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RTPI Minerals and Waste Survey 2015

Key findings and solutions



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Background to survey

- Institute initiated survey in September after consultation with Minerals Forum, Local Authorities and the Planning Officers Society
- Survey consisted of 14 questions
- 263 responses
- Advertised on RTPI website, 'The Planner' magazine, and via POS



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Sector composition

- Majority of planners are public sector
- 60% chartered – testament to the sector's professionalism
- Roles evenly split between policy, development management and enforcement
- Indicative of multi-disciplinary nature of sector
- Top 3 skills: data analysis, on job knowledge, 'soft' skills



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State of sector

- Planners engaged in a range of roles
- 80% specialise in either minerals or waste
- Particular expertise gained in:-
 - Local Authority own development
 - Environmental impact assessments
 - All aspects of plan making and writing
 - Renewal energy plans and assessments



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Recruitment and skills

- 81% felt a shortage of M&W planners
- Yet skills are transferable
- Concern over knowledge gaps in public sector
- Capacity issues spans public sector
- RTPI on 'front foot'
- Proactively lobbying UK government to provide support for LPAs, and
- RTPI continually argues for planning resources to support the economy



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Solutions & next steps

Areas of support 1:

- Development of minerals and waste provision in Universities

RTPI will:

- Raise this with planning schools in 2016

Areas of support 2:

- Blended learning that contributes to CPD requirements and for the RTPI and stakeholders to join up and address sectoral needs

RTPI have:

- Held a very successful conference in 2015 with the MPA and are designing education materials with the Minerals Forum

RTPI will also:

- Promote and raise awareness of the sector and the issues it faces through our regions and nations forums



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Solutions & next steps

Areas of support 3:

- Internal work shadowing so planners can gain experience

RTPI will:

- Encourage public-private collaboration and the dissemination of good practice.

Areas of support 4:

- Exposure and recognition of the issues

RTPI will:

- Promote findings online, through 'The Planner' magazine and via our policy networks
- Work with the UK Minerals Forum and Minerals Products Association on projects as they may develop in the future. For example, developing education materials to promote the industry to young people in schools