

Cynllunio

The Journal of RTPI Cymru



Planners pay tribute to Sir Patrick Abercrombie

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Gymraeg.

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Contents

3	RTPI Cymru Executive Committee
3	Anglesey pays tribute to Sir Patrick Abercrombie
4	Probity and the Professional Planner
5	RTPI Cymru Policy Update
7	Beach Clean 2020
8	RTPI Corporate Strategy 2020-2030
9	Measuring Planning Outcomes
12	Young Planners Cymru
14	RTPI Cymru Photo Board
15	Events

Front Cover: Alun Morgan Owen (left) and John Ifan Williams pay tribute at Sir Patrick Abercrombie's grave on Anglesey

Editorial

It's been a tumultuous first quarter for 2020 with numerous storm events, followed by flooding, and at the time of writing we enter an uncertain period with the spreading of the COVID-19 virus across the UK.

The RTPI continues to monitor the situation regarding the spread of COVID-19, including World Health Organisation and Government advice. As a result of this on 11 March we took the decision to suspend all events scheduled to take place from 16 March to 9 April inclusive.

Consequently the Spring Conference has unfortunately had to be postponed and will now be held on Wednesday 15th July. I hope many of you will be able to attend the conference as it will be discussing the important topics of marine planning and coastal planning and management. Marine planning is relatively new to planners, is an area where planners are well placed to be involved with and something we should be getting more involved with.

On the topic of conferences, the Wales Planning Conference 2020 will be focusing on planners taking climate action. There is lots of information about why climate change is taking place and the need to mitigate and adapt to it. The Conference will be turning our minds to what, as planners, we can and should be doing. We won't just be hearing from planners

and other built environment professionals but also from psychology and engineering. We'll also have a wide range of breakout seminars to broaden the discussion.

In 2020 we are changing our 'social' gatherings and instead of an annual dinner in November, we are holding an Awards lunch and lecture on 5th November 2020 (and there's nothing stopping anyone carrying on into the evening). In 2020 we are also going to mark the first year since we opened the RTPI's first office in Cardiff with a party in the Morgan Arcade on 3rd June (the evening before the Conference) - watch out for further information coming soon on this.

Whilst we formally opened the Cardiff office in June 2019, the team actually moved in March 2019, so it's now been a year. It has made a difference and we've been able to host a range of meetings in the Creative Quarter (before COVID-19 struck) and those held in the last quarter are captured in the photo library on page 14.

Our cover story is about a small group of Anglesey planners who discovered that Sir Patrick Abercrombie is actually buried on the Island. It was wonderful to be able to put them in contact with his granddaughter living in Australia and who also practices as a planner. They have taken the time to clean up the grave and plan to

arrange for a plaque to mark it too.

It is fantastic to welcome a number of new Chartered Planners in Wales - congratulations to you all. For those seeking to become Chartered or would like to know more, we will be holding a couple of APC briefings later in March - and have moved these to be teleconference meetings rather than face to face events now.

The RTPI Cymru Executive Committee wanted to arrange something to encourage us all to get out into the great outdoors and do some good and so we are supporting Keep Wales Tidy's beach clean initiatives during the year, see page 7 for further details - please let us know what you do.

We will be launching our Awards in May and I would encourage you all to think about projects you have been involved with that demonstrate excellent planning practice. The Awards are a great way to shout about work you are proud of and celebrate with your teams. We'll also be looking for our next Wales Young Planner of the Year, so if you are in the first ten years of your planning career then think about putting yourself forward. Finally - good luck to all those that are finalists in the RTPI's Awards for Planning Excellence.

Roisin Willmott, Editor

RTPI Cymru Executive Committee 2020

Following elections for positions on the RTPI Cymru Executive Committee last year, the Committee for 2020 is confirmed as:

Chair	Simon Power
Senior Vice Chair	Jane Jones
Junior Vice Chair	Rob Chichester
Immediate Past Chair	Huw Evans
Co-opted member	Allan Pitt
Corporate Members	Student / Licentiate Reps
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Allan ArcherJoe AyoubkhaniChris ClarkeNeil HarrisAneurin Mon ParryCath Ranson	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Ruth JonesEmmeline Reynish
	GA Representatives:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Will RyanGavin Lewis



Above: RTPI Cymru Chair handover. Simon Power (left) incoming RTPI Cymru Chair for 2020 and Huw Evans, outgoing Chair 2019.

Anglesey pays tribute to Sir Patrick Abercrombie

In 2019, the RTPI marked the 70th anniversary of World Town Planning Day with a tribute to Sir Patrick Abercrombie, the author of the Great London Plan with its 75th anniversary also in 2019. Planners in Anglesey Council discovered the grave of Sir Patrick Abercrombie in a small church in Rhoscolyn and sought permission from the family to clean up the grave. On 27th December they paid tribute to Sir Patrick, reading a tribute from his only surviving grand-child, Fiona Abercrombie-Howroyd, who practices as a planner in Hobart, Australia. Her tribute can be read in the box below.

