



# RTPI

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## PIPA – the RTPI Politicians in Planning Network Bulletin 6<sup>th</sup> November 2009

### Welcome, particularly to the new Members joining from the 2009 Conference

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](#): [Heritage](#); [Design Review](#); [Climate Priority](#); [Reform in NI](#); [CIL](#); [Applications](#); [Local Democracy](#): [Capital](#); [Byelaws](#); [Social Capital](#); [Housing](#): [Free Land?](#); [New Ways](#); [Kickstart1](#); [Market Renewal](#); [Faith?](#); [Sustainability](#): [Core Cities](#); [Natural Development](#); [Resilience Thinking](#); [Consultations](#): [Northern Ireland](#); [Events](#); [Publications](#)

### PIPA News

#### PIPA CONFERENCE 2009 - PLANNING: DELIVERING FOR THE UPTURN

**The Conference last Saturday was a great success and many thanks to all Members that supported it.**

PIPA Member Tim Wotherspoon of South Cambridgeshire Council has kindly copied to us the Report that he sent to his Chief Officer following attendance at the Conference – the Report gives a good account for those that did not manage to attend and may spark some comments from those that did and who valued different aspects. His report can be seen via the [front page of the PIPA website](#). Please send any further comments to me via [pipa@rtpi.org.uk](mailto:pipa@rtpi.org.uk)

The Presentations from the Conference are now available to view in the 'Resources' section of the PIPA website - *but please be patient with the individual links as most Presentations are large files that will not download instantly.*

#### NATIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS

The Conference Presentation from Jonathan Bore, the Infrastructure Planning Commission's (IPC) Director Case Management will be of interest to those wondering how the new IPC will take up its tasks. Similarly, with the release of the first raft of National Policy Statements (NPSs) expected over the coming weeks, the [Newsletter produced by Bircham Dyson Bell](#) lawyers may provide a helpful summary. See the [RTPI Policy pages](#) for an RTPI view of the Commission.

#### CONSULTATION ON REGIONAL STRATEGIES AND NEW LEADERS' BOARDS

Following the Networks' consultation event on this topic, the RTPI has submitted its response, which can be [read here](#). The RTPI's view is that the Policy Statement falls short of expectations raised by the Review of Sub-National Economic Development and Regeneration that new arrangements would provide for the effective integration of spatial planning and investment strategies. The Commission for Rural Communities has also published [its response](#).

#### NETWORKS EVENTS:

##### [Is this what a sustainable community looks like?](#) – Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November, Cheltenham

This Rural Planning Network event in conjunction with RTPI West Midlands will review issues and possibilities confronting small market towns like Winchcombe; it will include viewing its sustainability (or otherwise) at first hand.

##### [Section 106 Agreements – Time for Review?](#) – Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> November, Leeds

The RTPI Networks, RTPI Yorkshire Region and Leeds Met University are hosting a free event to discuss different views and approaches, and to consider the ways forward with S106 Agreements and to explore best practice in recessionary times.

##### [Planning for Housing Needs](#) - Friday 4<sup>th</sup> December, Edinburgh

The RTPI-CIH Planning for Housing Network will be formally launched in Scotland at this major joint Conference.

#### THE LEE KUAN YEW WORLD CITY PRIZE

This is a [biennial international award](#) to recognise individuals and organisations that have made outstanding contributions to the creation of vibrant, liveable and sustainable urban communities around the world. The closing date for nominations has been extended to Monday 30<sup>th</sup> November.

Andrew

## [Planning System](#)↑

### [Heritage](#)

The Royal Town Planning Institute and the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC) in a joint submission have strongly criticised the new English guidelines on heritage 'Planning Policy Statement 15: Planning for the Historic Environment', saying they present a serious risk to the nation's historic buildings and places. [An article in the Sunday Telegraph](#) picked up on issues arising from the submission as well as other issues about the IPC.

### [Design Review](#)

The number of design review panels has more than doubled in the last five years, so that now almost every local authority has access to high quality independent design advice. Over 80 panels are up and running across England. CABE has launched, 'Design review: principles and practice' to promote consistently high standards for all panels.

### [Climate Priority](#)

A new campaign has been launched in Parliament to persuade the Government to put climate change at the heart of the English planning system. The RTPI has already made its [7 Climate Change Commitments](#).

