



RTPI

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PIPA – the RTPI Politicians in Planning Network Bulletin 20th October 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↑)

Planning System: [Heritage Guidance](#); [Battersea Power](#); [Kinder Scout](#); [Transformational?](#); **Local Democracy:** [Local markets](#); [New Deal Programmes](#); **Housing:** [Rural NI](#); [Kickstart2](#); [Dysfunctional](#); [Tory approach?](#); **Sustainability:** [Eco-quarter](#); [Flood resilience](#); [Valuing Nature](#); [In Scotland](#); [Rural Regeneration](#); **Consultations:** [England](#); **Events;** **Websites;** **Publications**

PIPA News

PIPA CONFERENCE 2009 - PLANNING: DELIVERING FOR THE UPTURN – SATURDAY 31ST OCTOBER, LONDON

The Conference is now less than two weeks away and an updated programme is available via the front page of the [PIPA website](#). An invitation has been sent to every Local Authority in England and as I write we are virtually at capacity for the event – but I would hate to turn away a PIPA Member if there is even just one spare space. Please phone [01789 763006](tel:01789763006).

RTPI GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Our thanks to PIPA Member Cllr Peter Wharf from Purbeck Council who gave a 'view from the local Planning Committee' to the RTPI's General Assembly last week. Assembly Members also quizzed Conservative and Liberal Democrat front-bench spokespersons on their latest thinking on policies and proposals for the future of the planning system and the profession (a Labour spokesperson had also been invited). And more than 170 people packed out an [RTPI organised fringe event](#) 'localism, democracy and delivery - a new agenda for planning?' at the recent Conservative Party Conference.

PIPA EVENTS:

[Urban Characterisation Studies](#) – Friday 30th October, London (also features in the PIPA Conference programme)

Gill Thompson and Eline Hansen, who co-authored a pioneering Study in Brighton, will explain the background to the Study, its approach, the lessons learnt and its potential for application elsewhere. Use the link in the title or phone [01789 763006](tel:01789763006)

NETWORKS EVENTS:

[Northmoor – Urban Surgery to create a Sustainable Community](#) – Friday 6th November, Manchester

This RTPI Regeneration Network event will be held at the Northmoor Community Centre and will feature a walking tour of the site. It aims to give participants an insight into the approaches taken in the Housing Market Renewal Area to create a sustainable community. Use the link in the title or phone Kate Dailey [0207 929 9494](tel:02079299494)

[Rising from the Rubble - Housing Beyond the Recession](#) - Friday 6th November, London

This Conference is the seventh annual event bringing together people working together for better housing in London: CIH, RTPI, ROOMatRTPI, RIBA, RICS and CIOB. The event will include a Panel session with representatives from the three main political parties. You can book with a credit or debit card by phoning the booking agent (RICS) on [0207 695 1600](tel:02076951600) quoting [event 8218](#)

WORLD TOWN PLANNING DAY – 8TH NOVEMBER

[Online Conference on Resilience in a Changing Climate](#)

RTPI is one of eight worldwide partners in this special event around World Town Planning Day. It will run on the internet from 12th-14th November to make it convenient across many time zones and has its own [website](#). There you can find the call for contributions on **Why your town or city – or the planning system you work in – will be resilient to climate change**. There will also be opening and closing plenaries online. All is explained on the website.

PLANNING SUMMER SCHOOL 2010

The School for Elected Members will be held in York in 2010. There is no harm in planning and booking early for this valuable annual gathering: Friday 3rd to Tuesday 7th September 2010.

Andrew

[Planning System](#) ↑

[Heritage Guidance](#)

The Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) and English Heritage have launched their first joint 'How to' Guide outlining a new development-led approach to masterplanning, which advocates assessing the historic character of a site right at the earliest stages of redevelopment.

[Battersea Power](#)

Building reports that after two years of detailed discussions a planning application for the Viñoly-designed redevelopment of Battersea Power Station has been submitted to Wandsworth Council.

[Kinder Scout](#)

Kinder Scout has been officially declared a National Nature Reserve (NNR) by Natural England.

[Transformational change?](#)

This report synthesises the evidence and analysis from a variety of reports published as part of the evaluation of the New Deal for Communities Programme on the extent of change that has occurred in the 39 deprived neighbourhoods the programme covers.

[Local Democracy](#) ↑

[Local Markets](#)

To ensure that the traditional market survives, the Government is championing local support for street, covered and farmers' markets, in recognition of their significant economic and social benefits.

[Improving outcomes? Engaging local communities in the NDC programme](#)

This study explores the nature and impact of community engagement activities in six New Deal for Communities Partnerships.

[Housing](#) ↑

[Rural Housing in Northern Ireland](#)

Environment Minister Edwin Poots has released the [Report by an Independent Working Group](#) which will help inform planning policy for rural areas in NI. In its conclusion, the report highlights the need for the Government departments of the DoE, DARD and DRD to work closely together to integrate a policy which will be to the benefit of the wider rural community and rural dwellers, and not just the farming community.

[Kickstart 2](#)

Another £51m has been released by the Homes and Communities Agency (HCA) in the second wave of schemes to be unlocked through round one of the Kickstart Programme.

