



RTPI

mediation of space · making of place

PIPA – the RTPI Politicians in Planning Network Bulletin 6th May 2009

Welcome

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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](#): [City Regions](#); [Northern Ireland](#); [Thames Gateway](#); [Community Assets](#);

[Planning System](#): [Prosperous Economies](#); [Growth in SE](#); [National Parks](#); [ePlanning Scotland](#); [Travel Plans](#); [Design Champion](#); [Sustainability](#): [Low Carbon Strategy](#); [Affordability](#); [Housing Market](#); [Ouseburn Valley](#);

[Research & Education](#): [SDRN](#); [Social Sustainability](#); [Consultations](#): [England](#); [Scotland](#); [Events](#); [Websites](#); [Publications](#)

PIPA News

MEMBER SURVEY 2009

Every Member should by now have received an email urging participation (a paper copy can be provided on request if you don't have on-line access). We are a little way off 100% response and yet it only takes a few minutes to complete – just 3 questions – so please, if you have not already done so, make the [click here](#).

REMINDER: WIND FARMS

PIPA Member Cllr David Milsted of North Dorset DC would be pleased to hear from other planning Councillors that have been involved in formulating local policies on the location of wind farms. It would also be useful to him to know whether these policies or draft policies have been tested against the provisions of PPS22 on Renewable Energy. His need is quite urgent – there is a local planning application to be determined – so do please [email him](#) with any useful information that you may have (and copy me in for information). [The British Wind Energy Association](#) has also been approached.

PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT GROUP ON SPATIAL PLANNING AND HEALTH

The Centre for Public Health Excellence (CPHE) is looking for both [Professional](#) and [Community](#) members to join the Group working to provide guidance for policy makers, planners, local authorities, & primary care trusts on how to improve health and reduce health inequalities through the process of spatial planning; including use of tools such as Strategic Environmental Assessment, Sustainability Appraisal, Environmental Impact Assessment and Health Impact Assessment. Follow the links above for further details on how to apply.

RTPI NETWORK OF THE MONTH: MAY

[Development Management Network](#)

The role of development management is changing – it is assuming great importance in its contribution to delivering development, as required in the new spatial planning agenda. The RTPI Network provides an environment in which those with an interest in the field can communicate, gain support and share information.

HAVE YOU BOOKED?: [Planning in a Changing Climate](#) – 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; and above all interaction, intervention and engagement.

PIPA will be offering a workshop on the Friday (19th June) of the Convention on the topic of 'Does recession mean 'sellout' – maintaining quality in a cold climate'. Cllr Clare Denman, Executive Member for Planning and Economic Development and a Regional Design Champion, Crawley BC and Cllr Alastair Moss, Chairman of the Planning and City Development Committee, Westminster City Council, have kindly agreed to lead the session.

To book your place at the Convention please use the link in the title or phone [0845 082 1171](tel:0845 082 1171)

Andrew

[Local Democracy](#) ↑

[City Regions](#)

The Centre for Cities has responded positively to the announcement within the Budget that Greater Manchester and Leeds are to be given 'London-style' city-region status, which will allow closer work across Council areas. These pilots will be overseen at Ministerial level.

[Northern Ireland](#)

The Northern Ireland Local Government Association (NILGA) has urged Ministers to urgently progress planning reform.

[Thames Gateway](#)

Planning Portal reports that the Sustainable Environment Foundation (SEF) has called for one body to replace the plethora of councils, agencies, Government departments and development bodies currently involved in delivering the Gateway project.

[Community Assets](#)

Minister Hazel Blears has announced a new single advice line - 0845 345 4564 - and other Government support to make it easier for people to take control of community assets, from community centres to theatres.

[Planning System](#) ↑

[Prosperous Economies](#)

Planning Minister Margaret Beckett has published the proposed Planning Policy Statement 4: Planning for Prosperous Economies. [The RTPI](#) noted that "it is valuable that the draft resolves - as far as possible - doubt emerging from litigation on the Competition Commission grocery retail investigation by making clear that it will not immediately include a competition test". [CPRE](#) warns that the draft policy could foster indiscriminate growth at the expense of the environment and countryside. See also [Consultations](#) below.

[Long-term plans for growth in the South East](#)

The Plan announced by Minister Sadiq Khan focuses growth in the South East's regional hubs, including five strategic development areas in an arc from South Hampshire through Oxford to Milton Keynes.

[National Parks](#)

Natural England today announced that it will re-start its work on identifying possible extensions to the Yorkshire Dales and Lake District National Parks.

[ePlanning Scotland](#)

This new resources provides access to planning information, allows applicants to submitted applications online and submit appeals.

[Delivering Travel Plans through the Planning System](#)

This good practice guidance aims to help those involved in creating and implementing travel plans.

[Design Champion](#)

A report on the first review of Scotland's design champion Architecture and Design Scotland (A+DS) concludes that there remains a clear role for the national body in promoting good quality design.

[Sustainability](#) ↑

[Vision for a Low Carbon Industrial Strategy](#)

The RTPI has made a response to this BERR consultation. It stresses that the creation of a low carbon economy ultimately requires a broader focus, beyond investment in new low carbon technologies, and towards new means of social, economic, and spatial organisation that reduce carbon emissions.

[Affordability](#)

A report from the National Housing & Planning Advisory Unit, 'Affordability - more than just a housing problem', outlines how the lack of housing affordability is a long-term issue and has far-reaching consequences for society.

