

AESOP 2009 Liverpool

***“Why can’t the future be more
like the past”***

**Martin Willey
RTPI President 2009**



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Welcome to the UK and Liverpool

- **42 years in Planning & Bus Pass!**
- **RTPI – 23,000 members of which 8,000 under 35 yrs, 50/50 public/private, 16 Networks, 13 Regions & Nations, Board of 15, General Assembly of 65, 30 Planning Schools**
- **RTPI GA here to celebrate 100 years of civic design education at Liverpool University**
- **RTPI Associate Member of AESOP**



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AESOP agenda

- **Education, skills & research for professional spatial planners: management, stakeholder alignment, investment, delivery**
- **Economic Climate requires immediate action; speedy monitoring & review, “viability” & betterment, employment priority**
- **Social Climate requires “think global act local” and meaningful community engagement – a continual conversation**
- **Climate Change requires green design and sustainable behaviour (RTPI 7 commitments)**
- **Jobs??**



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UK Planning Careers

- **International**: UN, EU, OECD
- **Academia**: teaching, research, management
- **Government**: Communities and Local Government, Business, Environment, PINs, Transport, Education, Health, Regions (but not for long!)
- **Local Government**: Spatial Plans (RSSs & LDFs), Integrated Plans (IRSSs, Corporate, Communities, Sustainability, Economy/Transport/Housing/Health/Energy)
- **QUANGOs**: RDAs, Local Councils Assoc., Env. Agency, Natural England, HCA etc.
- **Private Sector** – Development, Investment, Business Property, Consultancy, Utilities, Communications/Media
- **Voluntary Sector**: RTPI Planning Aid, RSPB, FOEarth, Amnesty, Shelter etc.



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RTPI Planning Education/Skills

- **Partnership Boards**
- **Partners in accreditation – housing, surveying, architecture**
- **Multi-professional transferable skills – project management, leadership etc.**
- **CPD**
- **GPN**



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RTPI Planning Research

- **European Spatial Planning Observatory Network (ESPON): projects and links to practitioners through RTPI Networks**
- **Spatial Futures Laboratory with Royal Institution: resources to discover spatial futures and appropriate planning intervention**
- **RTPI research: partnering unis. (e.g. Foresight) and government depts; managing/brokering projects and disseminating results to practitioners; focus on economic benefits of planning – investment rationale**



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The status of public sector planning & planners

- **Planners across government – Climate Change, National Policy Statements and Spatial Plans (Scotland & Wales)**
- **Alternatives to regional structures – sustaining skills**
- **Enhancing Heads of Planning status in Local Authorities**
- **Consultancy solutions**



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RTPI Solutions

Theme/Award:

- **“Planning – delivering solutions”**
- **“Today’s and Tomorrow’s Leaders”**

Campaigns:

- **Ensuring practice by chartered members**
- **Increasing profile and influence**
- **Improving communications + services**

Offers:

- **Pro-active knowledge share/services/member engagement - PIWP, Networks, Policy Forums, CPD, Comms Team support**



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Conclusions

- **AESOP European co-operation imperative!**
- **RTPI enthusiastic supporter of knowledge share – the “learned society”**
- **Liverpool the home of academic innovation, “universal” culture and civic design**



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Have a great Conference!



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