Fiona responded to the photographs of the cleaned up gravestone saying: "It's all a huge improvement ... Fantastic work! Your description of the gathering at the event is lovely. It's kind of how I'd envisaged it. Of course from Australia it seems romantic though I know the realities of the biting cold. I live in Hobart after all, after which the next stops are Macquarie Island and Antarctica. Thanks especially to you and John for giving up your day to do this. I'm sure you did a wonderful job. My sons and I talked about it a lot. We think you're both troopers!

"I send my kind regards from a dreadfully fiery Australia. We really are needing huge vision to try to imagine and plan for this frightening future we are seemingly facing."



Above: Alun Morgan Owen (left) and John Ifan Williams pay tribute at Sir Patrick Abercrombie's grave.

A message from Fiona Abercrombie-Howroyd, Grand daughter of Sir Patrick Abercrombie

"I hope you will indulge me making a few quick comments, from far flung Hobart, today. In 2005, when the RTPI commemorated my grandfather's plans for London, I had cause to observe that Patrick Abercrombie was a man for his times, when prescribing the meta narratives of urban planning was made possible largely due to two World Wars and their resultant socio-economic upheavals. Thankfully, we do not have the same circumstances today.

"I questioned what Pat Abercrombie would make of how we live our lives today, in these new and very different circumstances. Recently, I found a recording of Patrick's lecture at the Hobart City Town Hall during his post war tour of Australia in 1948. He talked about how to make our cities vital places that included green belts, cycle and walkways and transport hubs to facilitate our work and play. I was struck by the thought that nothing actually has changed at all. This is what we, as planners, still aspire to do.

"I think if he were here today, he would suggest that we must continue to aspire, as there can be nothing more important than how we live, work and play in our communities and, ever increasingly, our threatened environment.

"My father Neil, Patrick's beloved son and an eminent planner in his own right, married his beautiful Australian bride, Margery, after the war and brought her to London in the summer of 1952. Margery loved to tell stories of her arrival in London in 1952, and being greeted enthusiastically by Patrick. She was swept up in a world of lectures, public events, concerts, functions, embassies, clubs, parties and family gatherings. And they journeyed to Anglesey.

"As we say in Australia, Patrick and his family were "on country" here, which is why he chose to rest here, with his beloved wife, Maude Gordon.

"I thank you all for your generous efforts and tribute to Patrick today. I do this on behalf of my late father, Neil, Patrick's late daughter Deborah, my late cousin Susannah and finally, my late sister, Caroline. I do this with incredible pride."

Probity and the Professional Planner

A new RTPI Practice Advice Note has been published to support planners confidently use their independent professional judgement in often controversial, politicised and complicated scenarios.

Probity is defined as, 'the quality of being honest and behaving correctly' and is often quoted in connection with local politicians when making decisions.

Public confidence in a rigorous and transparent process is a fundamental requirement for a successful planning system. Professional planners are held in high regard because they deal with important long-term issues that affect the lives of the general public. Balancing competing needs and preferences in exercising their independent professional judgement is a core part of the role.

"Planning decisions can sometimes be controversial, politicised and misunderstood."

exercising their independent professional judgement. The policy context for councillors is outlined and ways to promote productive relationships between councillors and planners are explored.

The Advice Note can be downloaded from: www.rtpi.org.uk/knowledge/practice/probity-and-the-professional-planner/

The RTPI Code of Professional Conduct can be downloaded from: www.rtpi.org.uk/membership/professional-standards/ and practice advice on 'Ethics and professional standards' from: www.rtpi.org.uk/membership/professional-standards/professional-ethics/

Re-imagining social house building in Wales

Welsh Government has published its strategy aimed at social and affordable housing providers in Wales. It sets out expectations relating to the production of homes built using Modern Methods of Construction (MMC), and is intended to inform leaders of local government, housing associations and private businesses. It aims to encourage leaders to take a fresh look at how to deliver new social housing, and to consider complimenting traditional construction methods with new technologies and approaches.

The strategy responds to one of the recommendations made by the Affordable Housing Supply Review Panel which reported in May 2019. The strategy can be downloaded from the Welsh Government website at: gov.wales/sites/default/files/publications/2020-02/social-house-building-strategy_0.pdf



This practice advice is designed to support RTPI members in that task and focuses on the policy context in England, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

It explains how the RTPI Code of Professional Conduct and practice advice on Ethics and professional standards support our members in

Publication of the Town and Country Planning (Major Residential Development) (Notification) (Wales) Direction 2020 and guidance

Welsh Government has decided to amend the provisions regarding "Significant Residential Development" set out in The Town and Country Planning (Notification) (Wales) Direction 2012 (the 2012 Direction) and paragraphs 16 to 18 of Welsh Government Circular 07/12 because they have evidence that speculative and unsustainable residential developments have been proposed outside of adopted LDPs.

The 2020 Direction applies to applications made on or after 15 January 2020. The Direction requires the Welsh Ministers to be notified of applications made on or after that date for any proposed residential development of 10 or more residential units, or residential development on 0.5 hectares or more of land, which is not in accordance with one or more provisions of the development plan in force and which the local planning authority do not propose to refuse.

