

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the meeting of the International Committee held virtually on 17th March 2022.

PRESENT: Tom Venables (Chair), Nadeem Ahmed (Vice Chair), Alexandra Lee, Christine Naylor, Geoffrey Payne, Molly Phillips, Harry Quartermain, Gareth Ralphs, Lucy Seymour-Bowdery, Adam Sheppard, Olafiyin Taiwo, James Wilson, Oscar Wong.

ABSENT: Gabrielle Appiah, Thaddaeus Jackson-Browne.

In attendance: Andrew Close (AC): Director of Education & Profession, Richard Blyth (RB): Head of Policy Practice & Research, Simon Creer (SC): Director of Communications for item 7.

Observers: Béatrice Crabb (BC) (International Lead from 1st April), Lizzy Millar (Governance & Compliance Officer)

Item		Action
1	<p>Introduction and Welcome</p> <p>The Chair welcomed all returning and new members. Committee members introduced themselves in terms of professional background and interests relevant to this committee. To note: the terms of reference and focus for the International Committee (IC) can be found online, including the full list of committee members: https://www.rtpi.org.uk/media/10077/international-committee-members-2022.docx</p> <p><i>The committee works to develop and strengthen the Institutes international links and reputation. It monitors all areas of the Institute's activity linked to planning outside the British Isles. It guides and shapes the Institute's activities in the international planning organisations to which it belongs and fosters good relationships with planning organisations in other countries.</i></p>	
2	<p>Apologies for absence</p> <p>Gareth Ralphs sent apologies in advance and was able to join the meeting from 12.</p>	
3	<p>Declarations of Interests</p> <p>To note: the annual Declaration of Interest form was circulated with the meeting papers and is a requirement for all committee members to return. Five have been received to date.</p> <p>ACTION: A request for all committee members to send completed forms to international@rtpi.org.uk by end of April.</p>	ALL

4	<p>Minutes of the last meeting (IC21/DEC/MIN)</p> <p>The October 2021 minutes were included as background for new members. The December 2021 minutes were approved.</p>	
5	<p>Matters arising (IC22/MAR/01)</p> <p>Actions from previous meetings would be covered in items 7 and 8. The Committee was also made aware that since the last meeting, Michele Vianello had moved to the GLA. The Institute had appointed Beatrice Crabb who returns to the RTPI following a secondment to the UK Built Environment Advisory Group (UKBEAG) as replacement in a new role of 'International Lead', and will be starting in post and reporting to the Director of Education & Profession on 1st April.</p> <p>The committee suggested a number of ways to continue engagement on COP26 and net zero action and international practice including Rotterdam and Amsterdam.</p> <p>ACTION: To capture good practice from other countries on net zero and planning, and SDGs.</p> <p>ACTION: To engage with all RTPI regional international groups and chairs to discuss coordination and reporting of activities and good practice.</p> <p>ACTION: To consider the activities of RTPI international groups at a future 'IC meeting.</p> <p>ACTION: Feedback from MIPIM to be agenda item for May IC.</p>	<p>BC</p> <p>BC</p> <p>BC</p> <p>BC</p>
6	<p>Corporate Strategy (verbal update)</p> <p>This item to be taken at the next meeting, or by written report in advance.</p>	
7	<p>Planning is Global (verbal update)</p> <p>The Chair noted the publication has been launched on Tuesday and had been circulated to the committee: https://www.rtpi.org.uk/news/2022/march/rtpi-highlights-work-of-international-members-with-planning-is-global/</p> <p>The Director of Communications outlined the project to date and thanked committee members from October last year for their contributions and provision of case studies and advice on the work. He outlined next steps including the potential for subsequent follow up products and engagement, and utilizing this committee as a sounding board for case studies and contacts for international audiences.</p> <p>The committee welcomed the publication as a way to promote planning expertise and support and made the following comments for future publications and engagement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Show the powers of working with local organisations. • Highlight the work of local planners. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two-way learning between planners is important, and should be included in messaging to government. • Consider linking to SDGs and broader UN channels. • Highlight RTPI / Chartered Town Planners as lead collaborators, and consider knowledge transfer, research and innovation. • Understand and promote the specific 'member value offer' outside of the UK, and benefits of chartership. <p>ACTION: Agenda item for May IC meeting to discuss 'Planning is Global 2' profiles.</p>	SC
8	<p>International Strategy implementation update (IC22/MAR/02)</p> <p>The RTPI Corporate Strategy 2020-2030 sets the direction for standing committee workstreams and one of its 10 foundations was the development of an International Strategy. The document adopted by the Board of Trustees last year for 2021-30 is centred on: <i>a Vision for planning as a positive force for global sustainable development; a Mission to empower members to lead our action internationally.</i></p> <p>A key aim for this year is to review the implementation programme and ensure the broad actions set out in the International Strategy and the timelines for delivery are defined and agreed. Some further background to the Institute's international partnerships and information on each acronym is online.</p> <p>The Director of Education & Profession confirmed that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The priority for the short term for the new International Lead is to take stock of the International Strategy actions and reset the implementation plan across the life of the strategy. • Collaboration with membership and education teams on cross-dept actions. • The Commonwealth Association of Planners (CAP) governance review has reached its next stage of consultation which will be brought to this committee for comment. • The intention is to report back on the International Strategy at each meeting and seek advice from IC on where to focus and unblock issues. <p>The committee noted the strategy actions and proposed further discussions to prioritise the work. It also noted the RTPI's involvement with key stakeholders including the European Council of Town Planners (ECTP), commonwealth Association of Planners (CAP) and Global Planners Network (GPN).</p> <p>ACTION: May IC meeting to include a workshop on the detail of the International Strategy Implementation Plan.</p> <p>ACTION: Invite President of ECTP to a future IC meeting.</p>	BC RB
9	Shortage Occupations List (verbal update)	