[Housing Market](#)

The Homes & Communities Agency (HCA) is inviting expressions of interest from financial institutions interested in funding housing for private rent. It says that the Government is considering a range of options to encourage institutional investment in rental property, including guarantees to step in if too many homes are left un-let to tenants.

[Ouseburn Valley](#)

The HCA has heralded a new office development as a quadruple whammy: "a great example of public-private working – from a derelict site to a new state of the art office complex which is environmentally sustainable, creates jobs for local people and taps into the rich cultural heritage of the area".

[Research and Education](#)↑

[Sustainable Development Research Network](#)

The Sustainable Development Research Network (SDRN) aims to facilitate and strengthen the links between providers of research and policymakers to inform the delivery of the UK government's objectives for sustainable development. It is funded by both Defra and the Department for Transport, and is coordinated by the Policy Studies Institute in London. SDRN also posts jobs and training opportunities in the sector.

[Traditional and Emerging Prospects in Social Sustainability](#)

New research, based at the Oxford Institute for Sustainable Development (OISD) is seeking to understand better how to measure and integrate social sustainability within urban renewal projects across the EU. It focuses on a number of issues within an EU context, examining several urban renewal projects and related infrastructure covering commercial and residential development. For more information, visit the [research website](#).

[Consultations](#)↑

England

[Safer places: a counter-terrorism supplement](#)

This consultation document is intended to be a practical guide to designing counter-terrorism measures into new developments. **Deadline for Submissions: Friday 10th July**

[New Planning Policy Statement 4: Planning for Prosperous Economies](#)

This consultation seeks views on combining all national planning policy on economic development in urban and rural areas and town centres into one consolidated and streamlined Planning Policy Statement (PPS).

Deadline for Submissions: Tuesday 28th July

[Freedoms and flexibilities under the Comprehensive Area Assessment \(CAA\)](#)

The public is being invited to have their say on whether or not their Council should have more financial and statutory freedom to deliver the most pressing needs of their community. **Deadline for Submissions: Tuesday 28th July**

Scotland

[Second Consultation to inform Scotland's Climate Change Adaptation Framework](#)

Views are being sought on the proposals for a strategic centrally co-ordinated plan for adapting to climate change.

Deadline for Submissions: Monday 20th July

[Draft Housing \(Scotland\) Bill 2009](#)

The consultation paper outlines the Government's proposals for a Bill that would safeguard social housing for the future.

Deadline for Submissions: Friday 14th August

[Events](#)↑

[Housing Cycles, Financial Crises and the Supply of Housing - Friday 15th May, 14.00 – 17.00, Glasgow](#)

The Department of Urban Studies, University of Glasgow is hosting this seminar, chaired by Duncan MacLennan (University of St Andrews) and led by Kate Barker (Bank of England Monetary Policy Committee), Eric Levin and Gwilym Price (University of Glasgow). They will consider the responsiveness of housing supply changes over the cycle, the recovery time for construction and whether the credit crunch has fundamentally changed the housing supply debate. **Attendance is free but registration is required:** B.Johnstone@socsci.gla.ac.uk

[Eco Settlements & Sustainable Development – Friday 15th May, Falmouth](#)

This RTPi South West event will look at what is an 'eco settlement' and what factors will make it successful? Presentations from architects, urban designers and planners considering the various roles in the sustainable development process from creating an individual house to a whole town. Use the link in the title or phone [01823 250822](tel:01823 250822)

[Annual Sir Patrick Geddes Commemorative Lecture – Wednesday 20th May, Edinburgh](#)

RTPi in Scotland offers this talk on 'Patrick Geddes and the Scottish Generalist Tradition' given by Professor Murdo Macdonald, Professor of History of Scottish Art, University of Dundee. Use the link in the title or phone [0845 1209612](tel:0845 1209612)

[Wales Planning Conference – Tuesday 2nd June, Cardiff](#)

There has been a great deal of change recently for planning policy and delivery in Wales. The Conference will be focused on delivering the planning system. Use the link in the title or phone [029 2047 3923](tel:029 2047 3923)

[Great Places Great Cities Conference – Thursday 4th & Friday 5th June, Glasgow](#)

This Conference will have an international audience to discuss the role of public space and green networks in creating truly sustainable cities which have a reduced impact on the environment. Use the link in the title or phone [01786 465934](tel:01786 465934)

[Lifetime Homes, Lifetime Neighbourhoods: Housing for an Ageing Society](#) - Friday 26th June, London

An opportunity to learn from practical case studies on how to best provide housing care and support for older people and create homes and neighbourhoods that adapt as we age. Use the link in the title or phone [0870 400 1020](tel:08704001020)

[The National Association of Local Councils Annual Conference](#) – Friday 4th & Saturday 5th September, London

The Conference will show how local Councils can be at the heart of positive change through community involvement and wellbeing. Use the link in the title or phone [020 7637 1865](tel:02076371865)

[Websites](#)[↑]

[Sustainable Environment Foundation](#)

This is a charity to promote public awareness of and research into the role played by the built environment in climate change.

[Cabinet Office Homepage](#)

This website brings together information from units in the Cabinet Office Department.

[Publications](#)[↑]

[Citizenship Survey: April - December 2008, England](#)

This release provides headline findings from the first three quarters of the 2008-09 Citizenship Survey, covering April - December 2008.

[Local Planning Authority Green Belt Statistics: England 2008/09](#)

This release presents estimates of the area of Green Belt land in England by region and by local authority as at 31st March.

If at any time you wish to stop receiving the Bulletin just email me via pipa@rtpi.org.uk

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