



# RTPI

mediation of space · making of place

## PIPA – the RTPI Politicians in Planning Network Bulletin 3rd August 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](mailto: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](#): [In Northern Ireland](#); [Killian Pretty](#); [Non-domestic](#); [Town Centres](#); [Historic places](#); [World Heritage](#); [Costs](#);

[Local Democracy](#): [Geopsychology](#); [Housing](#): [Numbers](#); [Taskforce](#); [On track?](#); [Growth Fund](#); [Design](#); [Rural](#);

[Sustainability](#): [Low Carbon](#); [Consultations](#): [Europe](#); [England](#); & [Wales](#); [Scotland](#); [Wales](#); [Events](#); [Websites](#); [Publications](#)

### PIPA News

#### COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY

The Government has published draft proposals for the introduction of the Levy in England & Wales – see [Consultations](#) below. If you would find a Networks event on this topic useful before the closing of the consultation please let me know via [pipa@rtpi.org.uk](mailto:pipa@rtpi.org.uk)

#### PLANNING SUMMER SCHOOL 2009

PIPA will again be hosting the first evening Reception for delegates at the [Summer School for Elected Members](#). There will be two Summer Schools in 2009 in Exeter; each School offers an in-depth engagement with current planning issues across 4 days, one for elected members and the other for officers.

#### REMINDER: PIPA CONFERENCE 2009

Bookings are now being taken via [this link](#) for the 2009 Conference which is again, thanks to sponsorship from PAS, offered *free of charge*. The Conference will be in London on Saturday 31<sup>st</sup> October and a full programme addressing the issues related to 'Planning: delivering for the upturn' will be on offer. An invitation will be sent to every Local Authority in England but Councillors from across the UK are very welcome to attend.

#### NETWORKS EVENTS:

##### Section 106 Agreements - Time for Review?

Following on from the well-supported meetings in Bristol, London & Tunbridge Wells a further meeting has now been arranged in [Grantham on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September](#) (use the link for full details and to book). Thanks to PIPA Member Cllr Alan Parkin for helping to arrange this event.

##### Participation in Planning - How positive stakeholder engagement can help create better places

This is the [2009 Young Planners' Conference](#) and will take place on **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> & Saturday 3<sup>rd</sup> October** at The CastleGate, **NewcastleGateshead**. Don't miss out the special early bird offer of **£99 plus VAT** (until 4th September) or even cheaper for early bird students.

#### REMINDER: INTERESTED IN HERITAGE?

The [Heritage Interest Group](#), within the family of RTPI Networks, is looking to expand its activities. This is particularly pertinent against the background of new English and Welsh consultations on planning for the historic environment (see [Consultations](#) below). If you have an interest in planning for urban or rural heritage then we would be most grateful if you would complete a very brief survey, [click here](#), to help scope the benefits from and activities for the Group. Many thanks.

#### RTPI NETWORK OF THE MONTH - AUGUST

##### [ESPON European Network](#)

ESPON - the European Observation Network on Territorial Development and Cohesion - was launched in January 2008. It is a five-year programme for applied research into all aspects of European territorial development. It will further develop networks of transnational research groups and forge links with policy-makers active at all levels of territorial development. ESPON involves all of the 27 nation states of the European Union, plus Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.

Andrew

## [Planning System](#)↑

### [In Northern Ireland](#)

Eleven Planning Reform consultation events will be held at venues across Northern Ireland during the first 3 weeks of September. The events are part of the formal consultation process on the proposals contained in the '[Reform of the Planning System in Northern Ireland: Your chance to influence change](#)' consultation paper.

### [Killian Pretty Review: Progress Report](#)

This report has an overall summary and three substantive annexes.

### [Non-domestic](#)

To help businesses cut their costs during the challenging economic climate, over 25,000 non domestic planning proposals a year in England will no longer require a full planning application. See also [Consultations](#) below.

### [Town Centres](#)

The Commons Communities and Local Government Committee has warned the Government that its proposals to drop the 'needs test' and replace it with an impact assessment framework for retail development could pose a risk to town centres.

### [Enhance the historic environment](#)

Housing and Planning Minister John Healey has announced new guidelines for Councils and developers to make the most of the nations historic assets.

### [World Heritage Sites](#)

Circular 07/09 replaces and expands on parts of the guidance in PPG15. It gives advice on the level of protection and management needed for World Heritage Sites.