	<p>The Head of Policy Practice & Research updated the committee on initial project collecting and analysing both qualitative and quantitative data on planning jobs and potential shortages. This is with a view to submit a proposal to the UK Migration Advisory Committee later this year to include planners on the shortage occupations list. A final decision will be made by the Chief Executive and, during this research and evaluation phase, officers would welcome any feedback from the committee on difficulties in recruitment skills and visas.</p> <p>ACTION: Committee members with information and stories with regards recruitment skills and visas in the UK to send on to RB.</p>	ALL
10	<p>World Urban Forum 11 – networking event (verbal update)</p> <p>The committee noted that the Head of Policy Practice & Research has submitted a proposal from the RTPI to lead a plenary panel discussion roundtable to the UN-Habitat’s next World Urbanism Forum 26-30 June 2022: https://wuf.unhabitat.org/main-events.php</p>	
11	<p>ELLC Education Policy Review advisory group (IC22/MAR/03)</p> <p>The committee noted the Education & Lifelong Learning Committee (ELLC) has invited it to nominate a representative for a sub-group being set up with representatives from standing committees and panels. This will act as an advisory group for the ‘Education Policy Review’ project, a key element of the implementation of the Corporate Strategy programme: <i>Education for Everyone</i>. The project aims to retain the strong principles for initial planning education of academic quality and preparing graduates for planning practice, while supporting expansion of course delivery and numbers of students studying, and completing, a planning degree.</p> <p>A task and finish review of accreditation policies and procedures will complete in 2022 with recommendations to the Board of Trustees. The project team is now engaging with a series of audiences and key stakeholders including universities, graduates and employers. The purpose of the sub-group is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To act as sounding board for the project team as they develop proposals for new accreditation policy. • To provide a standing committee/panel perspective and topic expertise to the ELLC. <p>The Director of Education & Profession drew attention to section 3.4 of the Terms of Reference: <i>Representatives should therefore have:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Read and understood the project scope and background to the Review.</i> • <i>Ability to bring the perspective of the members’ standing committee/panel to the discussions.</i> • <i>Demonstrable experience and knowledge of RTPI standing committees, policies and procedures.</i> • <i>No potential or perceived conflict of interest e.g. committees/panels of other professional bodies or regulators.</i> 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>A willingness to attend meetings and provide feedback.</i> <p>A number of committee members volunteered during the meeting.</p> <p>ACTION: The Chair and Vice-Chair to select the committee representative for the Education policy review advisory group.</p>	AC
12	<p>Committee workplan (IC22/MAR/05)</p> <p>The Director of Education & Profession explained each year an annual committee workplan is developed to provide the Board of Trustees a forward look on activity. It is based on the operational service plan, actioned from April by the International Lead, and a budget approved by the Chief Executive and the Board the previous year. It outlines the strategic priorities, actions and reports.</p> <p>The Committee noted the high level activities, both a combination of BAU reporting and project work in train since last year supporting three objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of International Strategy (Corporate Strategy foundation) • Promote planners globally as problem-solvers (Corporate Strategy aim) • Collaborate with other professional organisations and bodies (Corporate Strategy aim) <p>It agreed that an implementation plan for the International Strategy was a key action to discuss and explore in more detail in a workshop at its next meeting.</p> <p>Post meeting note: the Chair confirmed the workplan as a broad framework for future meetings for the remainder of the year, for noting by the Board of Trustees.</p>	
	<p>AOB</p> <p>Next meeting: 4 May - in person/hybrid from 11am to 3pm.</p> <p>Future meetings:</p> <p>15 September - virtual</p> <p>10 November - virtual</p>	