The 2020 Direction can be viewed on the Welsh Government's website at: gov.wales/referring-planning-applications-major-residential-development-welsh-ministers

Congratulations to our latest Chartered Town Planners



Congratulations to our latest Chartered Planners to be elected in Wales:

- George Edwards
- Christopher Hartley
- Karla Johnson
- Ruth Jones
- Abigail Molyneux
- Stuart Powell
- Bryn Pryce
- Emmeline Reynish
- Claire Seddon
- Adam Turner

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.

(Note those more recently awarded Chartered status will appear in the next edition of Cynllunio).

All the information and guidance for submitting your APC (all routes) is available from: www.rtpi.org.uk/membership/assessment-of-professional-competence/

Telling the planning story: how to champion the planning profession through press and social media

The RTPI has published new interactive online training for our members. It is a free one-hour introduction that outlines the importance of developing inclusive and proactive working practices with communications colleagues to enable planners to get their key messages across to the public in the most effective way. It has been endorsed by the Chartered Institute of Public Relations (CIPR).

RTPI Practice Officer, Sarah Lewis said: "Developing a good relationship with local journalists can pay dividends. This training module is not designed to replace the input of communications professionals but rather to give town planners a better understanding of how they can work jointly with these colleagues to maximize public engagement."

Mandy Pearce, CIPR President elect and former Chair of the CIPR Local Public Services group, said: "It is a really positive step for us to collaborate with the RTPI to help planning professionals understand how public relations can add value and build trust when engaging local communities. Working together we can be a real force for good."

RTPI Learn modules are free and open to all. Anyone who wishes to access the course simply needs to create a login on the RTPI Learn site. The full programme of RTPI Learn can be downloaded from: www.rtpi.org.uk/education-and-careers/rtpi-learn/



RTPI Cymru Policy Update

RTPI Cymru are pleased to welcome a new Policy and Research Forum for 2020 – 2022 (see box on right). The role of the Forum is to provide advice to RTPI Cymru on policy, practice and research and its membership therefore includes representatives from across Wales, with experience in a variety of planning topics.

The Forum has hit the ground running, providing thoughts and advice to RTPI Cymru on a number of Welsh Government consultations. These include proposed changes to planning fees, the Circular Economy Strategy and Active Travel Guidance, along with the call for evidence from the National Infrastructure Commission for Wales.

In response to the recent consultation on Welsh Law, we urged Welsh Government to ensure that any separation out of the rural and historic environment legislation, from planning would not undermine the application of core planning law, across urban and rural contexts for example, with the rural / historic legislation divorced from planning. We also called for adequate resources to carry out any codification programme - timescales, resources, commitments to delivery etc are all important elements in the success of this project.

Given recent events, the new guidance for development in areas at risk of flooding and coastal erosion is now more important than ever. In our response we called for a strong interface between TAN15 and the NDF and early discussions with Sustainable Drainage Bodies (SABs).

In February Roisin Willmott gave evidence to the Assembly's Public Accounts Committee on the effectiveness of local planning authorities.

Members' views on consultations are always welcome and should be submitted to walespolicy@rtpi.org.uk.

Research

Our current research into Measuring Planning Outcomes is progressing well. This is a UK-wide project which was commissioned at the end of 2019. Welsh Government is providing support for this project along with the Scottish, Irish and UK Governments. This research is exploring how local authorities and national Governments can go beyond simple metrics like speed of processing applications and number of housing units delivered. This means assessing planning on the explicit aspirations of planners and politicians, in terms of placemaking and social, economic and environmental value.

In addition to this important research, we are also supporting a

RTPI Cymru Policy and Research Forum 2020-2022

The members of the RTPI Cymru Policy and Research Forum 2020 - 2022 are:

- Allan Archer – independent consultancy
- Ross Bowen – consultancy
- David Brown – consultancy
- Martin Buckle – independent consultancy
- Mike Cuddy – community membership organisation
- Eleri Davies – private sector
- Hannah Dineen – private sector
- Huw Evans – independent consultancy
- Mark Farrar (Chair) – consultancy
- Mark Harris – developer membership organisation
- Jane Jones – public sector
- Lyn Owen – retired member
- John Pearson – third sector
- Simon Power – consultancy
- Matt Price – public sector
- Charlotte Raine – public sector
- Clare Taylor – consultancy
- Brian Webb – academia

study led by Gwynedd Council, with Cardiff Council, into the use of dwellings as holiday homes, such as Airbnb. It is intended that the research will assist all stakeholders including Gwynedd and Cardiff Councils and the RTPI to have a clearer understanding of the possible options for managing the use of dwellings as holiday homes.

If you are interested in our research projects or are able to contribute views or evidence, then please get in touch with us at walespolicy@rtpi.org.uk

Rhian Brimble
RTPI Cymru Policy Officer rhian.brimble@rtpi.org.uk

Helpwch lanhau ein traethau

Ymunwch â Gwanwyn Glân Cymru

Help clean up our beaches

Join Spring Clean Cymru



20 MAWRTH - 13 EBRILL 2020

Cofrestrwch eich cefnogaeth keepwalestidy.cymru

#gwanwynglâncymru

Mae Cadwch Gymru'n Daclus yn elusen gofrestredig - Rhif Cofrestru 1082058

20 MARCH - 13 APRIL 2020

Register your support keepwalestidy.cymru

#springcleancymru

Keep Wales Tidy is a registered charity - Registration No. 1082058

A ddarperir gan
Brought to you by



Mewn partneriaeth â
In partnership with



Prif Bartneriaid
Headline partners



Partneriaid Cefnogi
Supporting partners



Supported by players of



Awarded funds from



Beach Clean 2020

Beach Clean 2020 is an initiative to encourage RTPI Cymru members to get involved with cleaning Welsh beaches.

