



**RTPI**

mediation of space · making of place

# Take your career to the next level

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**Become a member of the  
Royal Town Planning Institute**

## RTPI Membership

The Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) is Europe's largest professional body for planners. For over 100 years, Chartered membership of the RTPI has been the hallmark of professional expertise and integrity. With over 23,000 members in 80 countries around the world in the public, private, charitable and education sectors, our mission is to advance the science and art of planning.



## Why join?

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When you join us you become part of the largest and most prestigious professional institute for planners in Europe. We lead the way in promoting planning; developing and shaping policy, practice and research; and setting standards for professional development and education.

The RTPI provides a membership class to suit and support you at every stage of your career. Our Chartered membership class is the most highly-valued professional status for planners. It demonstrates to clients, peers, the public and employers around the world that you work to the highest professional and ethical standards.

## Key membership benefits

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- Our award winning monthly publication [The Planner](#) and its twice weekly online news digest
- The RTPI's monthly e-bulletin and regional bulletins
- Expert help in working towards gaining Chartered membership
- RTPI jobs board
- Access to our specialist interest networks
- The opportunity to participate in RTPI activities to promote the role of planners to key stakeholders
- The latest planning policy and research reports
- Discounts to excellent Continuing Professional Development (CPD) briefings, workshops, training and a wide range of networking events
- Offers and discounts to a range of services and products
- Discounted rates for the major planning event of the year – the Planning Convention
- Access to career advice and guidance
- The opportunity to use and grow your skills as a volunteer

# Membership classes

## Student

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If you are a student on a full-time, part-time or distance learning course, Student membership is for you.

Becoming a Student Member of the RTPI gives you access to a wealth of information and knowledge on planning policy and practice. It also gives you the opportunity to join our networks, including the Young Planners' Network, and importantly, access to graduate job information on the RTPI jobs board, as well as career advice and guidance.

Student membership is free for students on RTPI accredited courses. To find out if your planning qualification is accredited by the RTPI, visit: [www.rtpi.org.uk/accredited-qualifications](http://www.rtpi.org.uk/accredited-qualifications). Student membership is also free for apprentices undertaking the RTPI's Town Planning Technical Support Apprenticeship. See more at: [www.rtpi.org.uk/apprenticeships](http://www.rtpi.org.uk/apprenticeships).



*Being a Student Member of the RTPI provides access to a network of colleagues and all sorts of resources and information, including the monthly digital magazine (The Planner), which helps to stay on top of current issues in planning policy and practice. Thanks to the careers information and the smooth transition to Licentiate membership, I have felt supported and confident in beginning my career as a planner."*

Kate Hogarth, University of Cape Town,  
Master of City and Regional Planning

## Licentiate

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If you have graduated with a fully RTPI accredited degree, you can apply for Licentiate membership. This bridges the gap between Student and Chartered membership and is the first step to becoming a Chartered Member through the Licentiate Assessment of Professional Competence (L-APC).

You must spend one to two years in this class, depending on your previous planning work experience.

Your time as a Licentiate is structured, supported and mentored. We support you on your Licentiate journey to Chartered membership, providing expert help, resources and training at this important stage in your career.



*Being a Licentiate of the RTPI has allowed me to have access to a greater range of RTPI resources in order to broaden the areas of planning which I currently have an understanding of and therefore progress my career. The RTPI has been continuously supportive throughout the process and the recent formation of the Surrey Young Planners group has allowed me to further engage in CPD events. Having a mentor at Nexus Planning has been a huge success in progressing with my APC."*

Zoe Knott, Planning Consultant, Nexus Planning

## Associate

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If you are a professional working in a related discipline, or a planner working towards Chartered membership, you can apply for Associate membership. A diverse range of professionals are engaged in spatial planning and can join the RTPI as an Associate.

Becoming an Associate of the RTPI gives you a partial professional qualification; it demonstrates that you have achieved a certain level of knowledge, understanding and experience in your chosen spatial planning field. Associate membership also provides a pathway to Chartered membership through the Associate Assessment of Professional Competence (A-APC).



