

### Winners, Commended and Finalists

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### Welcome to the RTPI Awards for Planning Excellence 2020



For over 40 years the RTPI Awards for Planning Excellence have recognised the teams, projects and individuals that have transformed economies, environments and communities in the UK and around the world. This year's winners are amongst the 'best of the best'.

The ongoing coronavirus pandemic is challenging us all to think about what is important in our lives and the lives of those around us, the local places and spaces around us, the way that we work, use our homes and communicate with others. This year's winners shine a spotlight on the very best practice in delivering future places and spaces that work for everyone. They provide us with inspiration and confidence in the future of our profession.

I'd like to thank our generous headline sponsors AECOM and Savills as well as our category sponsors - Connected Places Catapult, Downey Planning & Architecture, Optimis Consulting, Pegasus Group, Places for People, Stantec and WSP Indigo for their continued support in these unprecedented times and in particular for their positive approach to the digitally enabled transformation of the 2020 Awards Ceremony.

Don't forget to share your 'likes' and 'comments' on the 2020 winners with others through the conversation on Twitter, Instagram and Facebook, using the hashtag #RTPIAwards.

Sue Manns FRTPI RTPI President



### Thank you to our 2020 Headline Sponsors

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Building iconic skyscrapers. Planning new cities. Connecting people and economies with roads, bridges, tunnels and transit systems. Helping governments maintain stability and security. Restoring damaged environments. Delivering clean water and energy.

They connect expertise across services, markets, and geographies to deliver transformative outcomes. Worldwide, AECOM design, build, finance, operate and manage projects and programmes that unlock opportunities, protect our environment and improve people's lives.

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Excellence in Planning for a Successful Economy

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**Excellence in Tech Within** Planning Practice



Connected Places Catapult accelerates smarter living and travelling in and between the places of tomorrow. They focus on growing businesses with innovations in mobility services and the built environment that enable new levels of physical, digital and social connectedness. Connected Places Catapult operates at the intersection between public and private sectors and between local government and transport authorities. They convene the disparate parts of the market to help innovators navigate the complexity of doing business, creating new commercial opportunities and improving productivity, socio-economic and environmental benefits for places.

### Thank you to our 2020 Category Sponsors



#### Young Planner of the Year



Places for People is one of the largest companies working in property and leisure management, development and regeneration in the UK. The Group makes a long-term commitment to its communities and works to provide what they need to thrive – whether it is new schools, shops, leisure facilities, job opportunities, access to learning and training or specialist support services. It is committed to creating successful places and enabling people to reach their potential. As a not-for-dividend organisation, any profit is reinvested back into its core business of creating and maintaining sustainable places.

### **Excellence in Plan Making Practice** Winner

### Wind Microclimatic Guidelines submitted by City of London

The UK's first Wind Microclimatic Guidelines is a ground-breaking collaboration between the City of London and the Wind Engineering industry, an exemplar of a Planning Authority establishing the first code of practice, methodology, quality control and raising the benchmark of acceptable wind conditions. The result is a robust tool for Planning, transferable across the UK planning system. The Guidelines introduce the first industry wide standards to ensure a robust planning tool to ensure new developments result in an appropriate local microclimate for the health and wellbeing of the wider public and deliver humane, gentler and liveable public realm and cities. Image by RWDI.



#### The judges' comments:

"The judges thought this project was exemplar. Not only is it innovative but it's also comprehensive and transferrable to not only other UK towns and cities but worldwide too. This work is highly relevant in the context of widely based pressures to densify urban centres in helping address wind tunnel issues which would otherwise make important areas of public realm highly inhospitable. The City of London have created an accessible tool at a practicable design level. The judges look forward to seeing this model being implemented elsewhere."