RTPI Cymru are supporting the Keep Wales Tidy initiatives to clean beaches and there are a number of ways you can get involved.

Spring Clean Cymru is March 20 – April 13

Spring Clean Cymru is part of the Great British Spring Clean. In 2019, over 563,163 people, including 175,055 students, volunteered their time to take part in our campaign - the biggest ever!

You can either join in on an existing event, or register your own – which can be private or public if you are happy to encourage others to join you. See the advert on page 6. For further information and to find a beach clean near you go to: www.keepwalestidy.cymru/pages/category/spring-clean-cymru There are also details and advice on how to plan your own litterpick and the opportunity to loan equipment from Keep Wales Tidy. www.keepwalestidy.cymru/planning-your-clean-up

Marine Clean in September / October (dates to be announced)

Keep Wales Tidy will also be organising Marine Clean in the autumn. We will keep you in touch with how to get involved.

Organise your own

You can organise your own litter pick using Keep Wales Tidy equipment borrowed from their local equipment hubs, and take advantage of their health and safety guidance and free insurance.

Let us know what you do

You may want to set something up with your company or join in an organised event with friends and family - whatever works for you.

Please let us know what you do, where you do it and send us images of your day out. Send your details to walespolicy@rtpi.org.uk



Above: Cardiff University and Young Planners Cymru doing a litterpick in 2014 as part of the RTPI Cymru Circumnavigate Wales.

New RTPI Study on Women and Planning

The majority of women working in town planning face barriers climbing the professional ladder because of their gender, a RTPI study has found.

The research, published to mark International Women's Day, reveals that many women face sexist or inappropriate comments at work, feel they are not taken seriously by male colleagues or feel their workplace reflects 'masculine norms and behaviour'.

The study, Women and Planning, sets out 15 key recommendations for improving gender equality in planning. These include establishing equal pay between men and women, setting up confidential systems for reporting sexist behaviours and implementing family and carer-friendly policies for both men and women.

The research involved discussions with 50 women and two men from England, Scotland, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and the US, in a bid to gain a better understanding of the barriers directly related to gender.

Author of the report, Professor Aude Biquelet-Lock, who is Deputy Head of Policy and Research at the RTPI, said: "More than half of the women we spoke to said they felt their opportunities for promotion were limited because of their gender and close to half said they had experienced sexist or inappropriate comments at work."

"Our results showed that women are particularly at risk of discrimination when returning from maternity leave."

Last month the RTPI launched a 10-year action plan to make the planning profession more diverse and inclusive. The action plan – CHANGE – was developed to help create a profession that is genuinely representative of society, which includes recognising and addressing the need for broader visibility of diversity at all levels.

The Institute will strive to create and promote a clear vision and definition of diversity and inclusivity, will set up effective structures to drive and measure diversity and inclusivity strategies and will leverage its convening power to create a more diverse and inclusive planning industry. The RTPI will appoint a diversity and inclusivity manager to drive the changes.

Professor Biquelet-Lock added: "Developing the conversation around the need for diversity in the planning profession is not a 'parochial' exercise. Without genuine commitment to address issues around gender inequality there is a real risk that the profession will miss out on the benefits of nurturing and retaining real talents as well as the opportunity to create diverse and inclusive communities."

In 2019, research by the organisation 'Women in Planning' found that only 17% of director and above roles were held by women with just 5% of senior director, senior partner or managing director roles occupied by women.

The research study can be downloaded from the RTPI's website at: www.rtpi.org.uk/media/4325/women-and-planning.pdf



RTPI Launches new Ten Year Corporate Strategy

Our new Corporate Strategy 2020-30 was launched in January 2020 by the Board of Trustees, Sue Bridge. Preparing the strategy has been a substantial exercise following consultation with our members, stakeholders in government, partners in academia, other professions, members of the public and the third sector. This extensive consultation has provided us with a clear direction based on what all these parties have said which has then been reviewed by our officers, General Assembly, Committees, Nations, regions and Board of Trustees. We are therefore confident that our 2020-2030 corporate strategy is robust and that it supports our objectives as set out in our Royal Charter.

Driven by an ambition to promote healthy, socially inclusive, economically and environmentally sustainable places, the RTPI has included four pillars in the 10-year plan – the value of membership, supporting planning services, raising the profile of planning and equality, diversity and inclusivity.

Underpinning the whole plan is an urgent need to address the climate crisis. Victoria Hills, Chief Executive of the RTPI, said: “The role of planning is pivotal in achieving global sustainable development and planners sit at the vanguard of the solution to the climate crisis. Our response is holistic and therefore actions sit across all pillars of our bold and ambitious strategy.

