

Judges' Citation RTPI South East Awards for Planning Excellence 2019

Category: Young Planner of the Year

Commendation: Zahra Waters

Zahra acts as a role model to promote the planning profession through her extensive volunteer work and mentoring.



As a Senior Planner at Lichfields, Zahra uses her skills in negotiation, persuasion and diplomacy when progressing planning applications. Through her 'can-do' attitude to her work, Zahra works closely with public and private sector clients to deliver a range of schemes across a variety of sectors.

Zahra is Co-Chair of Generation 4 Change (G4C) Berkshire, the young professional arm of Constructing Excellence Berkshire. Through her role within G4C, Zahra has developed a strong network of young professional contacts across the Thames Valley. She has organised a number of activities including site visits, CPD seminars and networking events. Zahra is also a regular contributor to various planning debates through appearances at conferences and seminars.

The judges were impressed with Zahra's level of experience as a private sector planner and her passion for inspiring the next generation of young planners. We therefore felt that her achievements were worthy of a Commendation in the RTPI SE Award for Planning Excellence 2019. We wish her every success for the future!