### [Cost awards](#)

This guide provides advice to appellants on how to apply for costs in planning appeals and other proceedings in England.

## [Local Democracy](#)↑

### ['Geopsychology'](#)

A Report from the New Local Government Network suggests that resident perceptions have widespread consequences for local government service level activities and underpins the community's sense of place.

## [Housing](#)↑

### [Numbers](#)

In their latest advice to Government, the National Housing and Planning Advice Unit (NHPAU) calls for up to 290,500 new homes to be built each year in England. [CPRE \(the Campaign to Protect Rural England\)](#) immediately responded that "at around three times present construction rates these figures are hopelessly unachievable".

### [Taskforce](#)

Leading experts Joseph Rowntree Foundation have formed a task force designed to find ways to break the cycle of boom and bust in the housing market. Their Housing Market Taskforce will publish its recommendations next year.

### [Back on track?](#)

Housing Minister John Healey has announced that 270 stalled development projects across the country have been shortlisted for a share of £925m which could help get building work on 22,400 homes back on track – but on tough terms. [HCA has noted](#) that the level of response is indicative of the house building industry's 'appetite and capacity to develop'.

### [Growth Fund slashed](#)

The fund to pay for the delivery of infrastructure in England's growth areas will be slashed by nearly £130 million in 2010-11, Communities and Local Government has announced.

### [Housing Design](#)

South Gate in Totnes won the overall Housing Design Award as an example of "intelligent and sensitive local authority leadership". South Gate was not originally popular with residents, as it consisted mainly of flats. In response, South Hams District Council worked with local community group "Design Our Space", and ran design competitions to find the scheme local residents would want.

### [Rural Housing](#)

According to the National Housing Federation, chronic housing shortages in rural areas mean residents could face a wait of up to 280 years for a new affordable home.

## [Sustainability](#)↑

### [Low Carbon Infrastructure](#)

A partnership between the Homes & Communities Agency (HCA), the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) and Communities and Local Government (CLG), will provide funding for schemes across the country to benefit from new and existing low carbon energy plants by creating the infrastructure needed to link them up.

## [Consultations](#)↑

### Europe

#### [A sustainable future for transport - Towards an integrated, technology-led and user-friendly system](#)

Ideas put forward in this EU Communication are intended to stimulate debate and encourage policy options to be identified that will lead to the formulation of concrete proposals for the next EU Transport White Paper, expected towards the end of 2010. **Deadline for responses: Monday 7<sup>th</sup> September**

### England

#### [Strengthening local democracy](#)

This consultation sets out a range of proposals to promote democratic renewal and strengthen the power and responsibility of local government. **Deadline for responses: Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> October**

#### [New planning policy on Development and coastal change](#)

This consultation invites views on a new draft policy setting out a planning framework for the continuing economic and social viability of coastal communities. The policy aims to strike the right balance between economic prosperity and reducing the consequences of coastal change on communities. **Deadline for responses: Monday 12<sup>th</sup> October**

#### [Hazardous Waste Strategy](#)

This consultation seeks views on a proposed Strategy for Hazardous Waste Management in England. The proposed strategy has been conceived to underpin the practical application of the revised Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC (WFD) and in particular the requirements that apply to hazardous waste. **Deadline for responses: Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> October**

#### [Improving Permitted Development](#)

This consultation seeks views on proposals to remove the need for a full planning application for some small-scale non-domestic development. **Deadline for responses: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**

#### [Streamlining Information Requirements for Planning Applications](#)

This consultation seeks views on proposals to make the requirements for information to accompany planning applications clearer, simpler and more proportionate. **Deadline for responses: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**

#### [Publicity for Planning Applications](#)

This consultation seeks views on whether changes should be made to planning legislation in relation to publicising planning applications. **Deadline for responses: Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October**

#### [Planning Policy Statement 15: Planning for the Historic Environment](#)

This consultation invites views on a new Planning Policy Statement (PPS) replacing Planning Policy Guidance 15: Planning and the Historic Environment (PPG15) and Planning Policy Guidance 16: Archaeology and Planning (PPG16).

**Deadline for responses: Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October**

#### [Draft Noise Action Plans](#)

This consultation seeks views on draft noise action plans for agglomerations, major roads (outside agglomerations) and major railways (outside agglomerations). **Deadline for responses: Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> November**

#### [Reforming the Local Authority Business Growth Incentives Scheme: Government response](#)

This sets out the Government's response to the consultation on reforming LABGI, with decisions on the form of the scheme.