“The future of the RTPI is bright and this is a robust framework that provides us with direction, a strategy for delivery and ambition to drive it in a convincing and timely way.”

The Corporate Strategy can be viewed below and the complete strategy viewed on line at: www.rtpi.org.uk/about-the-rtpi/corporate-strategy-2020-2030/



CHANGE

In February, President of the RTPI, Sue Manns, launched a 10-year action plan – CHANGE - to make the planning profession more diverse and inclusive.

It directly aligns with our recently published Corporate Strategy 2020-2030 which sees Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity as one of four integrated Pillars.

CHANGE was developed by specialist diversity and inclusion consultancy Brook Graham, who found that while the RTPI performs 'above average' in terms of equality, diversity and inclusivity when compared to others in the built environment sector, there is still much to do.

This bespoke action plan will help guide both members and employers to work to achieve a more balanced profession.



Why measuring planning outcomes is vital

Following the appointment of Kevin Murray Associates to lead a large RTPI research project into measuring planning outcomes, associate director of the firm, Iain MacPherson, sets out why this is such a key piece of research for planners and planning.

We're delighted to have been commissioned to carry out this research on behalf of the RTPI and the project partners in Ireland, Scotland, Wales and England.

We are a team consisting of practitioners and academics, all with a focus on using good research to enhance practice in delivering quality places and ultimately better lives for people.

Led by Kevin Murray Associates, with yellowbook, McCabe Durney Barnes, University of Dundee and the University of Cardiff, we have experience of working throughout the UK and Ireland, and indeed beyond. Our hope is that this team can bring a diversity of experience and perspectives to this research project and help create a rich set of practical toolkit outputs.

Measuring Planning Outcomes is not necessarily new territory. Indeed our team has a wealth of previous research in this area from which to draw. So why is this such a key piece of work for planners and planning at this time?

Planning has undergone considerable change over the last decade or so. The 2008 Global Financial Crisis has left a long-lasting legacy on communities and their place. Austerity policy has also had a particular influence, both across the board, but also accentuated in key localities. These forces have created social and political impacts on society and on place. For instance, a worsening 'Housing Crisis' has seen homelessness grow and good quality housing become unaffordable for many in my generation.

In addition there are other pressures from reduced capital investment in communities and constrained local service delivery. While these may not all be strictly planning issues they are factors connected to place quality and liveability.

The effect of these pressures in planning has been a system, according to a recent RTPI and Newcastle University study, the 'Austerity Planner', that has been "relegated it to a largely reactive, regulatory function in many local authorities, creating a 'box-ticking' culture that has closed off the space many planners traditionally used for reflection, professional discretion and proactive planning." The report goes on to argue that the result of this retreat has been that ultimately it has become a barrier to delivering in the public interest, a core tenet underlying modern planning.

In practical terms this means a system that is focussed primarily on delivering a service to immediate plan-users, seeking out efficiencies and generating revenue. With this dislocation between development management and plan-making has come a drive to measure performance: in consents given, and units delivered. If you are what you measure, this risks a system in which success is viewed narrowly through the prism of process and performance, and does not necessarily deliver on quality of life and physical place. At a time when we need planning to respond to economic and societal pressures, planning needs to demonstrate that it delivers the public interest and longer-term environmental outcomes.

So what does this research and our approach seek to do about all of this?

First, we want to find the common ground and guiding principles across Ireland and the constituent planning jurisdictions of the UK. How do we measure performance now? If we are seeking better place outcomes, what should we be measuring?

Second, we want to consider what data sets have become available, what digital solutions there are in place to help unlock measuring outcomes? We hope to develop something that is useful, practical and is not a large additional burden to any authority or other user, otherwise it will not be used.

Third, we will be developing and trialling a toolkit for measuring planning outcomes. We have early ideas and suggestions from performance management and sustainability research, and welcome suggestions from others. As we want to avoid creating something that becomes either onerous or box-ticking bureaucracy, the emphasis will be on practicality and utility.

And we are going to contextualise this toolkit for the respective planning jurisdictions, with pilots also due to run in Ireland and Scotland. This will help test the usability of the tool, exposing where it may be impractical and enabling changes to be made to fit needs.

There is a lot of complexity to unravel. If it were really so simple planners would probably already be doing it. To help us unravel this complexity we need your help. We need a body of people to help complete surveys, outline outcome measures, and participate in discussions and pilots.

We are already learning about some innovative and aspirational approaches to outcome measurement, and we want to learn from these exemplars and consider how they can be applied in different circumstances at different scales.

We have discovered there is a groundswell of enthusiasm within planning for this outcome-focused performance. It touches at the very heart of why so many of us have entered the profession in the first place. We want to have a meaningful impact on place and its communities; if we are what we measure, we want to know what that impact is.

We hope planners across the public, private and community sectors will contribute their ideas and experience.

Keep an eye on the project page for further updates or email tom.kenny@rtpi.org.uk. The project is being funded by the RTPI, Welsh Government, Scottish Government and Irish Government.

