



SHAPING THE FUTURE

A Summary of The Royal Town Planning Institute's Manifesto for Planning

Now, more than ever before, it is the planning system that guides how and where we live, work and relax. Planning shapes our villages, towns, cities and countryside and is vital to the nation's economic well-being. Elected representatives and planners, working together, seek to strike the right balance between the rights of individuals and the needs of the wider community. This can sometimes prove contentious but the system we have manages this effectively for the benefit of everyone.

Our town and country planning system is respected around the world for the way in which it has allowed our towns and cities to grow while protecting what makes the United Kingdom special. The challenge for the next government will be to build on the strong foundations of the existing system and the skills and experience of the planning profession and the development industry, as well as to involve local people in a meaningful way to shape the right decisions for all our futures.

Our Manifesto

Our full manifesto summarises the RTPI's position on the leading issues facing planning and can be read at <http://www.rtpi.org.uk/election>.

It sets out our vision for the future of planning with special relevance to planning in England because this is a matter for the UK Parliament.

It shows how a government committed to promoting economic recovery and wealth creation and addressing climate change can enable communities to help shape successful and enjoyable places to live and work through spatial planning.

Our vision for planning

The RTPI stands for planning that:

- identifies the needs and aspirations of communities at all levels from local to global;
- tackles the challenges of planning to live with climate change;
- determines the scale and type of development to meet community needs and aspirations in a way that is sustainable, equitable and balances competing demands;
- manages the delivery of development from inception to completion;
- manages the integration of new development into existing communities;
- evaluates the success and impact of delivering development and learns from experience.

In order to achieve this, we support a planning system that is:

SPATIAL ~ recognising the particular characteristics of places, the ways they are used and the relationships between them;

SUSTAINABLE ~ balancing short-term needs with longer term social, economic and environmental objectives including the need to be resilient, to reduce impacts on climate change and to adapt to its consequences;

INTEGRATIVE ~ recognising, accounting for and coordinating the programmes of different stakeholders and service providers in meeting communities' needs and providing joined up infrastructure;

INCLUSIVE ~ recognising and valuing the wide range of people involved in and affected by planning and development;

VALUE-DRIVEN ~ identifying, understanding and mediating conflicting sets of values and delivering more for less;

ACTION-ORIENTATED ~ focusing on delivering practical and positive outcomes rather than on the system or process itself.





Summary of our 14 point campaign:

Goals for planning

1. Standing up for planning
2. Making the system work better
3. Going beyond simply “sustainable development”
4. Empowering our communities
5. Providing better planning skills and resources

Planning ahead

6. Supporting national spatial planning frameworks
7. Delivering infrastructure
8. Strategic planning for strategic issues
9. Producing local plans for local issues

Making the right decisions

10. Moving from development control to development management
11. Retaining independent examination of planning decisions
12. Securing spatial assessment of policies

Taking a broad view

13. Acting globally
14. Planning for the long term



The RTPI will:

- *Campaign* for governments at all levels to recognise that planning is the essential mechanism through which their objectives can be delivered on the ground.
- *Back* local councils in making local plans simple and realistic.
- *Promote* the need for national spatial planning for each nation within the UK.
- *Support* the principle of preparing National Policy Statements for key elements of national infrastructure and argue for a fully spatial approach within the context of a national spatial planning framework.
- *Promote* the need to support localism with strategic planning at the international, national and sub-national levels to ensure the needs of wider than local community interest are properly addressed.
- *Support* the principle of an independent, impartial and expert body to resolve disputes whether on planning proposals or development plans.
- *Argue* for significant decisions on the management of public services such as schools and hospitals being assessed for their potential spatial implications, supported by mechanisms such as health and equality impact assessments.
- *Continue* to work locally and on the European and global stage with its partners around the world in order to address issues such as climate change, global urbanisation and inequality.
- *Continue* to promote and deliver on its seven commitments for **Planning to Live with Climate Change**.
- *Work* with government and Planning Aid England to lead moves to develop a new relationship between communities, elected representatives and planning practitioners built on trust, mutual acknowledgement of skills and knowledge and a rigorously professional approach.
- *Support* the principles of tariff systems or the Community Infrastructure Levy in conjunction with site specific planning agreements.
- *Promote* a process that moves on from simply assessing development proposals to a more proactive approach that begins with a place-making vision, develops a plan to realise it, supports those proposals that help realise the plan from inception to delivery, and is followed through by effective enforcement.
- *Drive* forward the raising of skills and standards by scrutinising accredited planning schools, monitoring members' Continuing Professional Development, encouraging best practice and providing opportunities for lifelong learning, ensuring that Chartered Town Planners have the necessary skills and expertise to meet these challenges.

Our full manifesto can be found at: <http://www.rtpi.org.uk/election>

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RTPI

mediation of space · making of place

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