*Having obtained my planning qualifications in Canada, Associate membership provided me with the opportunity to quickly immerse myself in UK planning practice as well as develop networks within the profession. As an academic, it opened the door to a range of interdisciplinary spatial planning teaching and research."*

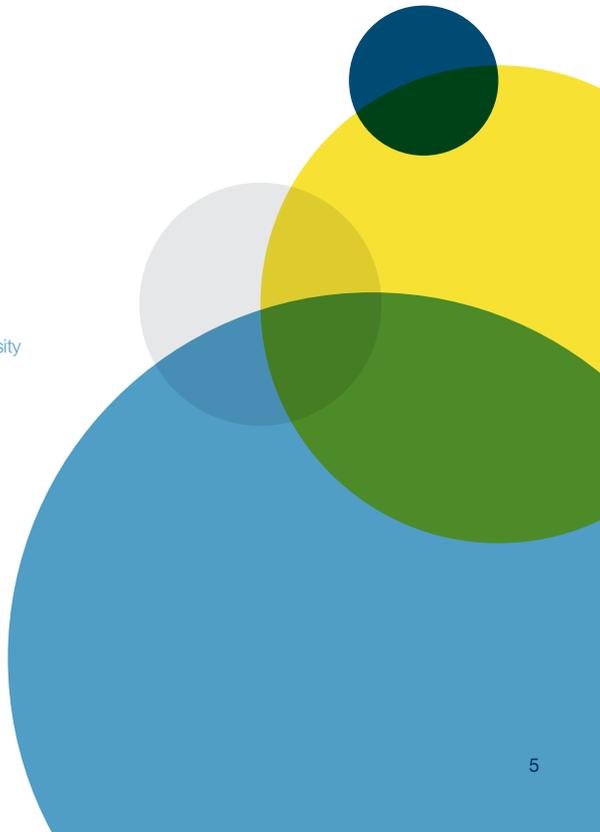
Dr Brian Webb, Lecturer in Spatial Planning, Cardiff University

## Legal Associate

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If you are a qualified legal practitioner who specialises in planning law, this is the class for you.

Being a Legal Associate is a way to show your clients and other professionals that you have expertise and experience in planning law.



# Membership classes

continued

## Chartered Member

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If you can demonstrate skills, knowledge and competence in spatial planning through your experience, you can become a Chartered Member. Chartered membership is the hallmark of professional expertise and integrity.

Employers recognise the high quality of skills and experience that are held by Chartered Town Planners. They know that they can rely upon the designation as a sign of professionalism.

The designation MRTPI after your name is an achievement that is respected around the world.

As a Chartered Town Planner you demonstrate to employers and colleagues that you maintain your professional development and adhere to a code of conduct specifying high standards of professional ethics.

There are three routes to Chartered membership, to find your route see page 7.



*I find in a competitive jobs market that it is a lot easier for candidates to find a role as a Chartered Member of the Royal Town Planning Institute. My clients know that this means that my candidate is highly qualified and keeps up to date with planning developments."*

Kate Peers-McQueen, Principal  
Consultant, Oyster Partnership

## Fellow

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If you are a Chartered Town Planner who has made a major personal contribution to the profession to further the science and art of planning for the benefit of the public, you can apply to become a Fellow, FRTPI. Being recognised by your peers as a Fellow of your profession is one of the highest professional attainments.

## Retired

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If you have reached the stage in your career when you are no longer practising planning but would like to keep in touch with your Institute and remain involved, then Retired membership is for you. Any Chartered Member, Legal Associate or Associate can transfer to Retired membership.

## Affiliate

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If you are waiting to gather enough experience for one of our other membership classes, or have an interest in planning and want to be kept up to date on planning issues, you can become an Affiliate. As an Affiliate, you do not require any professional planning qualification, experience or educational attainment.

