)↑

[Stand up to the downturn - a guide to supporting local communities through the downturn](#)

This report gathers ideas and practical steps designed to stimulate thinking and help guide action about how local government can support local families, businesses and communities to withstand the economic downturn.

[Strong and prosperous communities](#)

The final implementation plan for the Local Government White Paper also sets out details on the progress made by the Government in implementing key proposals.

[In with the new](#)

As the new unitary Councils prepare to take over the delivery of local services on 1st April, Councillors and officers reflect on their hopes for the new local authorities.

[Civic Awards](#)

Over 100 locations across the UK have won Civic Trust Awards.

[Planning System](#)[↑]

[Rural Communities](#)

The Government has made a response to the [Taylor Review](#) of issues facing rural communities with “proposals to help create strong and diverse rural communities which are able to tackle their own unique challenges at a local level”. [The RTPI](#) has welcomed the response whilst urging that “proposals are developed working with local communities, through the local planning process.”

[Countryside](#)

The Campaign to Protect Rural England (CPRE) celebrates 60 years since “the protection of our finest landscapes and the promotion of their public enjoyment [became] one of the greatest bi-partisan achievements in England’s modern history”. And 60 years after the original recommendation the South Downs has become [England's 10th national park](#).

[Chief Planner](#)

After six months in post as CLG Chief Planner, Steve Quartermain, who spoke at the PIPA Conference 2008, answers some key questions facing planning and planners, as posed by the Planning Portal.

[Transport](#)

£170 million of funding has been allocated to 29 transport projects that will support the development of new housing in England.

[First National Survey of Conservation Areas at Risk](#)

English Heritage is asking local people to participate and will send a pack to all those expressing an interest.

[Gypsies and Travellers: Simple solutions for living together](#)

This EHRC report shows that investment in adequate site provision can generate income for local authorities, improve community relations and provide safe and decent accommodation for Gypsy and Traveller communities.

[Developing effective economic strategies for eco-towns](#)

This TCPA Worksheet aims ultimately to offer a sustainable, competitive and prosperous future for the eco-town.

[Eco challenge](#)

Planning Portal reports that campaigners opposed to the Middle Quinton eco-town proposal near Stratford upon Avon have stepped up their legal challenge to the scheme.

[The Planners are Coming](#)

The second of three more episodes of this look inside local authority planning will be broadcast on Tuesday 31st March on BBC 1 at 10.35pm.

[Sustainability](#)[↑]

[Prosperity Without Growth?](#)

The Sustainable Development Commission has published this Report in which author Professor Tim Jackson questions ‘growth’ as the great defining principle of the economy.

[Spend more on trees and less on roads](#)

CABE and Natural England have called for a shift in emphasis on public spend, with more cash needed for green spaces and urban tree planting.

[Economic impact](#)

The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) and the Department of Energy & Climate Change (DECC) have published 'Making the right choices for our future: an economic framework for designing policies to reduce carbon emissions', providing guidelines on analysing the economic effects of climate change mitigation policies.

[Taskforce](#)

A new taskforce launched by the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) aims to help the Government and the third sector to tackle climate change and environmental issues.

[Village Heart](#)

The Big Lottery Fund is helping village life to weather the economic downturn with close to £19 million to revive village halls and centres at the heart of communities across England.

[Cycle-friendly](#)

LGiU Centre for Local Sustainability, after a major inquiry led by the LGiU, has said: “Councils should be given greater control over cycling routes to ensure more roads are made cycle friendly”.

[Research and Education](#)↑

[Planning Advisory Service](#)

PAS has developed two sets of training materials for Councillors involved in planning to help them navigate the challenges and make the most of the opportunities offered: Local Development Framework & 'Pick & Mix' modules.

[Tackling Climate Change](#)

Research by the Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research and the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment raises the prospect that G20 will put sustainable growth at risk if it fails to spend on measures to tackle climate change during economic crisis.

[European Urban Knowledge Network](#)

A special issue of EUKN explores the "Urban Underclass" in European cities.

[Consultations](#)↑

England

[Public consultation on the Secretary of State's Proposed Changes to the Draft Policy on Gypsy and Traveller Accommodation in the East of England & her Decisions on the Recommendations of the Examination in Public Panel](#)

Deadline for Submissions: Friday 22nd May

[Planning Act 2008: Consultation on the Pre-Application Consultation and Application Procedures for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects](#)

This Consultation seeks views on a suite of draft regulations and guidance that set out the procedures for pre-application consultation on nationally significant infrastructure projects, and information an application should contain.

Deadline for Submissions: Friday 19th June

[Events](#)↑

[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:01422845004)

[European symposium on small towns](#) - Wednesday 22nd to Friday 24th April, Austria

The 4th Small Town Symposium deals with relations between small towns and their hinterland and looks at town centres and the use of renewable energy. Use the link in the title or phone [0043 \(0\)7249 420 710](tel:004307249420710)

[Local Development Frameworks Conference](#) - Friday 24th April, London

This RTPI Conference will look at the rapid progress of LDFs and will review the progress to date, show how sound plans can be achieved and discuss the impact of continuing reforms in planning. Use the link in the title or phone [0845 082 1171](tel:08450821171)

[Historic Towns & Smarter Growth](#) – Wednesday 29th & Thursday 30th April, Cambridge

This Conference aims to inspire positive responses to the challenge on growth in historic towns in a climate of new financial realities. Use the link in the title or phone [0117 975 0459](tel:01179750459)

[RTPI's Annual Development Management Conference](#) – Wednesday 13th May, London

This Conference will provide a review of recent and proposed changes to legislation, policy and procedures affecting practice. Use the link in the title or phone [0845 082 1171](tel:08450821171)

[Glasgow 2014: Getting Ahead of the Games](#) – Thursday 14th & Friday 15th May, Glasgow

The two days will provide the opportunity for all of those people involved in developing the legacy from the Games to explore, debate and learn the lessons of experience elsewhere for Glasgow 2014. Use the link in the title or phone [0141 330 5048](tel:01413305048)

[Policy Making for Places – rural-proofing the work of Government](#) – Tuesday 19th May, London

This major Conference will bring together all those concerned with or responsible for the effective delivery of public policies and services to rural people, businesses and communities. Use the link in the title or phone [020 7811 5024](tel:02078115024)

[Sustaining Development in a Recession](#) – Wednesday 20th May, Edinburgh

This Holyrood Conference, held in conjunction with SURF, will examine how physical regeneration plans can continue to become constructive realities in a recession. Use the link in the title or phone [0131 272 2134](tel:01312722134)

[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:08450821171)

[Websites](#)↑

[Planning Portal](#)

The one-stop-shop for planning and building services online.

[Publications](#)↑

[Mixed Communities](#)

The CLG report encompasses in-depth work across 10 different estate and area based transformation programmes.

[Churches and Faith Buildings: Realising the Potential](#)

Guidance to help all faith groups find resources to make faith buildings more sustainable.

[Regenerating London: governance, sustainability and community](#)

Explores, using case studies, the impact of urban regeneration on the urban fabric of the capital, focusing on debates relating to sustainability, community led regeneration and social inclusion.

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