['Dysfunctional'](#)

Networks Member the Building & Social Housing Foundation (BSHF) has launched a new report: ['The Future of Housing: Rethinking the UK housing system for the twenty-century'](#). This summarises the discussions of a recent consultation at St George's House, Windsor Castle which brought together experienced practitioners and academics from different housing-related disciplines as well as those with experience from Europe and North America. A companion publication: ['Perspectives on the Future of Housing'](#) has also been released. This is a collection of new and emerging ideas about the UK housing system by a wide range of academics and practitioners who contributed towards the Consultation.

[Tory approach?](#)

The Chair of the [Home Builders Federation](#) (HBF) has warned that the proposed Conservatives switch towards localism was a 'high risk strategy' at the end of the worst recession in living memory. [The Chartered Institute of Housing](#) has also commented: "Given the emphasis on new supply, it will be the details of the Conservative approach to localism and house building in local communities which will be of particular interest to housing professionals". In [the Guardian Dave Hill's Blog](#) asks whether the Conservative new London Plan provision for affordable homes is convincing.

[Sustainability](#) ↑

[Thames Gateway eco-quarter](#)

New technologies and initiatives for homes and businesses in the Thames Gateway to tackle climate change will be tried out in the country's proposed first eco-quarter. See also [Consultations](#) below.

[Flood Resilience](#)

Planning Portal reports that planners, architects and civil engineers have called for a more joined-up approach to tackling urban flood risk and argued that flood resilience will have to become an important feature of urban design.

[No Charge? Valuing the Natural Environment](#)

Natural England has published a major report showing that investment in the natural environment is critical to long term economic prosperity.

[Rural Affairs, Environment and Climate Change - Taking Forward our National Conversation](#)

This Scottish Government paper is part of the National Conversation series of papers, considering issues for rural affairs, the environment and climate change.

[Rural Regeneration](#)

New Start reports that a new organisation has been formed to continue the work of Ruralnet, the rural regeneration charity which ceased trading earlier this year.

[Consultations](#) ↑

England

[Thames Gateway Eco-quarter](#)

This consultation seeks views on a process for Thames Gateway local authorities to bid for funding to create an eco-quarter in the Thames Gateway that merits exemplar sustainability status. **Deadline for submissions: Tuesday 8th December**

[Three London Mayoral Strategies](#)

Three Strategies are out for consultation: the London Plan, the Transport Strategy and the Economic Development Strategy. **Deadline for submissions: Tuesday 12th January 2010**

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

[Gypsies and Travellers: Simple solutions for living together](#) – Monday 2nd November, London

A recent study from the Equality and Human Rights Commission has reviewed the situation on the ground in the light of the government target to significantly increase the number of authorised sites in appropriate locations in England by 2011. This LGiU seminar will provide a constructive environment in which to explore these issues, exchange practice and find solutions that meet all community needs. Use the link in the title or phone Caitlin McMullin on [020 7554 2843](tel:02075542843)

[The 21st Century Councillor Local Leadership Conference](#) – Thursday 5th November, Nottingham

This IDEa Conference considers the question 'What is the future role of the ward councillor as a leader of the local community?' and more. Use the link in the title or phone Rachel Stevens [020 7296 6630](tel:02072966630)

[Local government reorganisation community engagement, empowerment and neighbourhood working workshop](#) – Wednesday 11th November, London

This event is for new unitary councils to look at their developing approaches to community engagement, with reference to the IDEa benchmark for an ideal empowering authority, and to share ideas and good practice. Use the link in the title or phone Keisha Walker [020 7296 6170](tel:02072966170)

[Using planning to make a difference to local communities](#) – Tuesday 17th November, London

At this LGA Conference delegates will hear from Councils who are using plans and planning processes to ensure they are well placed to attract investment and facilitate development and regeneration once the market recovers. Use the link in the title or phone [020 7664 3131](tel:02076643131)

[NALC Larger Councils' Conference and Exhibition](#) - Wednesday 2nd December, London

This year's theme for the National Association of Local Councils' event is community empowerment and localism. Use the link in the title or phone [020 7637 1865](tel:02076371865)

[What Future for Social and Affordable Housing?](#) – Friday 4th December – London

The day encourages brief, focussed presentations followed by engaged discussion by all attending to make a contribution to taking forward policy and practice on the issues. Use the link in the title or phone [01422 845 004](tel:01422845004)

[London 2012 - Delivering a Legacy for the Whole Country](#) – Thursday 10th December, London

Delegates at this Westminster Briefing will have the opportunity to determine the most effective way of ensuring that a lasting change in sport, health, regeneration and the UK's profile is delivered. Use the link in the title or phone [020 7096 2948](tel:02070962948)

[Websites](#) ↑

[In Scotland](#)

The Improvement Service and its partners have developed local leadership and Council Member development programmes. These explore issues such as scrutiny, corporate governance, decision making and public engagement, and how these developments impact on the roles of elected members.

[Act on Copenhagen](#)

This page is the official UK government website that presents the position on climate change negotiations in Copenhagen in December 2009.

[Publications](#) ↑

[Lessons for policy-makers from eight research and community development projects in Bradford](#)

This JRF study suggests the idea of a 'narrative in common' – developed by local people and connecting them across different neighbourhoods and backgrounds – as a more natural and progressive idea of 'cohesion' than that promoted through current national policy.

[Breakthrough cities - how cities can mobilise creativity and knowledge to tackle compelling social challenges](#)

This report, from the British Council, serves as a resource for anyone working in the field of city policy – whether policy makers, consultants, public employees, workers in the arts or education sectors, NGOs, or simply private individuals committed to improving city lives.

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

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