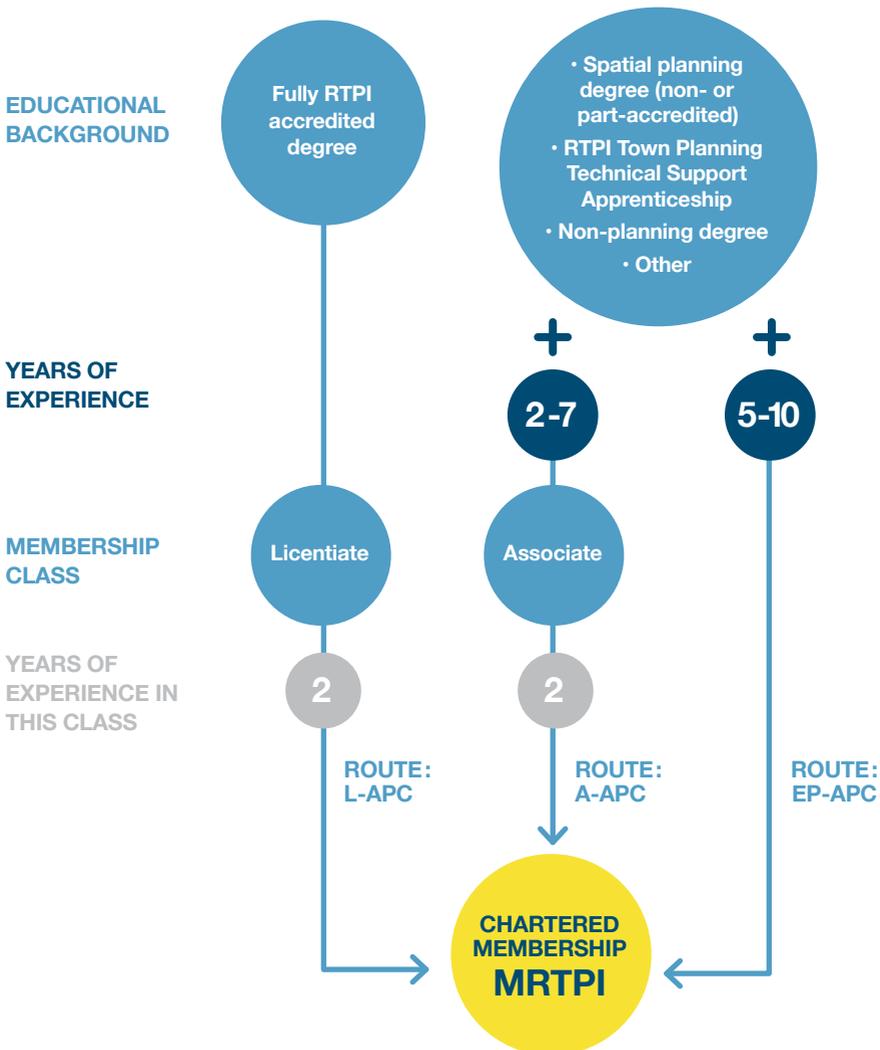
# Routes to Chartered membership

## How to become a Chartered Member

We have streamlined our routes to Chartered membership, opening up new, flexible and competency based routes. We have worked with our members to develop three routes to reflect the different ways people come into the planning profession. Whichever route you take, you will need to demonstrate that you meet the high standards required for Chartered membership.

There are three routes to Chartered membership, depending on your education and experience:

- [Licentiate Assessment of Professional Competence \(L-APC\)](#)
- [Associate Assessment of Professional Competence \(A-APC\)](#)
- [Experienced Practitioner Assessment of Professional Competence \(EP-APC\)](#)

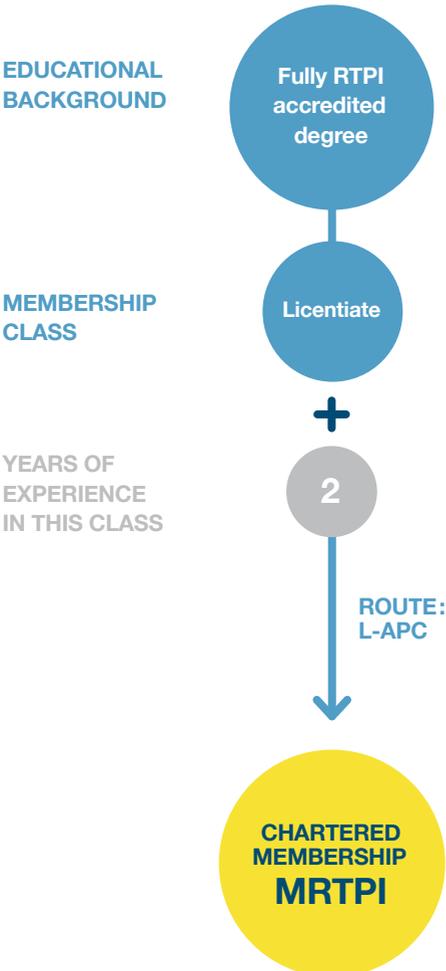


# Routes to Chartered membership

## Licentiate Assessment of Professional Competence (L-APC)

If you have completed a fully RTPI accredited degree, this route is for you. To apply through this route, your first step is to become a Licentiate as soon as you finish your degree.

The L-APC builds on the skills, knowledge and understanding that you have acquired during your accredited qualification. It is a structured process of work-based learning designed to assess your competence.



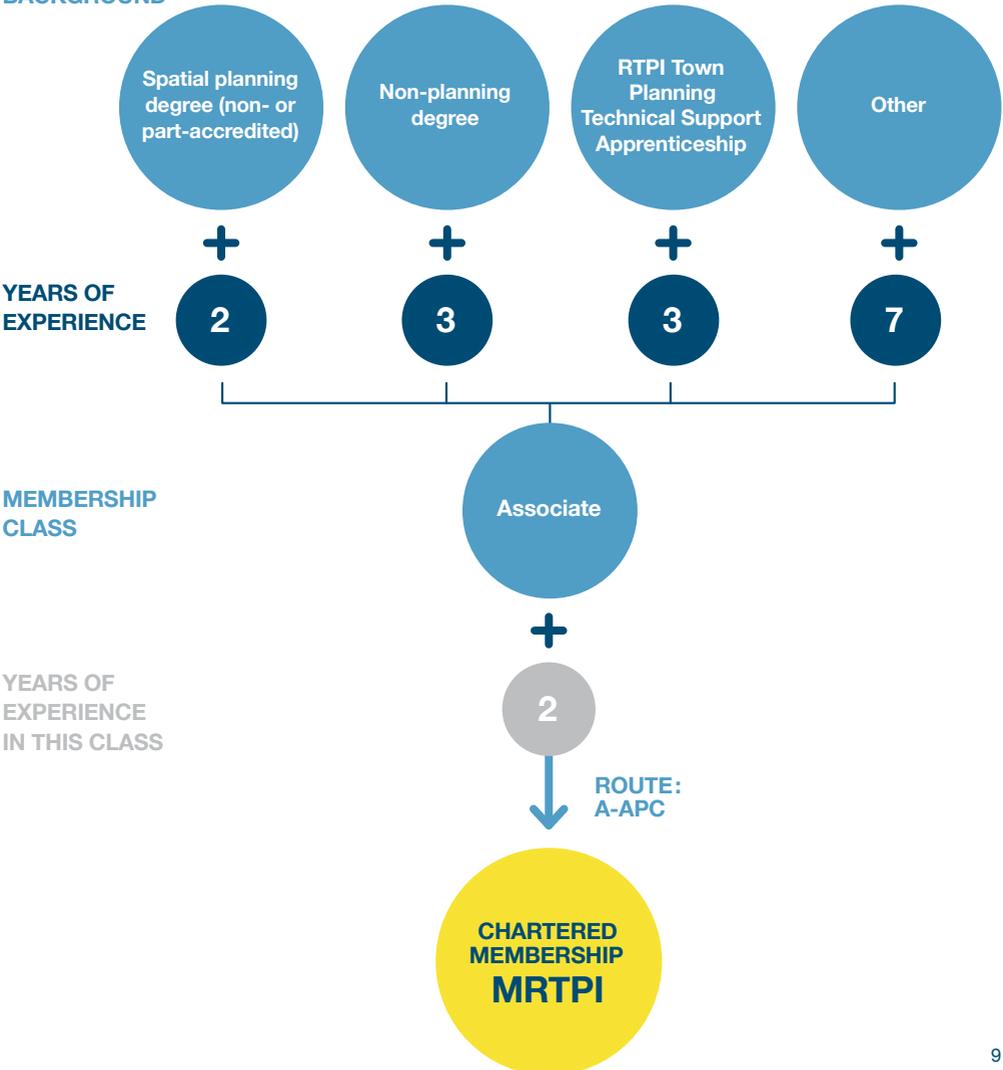
# Routes to Chartered membership

## Associate Assessment of Professional Competence (A-APC)

If you don't have a fully RTPI accredited degree, this could be the route for you when you have the required experience. To apply through this route, your first step is to become an Associate and from there gain at least a further two years' experience in order to apply for Chartered membership.

The A-APC builds on your partial professional qualification: Associate membership. It assesses your ability to progress to the next step, Chartered membership.

### EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND



# Routes to Chartered membership

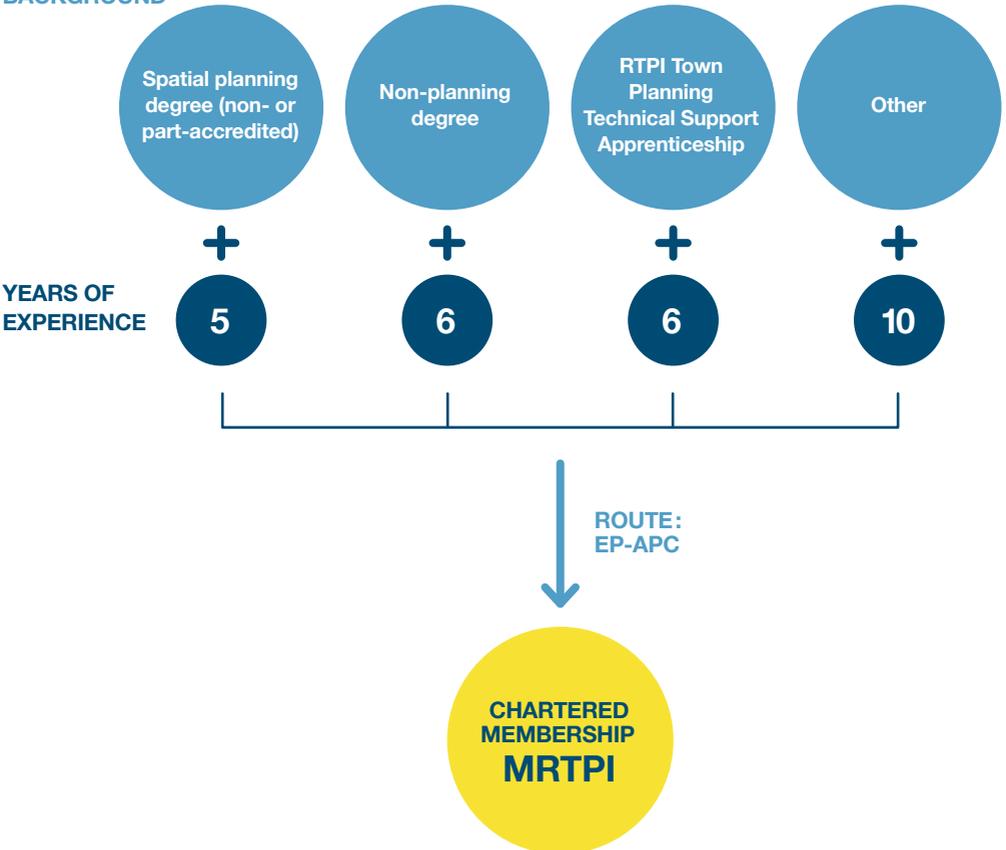
## Experienced Practitioner Assessment of Professional Competence (EP-APC)

If you are an experienced planning professional, you are able to apply directly for Chartered membership through this route. You are required to demonstrate a combination of educational background, experience and competence.

The EP-APC builds on the considerable skills, knowledge and understanding that you have acquired as an experienced practitioner.

Further information, guidance and application forms for all three routes are available at: [www.rtpi.org.uk/membership](http://www.rtpi.org.uk/membership)

### EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND



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*For me, the importance of gaining Chartered membership was to further my career and be acknowledged by my colleagues and peers as a capable and competent spatial planner.”*

Jennifer Towers MRTPI,  
Development Planner, Bloor Homes

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*I joined the RTPI as an experienced practitioner to validate my professional experience gained after ten years in economic development and new town planning for growth. I was very proud to attain the professional recognition and subsequently to achieve my Fellowship in 2014. It has undoubtedly helped instil confidence in my clients – especially now working as an independent consultant.”*

Keith Thomas FRTPI FRICS MIED,  
Director, perConsulting Ltd

## Contact us

If you are not sure which membership class is right for you, please contact our Membership Team on:

T: +44 (0)20 7929 9462

E: [membership@rtpi.org.uk](mailto:membership@rtpi.org.uk)

Further information, guidance and application forms for all membership classes are available at: [www.rtpi.org.uk/membership](http://www.rtpi.org.uk/membership)

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