This article was originally published as a blog on the RTPI website. To view all blogs go to: www.rtpi.org.uk/briefing-room/rtpi-blog/



"It [planning] touches at the very heart of why so many of us have entered the profession in the first place. We want to have a meaningful impact on place and its communities; if we are to measure, we want to know what that impact is."



RTPI Cymru Award for Planning Excellence - *entries to the 2020 Awards open on 4th May*

The RTPI Cymru Planning Excellence Award champions the very best examples of planning and planners in Wales. It demonstrates the positive impact that planning has on our quality of life and celebrates professional expertise. The Awards are open to all planners, both members and non-members and to all other built environment professions. Entry to our Awards is free.

Closing date for entries is 15 July 2020

Further information on how to enter will be available from our website from 4 May 2020: www.rtpi.org.uk/wales

Wales Young Planner of the Year

Could you be the Wales Young Planner of the Year? Or do you know someone it could be?

To qualify the entrant must be in the first ten years of their planning career, post qualification and must be an RTPI member (any class). Entrants should be living or working in Wales and actively contributing to planning within Wales.

Further information will be available from: www.rtpi.org.uk/wales



One Planet Development: the opportunities and challenges of a living countryside

Society is slowly waking up to the planet's finite supply of resources, expressed in terms such as 'limits to growth', and more recently as 'One Planet Living'. One Planet Living highlights that unless society comes to live within the capacity of the planet, we continuously deplete the Earth's resources. The Ecological Footprint has emerged as a way of measuring our impact, and it highlights that Western societies are consuming more than twice their share of the Earth's resources. Some countries, including Wales, are now using this tool to drive society towards more sustainable futures.

Planning can support this challenge by helping society live within limits. In urban contexts this usually means promoting the use of public transport, reducing energy demand, and promoting other ways of reducing resource use. Yet there are also ways in which planning can support more radical forms of low impact development.

There is a quiet experiment going on in rural Wales. Planning policy typically controls development in rural areas very tightly to protect the countryside. This is long-established and enjoys widespread public support. There are some very specific and well-established exceptions, for example for necessary agricultural development. But what if we made a further exception for people wanting to move towards One Planet Living, to experiment with living within their fair share of the Earth's resources?

This is the thinking behind the Welsh Government's planning policy enabling One Planet Developments in the open countryside. One Planet Developments are defined as 'development that through its low impact either enhances or does not significantly diminish environment quality'. The low impact of a development is demonstrated by a detailed management plan and measured through the Ecological Footprint. The development should initially achieve a figure of 2.4 global hectares per person or less and within a period of five years demonstrate clear potential to move towards 1.88 global hectares – in effect, a measure reflecting a fair share of the Earth's resources and the Welsh Government's 'One Wales: One Planet' target.

'Pwll Broga under construction in 2012 at Trecwnc in Glandwr, Pembrokeshire, in south west Wales. Pwll Broga – referred to sometimes as 'The Hobbit House' – was initially reported and investigated as an unauthorised dwelling in the countryside. It was later in 2015 approved at a planning appeal as a One Planet Development.'

The policy has resulted in some One Planet Developments securing planning permission where they would previously have been refused. The number of One Planet Developments is small – just over thirty have been approved and others are at



Above: Pwll Broga under construction in 2012 at Trecwnc, Glandwr Pembrokeshire, which received planning permission on appeal in 2015, after initially being investigated as an unauthorised development in the countryside.



Above: Neil Harris (left) and Allan Archer (right)

various stages in the planning process. The developments are typically permaculture activities and land-based enterprises, providing for many of the needs of residents. Residents' resource consumption is significantly reduced compared to the average. The Welsh Government's planning policy has enabled some people to develop a zero-carbon home in a rural location and live a sustainable life on the land.

The One Planet Development policy is bold and innovative, yet at the same time introduces risks and challenges. It is no surprise that One Planet Development is tightly regulated, both at the point of applying for planning permission - with demands to produce a detailed masterplan to demonstrate how the development will meet stringent criteria, such as providing the resources to support needs, and reducing environmental impacts - and on an ongoing basis in monitoring progress of the management plan and measuring households' and individuals' Ecological Footprints. The Ecological Footprint calculator is used to try and measure individuals' resource use and consumption in global hectares. There is the uncertainty about how accurately we can measure sustainability, how accurately people are able to self-report their consumption and production, and whether planning departments have the capacity and capability to investigate and verify Ecological Footprint data.

Several early One Planet Developments are approaching the point where they need to demonstrate attainment of One Planet Living. We need to learn from the 'first wave' of One Planet Developments. Critical questions remain about whether planning services are prepared for monitoring and – if a development fails to attain and maintain 1.88gha per person as the Ecological Footprint target – compliance or enforcement. This is especially as clusters of One Planet Developments appear in parts of Wales, raising concerns about the cumulative impact of One Planet Developments in protected landscapes. There are uncertainties for residents of One Planet Development too, as families evolve and personal circumstances change. We need to evaluate these risks and challenges, as well as the opportunities and potential, if we are to learn from One Planet Developments about pathways to a more sustainable future.