### **Excellence in Plan Making Practice** Commended

### Tower Hamlets Local Plan 2031: Managing growth and sharing the benefits submitted by London Borough of Tower Hamlets

The Tower Hamlets Local Plan 2031: Managing growth and sharing the benefits is the council's response to meeting ambitious growth targets in a densely populated, diverse and historic London borough. Created in partnership with local residents and stakeholders and in response to their concerns and aspirations, it seeks to manage this change and ensure its benefits are shared by all residents, through the designation of 21 site allocations and detailed strategic and development management policies. The plan is supported by the creation of a new regeneration team and board which will co-ordinate delivery of its vision and objectives.



#### The judges' comments:

"The judges wanted to commend this project to celebrate the council's work in tackling very high levels of population growth in a difficult context. They understood the challenges set out before them not only regarding the social diversity of the borough, but also the task of creating a plan for an area that has limited land available to develop on. The Tower Hamlets Local Plan is a bold approach that builds in resilience in social infrastructure to respond to still further growth. The judges viewed as an excellent example of collaborative working that they would encourage others to replicate elsewhere."

### **Excellence in Plan Making Practice** Finalists



#### Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Development Plan Document (DPD) submitted by South Lakeland District Council and Lancaster City Council

A Development Plan Document for the Arnside & Silverdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), a pioneering and innovative approach to plan-making.



#### Consultation of the Living Lakes – Your Local Plan submitted by Lake District National Park Authority

The Authority held a highly successful consultation on its Local Plan Review, securing a high response rate equivalent to 7% of the resident population. Image by LDNPA.



### Foxbar Local Place Plan and 'How To' Guide submitted by Renfrewshire Council

The Foxbar Local Place Plan sets out a community led vision for a residential neighbourhood within Paisley, Renfrewshire, supporting a sustainable, well-connected and successful place.

Image by Renfrewshire Council.



Homes and Neighbourhoods: A guide to designing in Bradford submitted by Tibbalds Planning and Urban Design with Urban Design Skills and City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council, Department of Place

Homes and Neighbourhoods: A Guide to Designing in Bradford enables the Council, developers and housebuilders to collaborate in raising design standards.



#### Kirky Town Centre Action Plan submitted by Kevin Murray Associates

The Your Kirky Action Plan is an ambitious plan that has been driven by the community for the community towards a more successful, vibrant place. Image by Kevin Murray Associates.

#### Plan:MK submitted by Milton Keynes Council and AECOM

In under three years, Milton Keynes Council (assisted by AECOM) produced multiple technical studies and adopted Plan:MK. Providing an ambitious vision and certainty for the community and businesses. Image by AECOM.

#### Plymouth and South West Devon Local Plan submitted by Plymouth City Council, South Hams District Council and West Devon Borough Council

The Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan - A single Joint Local Plan covering the three LPAs of Plymouth City, South Hams and West Devon.

#### Image by Plymouth City Council.

The Swansea Local Development Plan (LDP) submitted by Swansea Council The Swansea LDP is an innovative, Strategic Planning Framework that sets out a bold placemaking vision for an ambitious City at the heart of the Swansea Bay Growth Region.

### **Excellence Planning for a Successful Economy** Winner

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### Wokingham Town Centre Regeneration submitted by Wokingham Borough Council

Wokingham Town Centre Regeneration is an ambitious council project which aims to revitalise the town centre and the local high streets.

The project has seen the redevelopment of three key town centre sites with a range of new commercial units to attract national and independent retailers, a boutique Everyman Cinema, Premier Inn Hotel, Aldi foodstore, highways improvements and great pedestrianised community spaces including a new square and a large landscaped park and accessible play area.

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The project also delivers circa 215 homes to allow residents to live in a sustainable environment and support a vibrant town centre community. Image by Stewart Turkington.



#### The judges' comments:

"This project is ahead of the game. It's a transferable model for other town centres to boost their economies and community engagement. Wokingham Borough Council had a very hands on approach in revitalising the town centre by taking a whole place approach, which positioned all involved for success. This approach is not only innovative but replicable throughout the country. The judges believe their financial model especially will have a long lasting contribution to creating a Successful Economy in the future."