### [Reform in NI](#)

The RTPI response to the recently closed Consultation can be viewed [via this link](#). Environment Minister, Edwin Poots, has said: "I want to make it clear that I am committed to successfully delivering local government reform in May 2011". The [Independent Report from the Planning Reform Consultation Events](#) has also now been published.

### [Community Infrastructure Levy \(CIL\)](#)

The RTPI has responded to the Government consultation on CIL arrangements and commented that 'CIL can only ever be part of the infrastructure solution'.

### [Planning Applications](#)

Planning Portal reports that the number of planning applications received by English 'district level' planning authorities during the last financial year fell by 22 per cent compared to the previous year.

## [Local Democracy](#)↑

### [Capital Contingencies](#)

In this new report, the New Local Government Network sets out how local Councils could raise alternative forms of infrastructure investment in a scenario where the Treasury begins to clamp down on orthodox capital expenditure.

### [Byelaws](#)

Communities Secretary John Denham is to change the rules that require Councils to get Whitehall permission if they want to create local byelaws or revoke ones not needed.

### [Social Capital](#)

The Guardian reports that in Suffolk the Conservative-run County Council has just appointed a Cabinet Member for Social Capital. The idea is that community self-help should replace some elements of what is now done by the local Council.

## [Housing](#)↑

### ['Free' Land](#)

The Guardian reports that Lloyds Bank is tentatively discussing handing over major land holdings to a select group of Britain's leading housebuilders to enable thousands of new homes to be built in a series of profit-sharing joint ventures.

### [New Ways](#)

Writing in the Municipal Journal, Minister for Housing & Planning John Healey says: "there is no going back to those pre-recession days, and those of us involved in house-building, from Councils to construction companies, need to find new ways of working to build the homes our communities need".

### [Kickstart1](#)

The Homes and Communities Agency has approved, from the shortlist of 270 stalled housing schemes, a total of 91 schemes with another 63 approved subject to conditions being met or requiring further consideration.

### [Key messages and evidence on the housing market renewal pathfinder programme 2003-2009](#)

This summary report provides an overview of the key recent evidence relating to the Housing Market Renewal Pathfinder programme.

### [Act of faith?](#)

The Federation of Master Builders has warned that Conservative Party housing proposals to increase the number of new homes while simultaneously giving local people more say as to where and if these homes are to be built are an act of faith.

## [Sustainability](#)↑

### [Core Cities](#)

The Core Cities Group of Birmingham, Bristol, Leeds, Liverpool, Manchester, Newcastle, Nottingham and Sheffield have signed up to the programme run by the Clinton Climate Initiative (CCI) which will see the councils work together and with the Greater London Authority to cut greenhouse gas emissions over the next two years.

### [A Natural Development](#)

A better quality of green spaces could be created following the announcement of a partnership between Natural England and developers.

### [Resilience Thinking](#)

Rob Hopkins examines why 'resilience thinking' is a crucial missing piece of the climate-change jigsaw and why resilience is a more useful concept than sustainability.

## [Consultations](#)↑

### [Northern Ireland](#)

#### [Proposed Permitted Development Rights for Microgeneration Development](#)

**Deadline for responses: on or before Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2010**

#### [Proposed Changes To Householder Permitted Development Rights](#)

**Deadline for responses: on or before Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2010**

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

### [Using planning to make a difference to local communities](#) – Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> 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)

### [Economic Development and Regeneration: Realising Local Opportunities](#) - Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> November, Leeds

This limited capacity Seminar will address the key measures vital to ensuring neighbourhoods, local authorities and regions can encourage economic growth. Use the link in the title or phone [020 7960 7719](tel:02079607719)

### [NALC Larger Councils' Conference and Exhibition](#) - Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> 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)

### [London 2012 - Delivering a Legacy for the Whole Country](#) – Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> 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)

## [Publications](#)↑

### [Land Use Change Statistics \(England\) 2008 - provisional estimates \(October 2009\)](#)

Statistics in this release present provisional figures on Land Use Change in England, including dwellings built on previously-developed ('brownfield') land.

### [Housing and Planning Key Facts - November 2009](#)

This quick reference leaflet is published quarterly and contains a snapshot of the main housing and planning data.

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

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