To find out more about One Planet Development visit the website of The One Planet Council – www.oneplanetcouncil.org.uk – and explore the Welsh Government's Practice Guidance on One Planet Development.

Allan Archer and Neil Harris

Allan Archer is an independent planning consultant following a career in local government planning. Neil Harris is an academic in the School of Geography and Planning at Cardiff University.

This article was originally published as a blog on the RTPi website. To view all blogs go to: www.rtpi.org.uk/briefing-room/rtpi-blog/

Young Planners Kick the Year off with Speed Networking

RTPI Young Planners Cymru have had a successful and busy start to 2020 and would like to thank everyone who has helped thus far.

Following on from our Annual AGM in December, we have welcomed a number of new faces to our Steering Group, who we are sure will assist in making this a successful year for the Young Planners. Following our first meeting of the year, we recently hosted our first event of 2020, 'Speed Networking' held in Zerodegrees, Cardiff in February.

A large number of people attended from a range of backgrounds, including a number of students at differing levels of their degrees. The event provided an excellent opportunity for networking within the planning world, in addition to pizza and a few drinks! Initial feedback from the event has been overwhelmingly positive, with many praising the opportunity to meet many people in a short period of time.

Our next event will be on housing

Following on from this success, we have plans to host a series of events throughout the year, beginning with our first CPD Breakfast Seminar - we will announce the date shortly. The focus on the event will be housing and again will provide a good opportunity to network within the industry. The event will be kindly sponsored by Lichfields, who are hosting the event as well as

providing breakfast for attendees. Places will be limited, as so we recommend registering as soon as possible to secure a place. Keep an eye on our social media and the RTPI Cymru website for more information.

If you're interested in Young Planners and have any suggestions for events you would like to see from us, please don't hesitate to get in contact! We will discuss any suggestions we receive at our Steering Group meetings, and your help can help shape Young Planners Cymru moving forward.

To find out more, including information on upcoming events and how you can get involved, please follow us on social media:

Twitter: @YPCymru

Facebook: Young Planners Cymru

LinkedIn: RTPI Young Planners Cymru



The Planner Live (formerly the Planning Convention) is our revamped national conference for planners across the UK. We're bringing together the strengths of both the RTPI and The Planner magazine to offer delegates two full days of conference sessions, and a gala dinner, to maximise your networking opportunities. From ministers to high-profile international speakers and experts from other sectors, our 2020 programme will take a critical and comprehensive look at the hot topics in planning and also your own wellbeing, through focus sessions, live interviews and extensive opportunities for delegates to contribute to discussions and interact with presenters.

Presidential Dinner

29 June 2020, 8 Northumberland Avenue, London

The dinner will be hosted by RTPI President Sue Manns FRTPI. This is an opportunity for the profession to come together in a more informal environment for a fantastic night of networking. Kicking off with a drinks reception, join us from 7.00pm for an evening to remember!

Details of The Planner Live Programme and tickets for the Conference and Dinner are available from: www.rtpi.org.uk/events/the-planner-live/

Welsh planning excellence recognised at RTPI Awards 2020



Projects and teams from across Wales are in the running to win at the RTPI Awards for Planning Excellence 2020.

Finalists from Wales at this year's RTPI Awards for Planning Excellence are:

- Swansea Local Development Plan, submitted by Swansea Council (category: Plan Making Practice)
- Holyhead Market Hall Revitalisation, submitted by Isle of Anglesey County Council (category: Heritage and Culture)
- Atriarc Planning, St Clears, Carmarthenshire – Small Planning Consultancy of the Year
- Planning Aid Wales – In-House Planning Team of the Year

The RTPI's annual Awards for Planning Excellence, now in their 45th year, are the most respected in the UK planning industry. The awards celebrate exceptional examples of planning and the contribution planners make to society not just throughout the UK but internationally.

In total, 116 projects, teams and individuals across 14 categories have been selected by the independent judges this year from a record number of entries. The judging panel in 2020 will once again be chaired by Prof Sadie Morgan, founding director of Stirling Prize-winning architecture practice dRMM.

The climax of the ceremony, which takes place in London on 30 April, will be the presentation of the Silver Jubilee Cup, awarded to the project adjudged best overall.



Above: Holyhead Market Hall



Above: Wayne Reynolds, Director of Atriarc Planning

RTPI President Sue Manns FRTPi said: "Many congratulations to all the finalists at the RTPI Awards for Planning Excellence 2020, representing the very best of our profession from all the RTPI's regions and nations and from countries around the globe.

"These outstanding projects, teams and individuals show how planning can have a positive effect on our communities and the environment and how planners can use their expertise and enthusiasm to create inclusive, happy and healthy places and spaces for ourselves and for future generations.

"I wish them all the best of the luck at the ceremony on 30 April." Winners will be announced at a ceremony at Milton Court Concert Hall in London on 30 April.

Headline sponsors of this year's event are engineering firm AECOM and real estate service provider Savills.