### **Excellence Planning for a Successful Economy Commended**

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### Calton Barras Project submitted by Glasgow City Council

Led by the Spatial Strategy team, Glasgow CC's Development & Regeneration Services, in partnership with local partners and external funders, have helped to transform the Calton Barras area, with a particular focus on revitalising the famous Barras market.

Planner's role in this has been pivotal, from initial engagement with local stakeholders, to developing the strategy, securing funding and project managing delivery of a programme of bespoke interventions which have helped to transform a neighbourhood that had suffered significant decline in the years preceding the project.

The project has revitalised the district, whilst retaining the unique identity of the Calton Barras. Image by BAaD Glasgow.



#### The judges' comments:

"This project had a creative outlook and has been developed with the community at the forefront. It has an ongoing strategy for not only planning but also design to make the area inviting to not only the locals but businesses too. The judges were particularly impressed by the layering through the planning process and implementation, a very bottom up approach to encompass all. The area was on the decline and needed the stimulus and new identity from Glasgow City Council, to great success. The judges found this refreshing to see."

### **Excellence Planning for a Successful Economy** Finalists





#### Aberdeen to Inverness Rail Improvement Project submitted by Network Rail

A rail infrastructure project between Aberdeen and Inverness delivering the network capability to provide new stations, shortened journeys and more frequent trains.

#### East Hampshire Invest for Growth Initiative submitted by East Hampshire District Council

East Hampshire Invest for Growth pilot; a practitioner-led and collaborative project between economic development and planning service for delivery of modern business use floorspace to support housing growth.

#### Foot Bridge to Telford Central Railway Station submitted by apT, Telford and Wrekin Council

Erection of replacement footbridge following demolition and removal of existing bridge structure together with associated level alterations, provision of retaining structures and access alterations.

#### Perch@Eco Business Centre submitted by Cherwell District Council

The Eco Business Centre, an exemplar in sustainability, provides office and co-working space at the heart of the new community being created at NW Bicester. Image by Kier.



### Robroyston Railway Station submitted by Glasgow City Council

Robroyston Park & Ride railway station provides sustainable transport for existing communities and 1600 new homes. Innovative use of planning obligations to frontload infrastructure provision. Image by Alison Wilson, Parklane Group.



### Southwater Square submitted by apT, Telford and Wrekin Council

The erection of a 68 bed hotel with bar/ restaurant, provision of multi-functional open space area together with associated hard and soft landscaping, and disabled parking.



### The Brewery Quarter submitted by Ridge and Partners LLP

The regeneration of the Lower High Street, known as The Brewery Quarter, reshaped and rejuvenated an existing urban environment in a deprived area of the town centre.



Worcestershire Parkway submitted by Worcestershire County Council Development of a new rail station – 'Worcestershire Parkway' and associated infrastructure at the intersection of the Birmingham to Bristol and Cotswold railway

lines in Worcestershire.

### **Excellence in Planning for Health and Wellbeing** Winner

### Marmalade Lane submitted by TOWN & Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service

Marmalade Lane, Cambridge's first Cohousing scheme, is a successful collaboration between the public and private sector and future residents that has resulted in a distinctive and sustainable neighbourhood adding character and vitality to the area. Residents share a 'common house' and shared garden, are active in community life and engaged in their local area. The project successfully challenges the standard responses to housing design, demonstrates the value of community-led housing and a collaborative approach to planning, and provides a viable alternative model that genuinely builds strong engaged communities and enhances resident wellbeing. Image by David Butler.



#### The judges' comments:

"The judges were impressed by this project because of its innovative approach and the way in which they clearly articulated the role of the planner. They were able to deliver tangible benefits to the community through strong engagement with the end user from the outset, and keeping health and wellbeing being as part of their wider ethos. The judges felt this project is highly pertinent to the times and its development model can easily replicated for the benefit of many communities."

### **Excellence in Planning for Health and Wellbeing** Commended

### **Defence and National Rehabilitation Centre** submitted by by Arup and BS Stanford Ltd

The DNRC provides treatment for servicemen and women suffering from physical and mental illness and injury, set within the historic Stanford Hall Estate.

The facility includes a state of the art integrated treatment zone containing gyms, pools, accommodation for complex trauma and neurological patients, diagnostic imaging and a prosthetics department. It will have a dramatic impact on the lives of armed forces people and could be game-changing in the rehabilitation medicine field worldwide.

The planning process achieved significant benefits for by balancing the pressing need for restoration of the Estate with the practical requirements of a 21st Century medical facility. Image by Andreas von Einsiedel Archive Ltd.



#### The judges' comments:

"This submission demonstrated how planners engaged with many stakeholders, including medical professionals, and kept the needs of the end users in mind throughout the planning and implementation process. There were complex challenges to overcome, successfully done by the planning team through good stakeholder engagement and the strong leadership."

### **Excellence in Planning for Health and Wellbeing** Finalists



### Embedding a health culture into spatial planning in Moray submitted by NHS Grampian

The project demonstrates the strong partnership working between NHS Grampian and Moray Council to plan for, deliver and embed a health culture into spatial planning. Image by Gary Templeton.

#### Horsham Football Club submitted by Horsham District Council

Horsham Football Club is a valuable community asset for Horsham Town and they hosted their first game in a brand new community sports facility in 2019.

### Life Kitchen at The Lodge submitted by Lichfields

Life Kitchen at The Lodge, Sunderland, offers free cookery classes for people living with cancer; transforming a vacant listed building into a unique, inspiring space.

#### Mitford Autism Unit submitted by Medical Architecture

Mitford provides a highly specialised UKwide service for adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders who have extremely complex needs and challenging behaviours. Image by Jennie Webb.



#### Pilgrim Court submitted by Strategic Planning and Infrastructure (SP&I), Plymouth City Council

This innovative project combines the skills of planning, housing and social care professionals, creating high quality specialist housing, whilst saving money for social care budgets. Image by Paulslaterimages.



### The Jean Bishop Integrated Care Centre submitted by Hull City Council

A transformative hub delivering integrated care to older people and emergency services, co-located within the heart of the community alongside specialist housing via multi-agency partnership. Image by Citycare Ltd.



#### Wind Microclimate Guidelines submitted by City of London

The UK's first Wind Microclimate Guidelines represents a key new planning tool resulting from collaboration between the City of London and the wind engineering industry. Image by RWDI.

## **Excellence in Planning for Heritage and Culture Winner**

#### The Newt in Somerset submitted by AZ Urban Studio & South Somerset District Council

When the Hadspen House estate was sold in 2013 after more than two centuries in the Hobhouse family, the new owners brought with them a vision for change and investment.

Six years later the estate opened to the public as The Newt in Somerset employing 250+ staff, with historic buildings and landscape restored and put back to productive use, and new buildings and gardens completed to serve the anticipated 100,000 annual visitors.

Delivering such large-scale transformation in a rural historic environment has involved close partnership working with the local planning authority and other stakeholders over a number of years.



#### The judges' comments:

"The Newt in Somerset was regarded extremely highly by the judges. They said it's magnificent in its scale, ambition and delivery. It's a model of good practice and transformation that could be replicated elsewhere with similar tangible outcomes. The judges particularly liked the sheer depth of community engagement involved in the project. It was not only outstanding, but lifted their spirits too."

### **Excellence in Planning for Heritage and Culture Finalists**



#### Beckenham Place Park submitted by Lewisham Council

Following a £5m Heritage Lottery Fund and additional funding from the Council, Beckenham Place Park and its historic buildings have been fully restored to its original 18th century parkland landscape. Image by Lewisham Council.