### England & Wales

#### [Proposals for Fairer and Better Environmental Enforcement](#)

This joint Defra and Welsh Assembly Government consultation invites comments on Government proposals for more transparent, proportionate, consistent and effective environmental enforcement in England and Wales.

**Deadline for responses: Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October**

#### [Detailed Proposals and Draft Regulations for the Introduction of the Community Infrastructure Levy](#)

This consultation seeks views on the Government's detailed proposals for the introduction of the community infrastructure levy, which will be a new charge that local authorities in England and Wales will be empowered, but not required, to charge on most types of new development in their area. **Deadline for responses: Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October**

## Scotland

### [Implementation of the Removal of the Duty of Planning Authorities to Notify Historic Scotland on Certain Types of Listed Building Consent Application](#)

This consultation explains how Historic Scotland, Perth and Kinross, Glasgow City and the City of Edinburgh Councils operated a pilot which explored whether they could issue faster listed building consents to applicants without a reduction in the quality of decisions. **Deadline for responses: Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September**

### [UK Equality Bill - Specific Public Sector Duties to Promote Equality, and Socio-economic Duty](#)

Scottish Ministers have decided to undertake a consultation in Scotland on extending the public sector duty on socio-economic inequalities to cover public bodies in Scotland. **Deadline for responses: Monday 26<sup>th</sup> October**

## Wales

### [National Transport Plan](#)

The National Transport Plan sets out the detail of how the Wales Transport Strategy will be delivered over the next five years. **Deadline for responses: Monday 12<sup>th</sup> Oct**

### [TAN 6: Planning for Sustainable Rural Communities](#)

This draft revised guidance aims to provide practical guidance on the role of the planning system in supporting the delivery of sustainable rural communities in Wales. **Deadline for responses: Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October**

### [Conservation Principles, Policies and Guidance](#)

The objective of these is to inhibit decay and manage change, so that the significant values of individual historic places or historic landscapes are carried forward for future generations to enjoy. In Wales 'Conservation Principles' will inform Cadw's approach to the management of the historic environment as a whole. **Deadline for responses: Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October**

### [Changes to Planning Policy Wales to support the requirement for travel plans for specific types of development](#)

The Welsh Government is seeking views on proposed amendments to Planning Policy Wales to strengthen the requirement for Transport Assessments for certain types of new development. **Deadline for responses: Friday 30<sup>th</sup> October**

### [Events](#)↑ - also available on-line on the [PIPA website](#)

#### [Retail Development in historic towns: time for reflection?](#) Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> & Thursday 24 September, York

This event is from the Historic Towns' Forum and provides an opportunity to look at retail strategies in small / medium towns and cities. Use the link in the title or phone 0117 975 0459

#### [Understanding developers - who they are and how they make development happen](#) – Weds 30<sup>th</sup> September, London

This RTPI Conferences Masterclass will provide you with an overview of how the development industry operates, a detailed insight into the appraisal process and a greater understanding of the risk and profit elements. Use the link in the title or phone 0845 082 1171

### [Websites](#)↑

#### [Planning Advice](#)

The new planning advice web site from [Northern Ireland's Community Places](#) has been officially launched.

### [Living Places](#)

An alliance of public bodies who believe everyone should benefit from the arts, sport, public space, heritage, museums, libraries and archives, the built environment and the creative industries, regardless of where they live.

### [Publications](#)↑

#### [Housing and Growth in Suburbia](#)

This publication follows on from work that the Smith Institute has undertaken on housing and place making. Suburbia has grown enormously and changed dramatically over the past 20 years.

#### [Long term evaluation of LAAs and LSPs: Executive summary and survey report](#)

This report presents the findings from a survey sent to all English local strategic partnerships (LSPs) in the autumn of 2008.

If at any time you wish to stop receiving the Bulletin just email me via [pipa@rtpi.org.uk](mailto:pipa@rtpi.org.uk)

**Andrew Matheson MRTPI**

**Network Manager**

Royal Town Planning Institute

41 Botolph Lane London EC3R 8DL

Direct line: +44(0)1789 763006 Mobile: 07971 375362

Switchboard: +44(0)20 7929 9494

[www.rtpi.org.uk](http://www.rtpi.org.uk)

Registered Charity: England No 262865 Scotland No SC037841