For the full list of finalists at the RTPI Awards for Planning Excellence 2020, visit www.rtpi.org.uk/events/awards/awards-for-planning-excellence/finalists-2020/



Above: Alex Egge, Young Planner of the Year Finalist



Above: Swansea Bay

The RTPI Cymru Photo Board

This is our look back at the last quarter of RTPI Cymru



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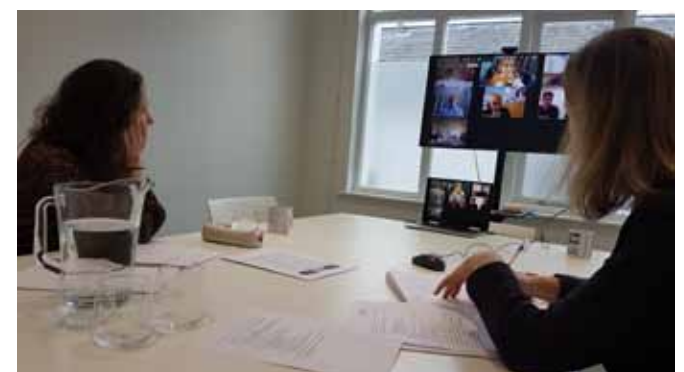
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1. RTPI Cymru Executive Committee meeting December 2019; 2. RTPI Cymru Policy and Research Forum meeting November 2019; 3. Young Planners Cymru AGM, December 2019; 4. Placemaking Wales workshop at the Design Commission for Wales' offices; 5. Planning Journeys workshop by the Future Generations Commissioners' Office hosted by RTPI Cymru, December 2019; 6. North Wales Chapter Law Update, Colwyn Bay, December 2019; 7. RTPI Cymru seminar on Placemaking in Wales, December 2019, Cardiff; and 8. on-line meeting to discuss Planning Outcomes Research with partners across the UK and Ireland.

Events

RTPI Awards for Planning Excellence

30 April 2020, Milton Court, London

The winners of the RTPI Awards for Planning Excellence will be announced at a ceremony in central London on 30 April 2020, including the winner of our Silver Jubilee Cup.

To book a place go to: www.rtpi.org.uk/events/events-calendar/2020/april/awards-for-planning-excellence-2020/

Wales Planning Conference 2020

Thursday 4 June 2020
Holland House Hotel, Cardiff

The annual premier planning conference for Wales; this year we will be focusing on placemaking and taking climate action. See back page.

The Planner Live 2020

29-30 June 2020, London
The Planning Convention is getting a makeover!

We're bringing together the strengths of both the RTPI and The Planner Magazine to offer delegates two full days of conference sessions and a gala dinner to maximise your networking opportunities at our brand new conference for planners across the UK.

For further information and to book go to: www.rtpi.org.uk/events/events-calendar/2020/june/the-planner-live/

Marine and Coastal Planning in Wales

Wednesday 15 July 2020 - **note the NEW Date**
The Quay Hotel, Deganwy

Our Spring Conference will this year explore the relationship between the new Wales Marine Plan and land use planning, as well as exploring coastal management.

For more information and to book a place go to: www.rtpi.org.uk/marineplanningwales

Flooding, sustainable drainage systems and climate change

9.00am - 4.00pm Wednesday 16 September 2020
Jurys Inn, Cardiff

Climate change is one of the most crucial issues facing communities today, and the increasing occurrence of severe weather events is just a reminder of the urgency of this issue. The RTPI is leading on guidance for planners to develop a practical understanding. This key masterclass will help you to understand how planning policy and development management should adapt and mitigate the impacts of climate change, how it affects local communities and how you can plan for effective urban drainage at a national, regional or local level.

For more information and to book a place go to: www.rtpi.org.uk/events/events-calendar/2020/september/flooding,-sustainable-drainage-systems-and-climate-change-cardiff/

Planning for Non-planners

9.30am - 4.00pm Wednesday 30 September 2019
Jurys Inn, Cardiff

This masterclass provides an understanding of the planning system for elected members, parish, community and town councillors, non-planning professionals working in place-making, technicians, administrators and support staff. Delegates will gain an invaluable insight into plan making, the role of development management and the way decisions on individual planning applications are made either by the planning committee, by the officers under delegated powers or by appeal.

For more information and to book a place go to: www.rtpi.org.uk/events/events-calendar/2020/september/planning-for-non-planners-cardiff/

Diary Markers:

Wales Enforcement Conference 2020

22 October 2020
The Pavilion, Llandrindod Wells

The annual conference for Wales dealing with everything enforcement related.

Lecture and RTPI Cymru Awards for Planning Excellence Lunch

11am - 4pm, 5 November 2020
Cornerstone, Charles Street, Cardiff

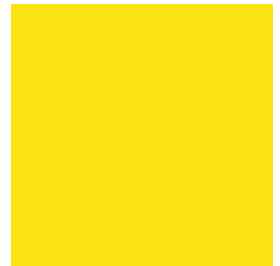
This year we're changing our annual social events, and we will be holding an Awards lunch combined with a new annual lecture. Look out for further details and in the meantime - hold the date.

Look out for details
of RTPI Cymru events
on our web pages www.rtpi.org.uk/wales and
through our fortnightly
e-bulletin.



Planners Taking Climate Action

Holland House
Hotel, Cardiff /
Thursday 4 June
2020



Sponsored by:

