



Awards for Planning Excellence Case Study

Amelia Rose
Feria Urbanism

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800 word submission

Millie has been an active member of the Dorset Young Planners for a few years now, committed to designing and attending continuing professional development events and socials and taking the lead on organising colleagues, venues, and resources.

Millie has an excellent overview of planning having worked in development management, planning policy and now as an Urban Planner, Researcher and Studio Manager at Feria Urbanism, a design studio based in Bournemouth.

During her time in planning policy at Dorset Council, she was heavily involved in a very successful and inclusive consultation on the Dorset Council Local Plan. Her commitment to ensuring the consultation was a success saw her working at all hours of the day and weekend, actively making sure her colleagues were fully supported. She utilised her exceptional attention to detail to ensure posters, advertisements and podcasts were perfectly produced and well placed to increase their notability, and her commitment to working creatively and collaboratively with virtual technology was a real asset to the consultation in difficult times. She presented in webinars, one of which was an environment webinar where she presented climate change - this work involved taking a highly complex subject and breaking it down into manageable chunks for the public to understand fully what the plan was proposing. Holding a consultation during the COVID-19 pandemic was a real test for the planning teams at Dorset Council and required a willingness to adapt to new ways of working along with increased levels of self-direction. Millie was able to produce work independently whilst also knowing when to involve others in her decision making.

She also co-led on an audit of climate change and health content in the emerging Local Plan, which saw her co-working with colleagues across the Council. Her research was fast and thorough, and she drew on innovative sources as well as recently adopted plans and applied them to the context of Dorset.

Through her Local Plan work, Millie has shown a real enthusiasm for the social aspects of sustainable planning, including working on health content (as noted), Gypsy and Traveller allocations, settlement specific policies, and policies for green infrastructure and recreation space. A broad experience in policy areas and a willingness to volunteer for any task has given Millie a well-rounded knowledge of local planning policy approaches, national planning policy and guidance, and the general frameworks in which planning functions.

She is a thoughtful and supportive colleague who volunteered her time to inspire the next generation of planners. She was intricately involved in hosting Virtual Insight Days with Dorset Council. We hosted around 50 students over two days in a virtual capacity. The students were required to design a town extension. She helped design the day and its supporting material and on the days itself, she presented information about urban design to the students, and hosted breakout rooms where she made the work fun and helped the students through different aspects of Urban Design to create a well-designed place.

In February 2022 the position of Co-Chair opened, and Millie put herself forward. As of 10 March 2022, she is co-chairing the committee with Frances Summers.

This submission was made jointly by a previous colleague - Christopher Lee, he was commended in the South West Young Planner category in 2021, Frances Summers - South West Young Planner of the Year and Millie's Co-Chair on the Dorset Young Planners, and by Richard Eastham, her new manager at Feria Urbanism.

We have all worked closely with Millie and can see her interest and ambition, we are really looking forward to seeing what Millie gets up to throughout her career.

Please note that this case study has been taken from their entry form and so RTPI does not take responsibility for accuracy of contents. Readers are encouraged to undertake further research into the project which is likely to have developed since the time that this entry was written.