# Defence and National Rehabilitation Centre

submitted by Arup and BS Stanford Ltd A recently opened rehabilitation facility for service men and women situated within the Grade II\* listed Stanford Hall Estate in the East Midlands. Image by Andreas yon Einsiedel Archive Ltd.



#### New Cambridge Mosque submitted by Bidwells LLP

The stakeholder engagement process for the first purpose-built mosque for Cambridge represents a pinnacle of public involvement, learning and understanding for planning professionals. Image by Abdallah Abada.



#### Restoration and Conversion of Former Parkhead Public School submitted by Glasgow City Council

Glasgow City Council Planning Service worked with partners to deliver the restoration of a landmark building and its conversion for use as a community enterprise centre.



#### Square Chapel Arts Centre submitted by Evans Vettori Architects

A major extension to an Arts Centre. The site sits between two important, historic Listed Buildings: Square Chapel and The Piece Hall. Image by Mark Hadden.



#### Sutton Town Centre Heritage Toolkit submitted by Locus Consulting and the London Borough of Sutton

Forged within existing planning strategy, Sutton's Town Centre Heritage Toolkit awakens and promotes the role of heritage in the local High Street's regeneration. Image by Historic England.



#### The Green Heart – The University of Birmingham submitted by Churchman Thornhill Finch

The Green Heart redefines the value of outdoor learning spaces within a new landscape at the heart of The University of Birmingham.

The Stephenson Quarter - North East Futures UTC submitted by Lichfields Stephenson Quarter, Newcastle, combines an energetic mix of uses that draw on its industrial heritage. The North East Futures UTC kick starts its future legacy. Image by Sally Ann Norman Photography.

### **Excellence in Planning for Heritage and Culture Finalists**



Holyhead Market Hall Revitalisation submitted by Isle of Anglesey County Council

The listed Market Hall was vacant and deteriorating for 20 years. Through planning-led action the project has ensured a sustainable future, including a new home for Holyhead Library.

The judges also wanted to highlight how they were pleased that the long term outlook taken to develop Holyhead Market Hall Revitalisation, submitted by Isle of Anglesey County Council, had helped to ensure a holistic approach providing truly sustainable outcomes. Follow us on Twitter and Instagram @RTPIPlanners and join the conversation using #RTPIAwards



### **Excellence in Planning for the Natural Environment** Winner

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### South Humber Gateway Mitigation Strategy submitted by North East Lincolnshire Council/Engie

The South Humber Mitigation Strategy is a ground breaking planning approach, delivering wetland habitat. Developed through the Local Plan and implemented by planners addressing the challenges faced by landowners, developers and environmental bodies. The South Humber Bank is an area of economic growth also significant to birds recognised as important to the Humber Special Protection Area (SPA), SSSI and Ramsar site (Natura 2000). This planning approach enables sites to be developed quickly whilst ensuring that mitigation is in place which maximises bird use. The key to the strategic approach has been to develop a mechanism whereby the mitigation land is delivered "up front" of development through Planning Agreements. Image by North East Lincolnshire Council Engie



#### The judges' comments:

"The scale of this project really impressed the judges who view this to be leading practice in the industry, providing a template that can, and should, be replicated elsewhere. The judges were impressed by the strategic focus of the project that brings together the economy, public, private and environmental sectors. They found this to be extremely impressive. If others worked in this way they believe it would significantly improve the planning system."

### **Excellence in Planning for the Natural Environment** Finalists

#### Sponsored by





#### Caithness-Moray submitted by SSEN Transmission

Completed in 2019, the Caithness-Moray project delivered critical infrastructure whilst promoting biodiversity enhancement which has driven our ambitious targets for BNG in our Business Plan. Image by SSEN Transmission.

#### Carron Dams Local Nature Reserve – A Dam Fine Place! submitted by Falkirk Council

Imaginatively exploiting Carron Dam's incredible heritage to engage people of all ages has transformed this site into a welcoming, attractive and valued place for everyone. Image by Lisa Evans, Falkirk Council.

### Fife Opencast Restoration Programme submitted by Fife Council

From the scars of opencast to an 'almost natural' landscape in six years - how Fife recovered from the collapse of the Scottish Coal Industry.

#### Teats Hill Greenspace submitted by Plymouth City Council

A Plymouth City Council partnership regeneration, of Teats Hill, transformed a space with high levels of antisocial behaviour, into a high quality, well-used green/blue public space.



Worcestershire Parkway submitted by Worcestershire County Council Development of a new rail station – 'Worcestershire Parkway' and associated infrastructure at the intersection of the Birmingham to Bristol and Cotswold railway lines in Worcestershire. Image by Active Drone.

### **Excellence in Planning to Deliver Homes** small schemes (up to 50 homes) Winner

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### Marmalade Lane submitted by TOWN & Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service

Marmalade Lane, Cambridge's first Cohousing scheme, is a successful collaboration between the public and private sector and future residents that has resulted in a distinctive and sustainable neighbourhood adding character and vitality to the area. Residents share a 'common house' and shared garden, are active in community life and engaged in their local area. The project successfully challenges the standard responses to housing design, demonstrates the value of community-led housing and a collaborative approach to planning, and provides a viable alternative model that genuinely builds strong engaged communities and enhances resident wellbeing. Image by David Butler.



#### The judges' comments:

"Marmalade Lane stands out as exemplar for a new type and tenure of project, demonstrating how successful these can be. A proactive approach was taken to developing land that couldn't otherwise be easily used, and kept the end user in mind from the onset. The judges viewed this project as sustainable, easily replicable on a small scale, but can also be scaled up, and exhibited a shared vision for a new community."

### **Excellence in Planning to Deliver Homes** small schemes (up to 50 homes) Finalists

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Bantaskin Street Glasgow - Self Build Pilot submitted by Glasgow City Council Bantaskin Street, the first council enabled, urban self build scheme in Scotland, utilises a revolutionary new planning approach to simplify the process for self builders.



Former St. Ann's Road Police Station submitted by HTA Design LLP

HTA secured planning permission for the conversion of the historic St Ann's police station building, and adding a contemporary extension to provide new homes for One Housing Group. Image by HTA.



#### Gateshead Innovation Village submitted by Home Group

Gateshead Innovation Village demonstrates the significant contribution modular housing can provide in tackling the housing crisis, through timely delivery, innovative technology and thermal efficiency.



#### Old Mill Court, Sion Mills submitted by Rural Housing Association

Old Mill Court is the first-born scheme based on the 2014 published Rural Housing Design guide, created by Rural Housing Association and GM Design Associates.



#### SKYHouse, Waverley submitted by CODA Planning Ltd

SKYHouse Waverley is a new-build scheme which delivers a high-density solution to housing need in Rotherham as part of the new Waverley community.

### **Excellence in Planning to Deliver Homes** large schemes (up to 50 homes) Winner

## Sponsored by

### New Lubbesthorpe submitted by Blaby District Council

Blaby's newest community is being delivered, at pace, at New Lubbesthorpe against the background of a housing crisis in Britain. True innovation is being delivered through Blaby District Council's collaborative and proactive partnership with the landowners, housing developers, public and private sector partners. These relationships are creating a place where communities and businesses will thrive and where people want to live. New Lubbesthorpe will deliver 4250 houses (across all tenures), 1000 jobs, 3 schools, district and local centres, health facilities, parks and open space. This pioneering development is creating a sustainable community and lots of job opportunities for local people.



#### The judges' comments:

"The judges felt this project is an excellent example of good planning practice. Blaby District Council took a collaborative approach to deliver a project that benefitted the local economy and community. The judges admired the way in which they were able to engage with a range of stakeholders, including Highways England, and persuaded them to invest in a 20 year plan for the community. There was strong evidence the success of the project was due to the championing of planners and the involvement of the council's Chief Executive office. The project also demonstrated a commitment to diversity and sustainability."

### **Excellence in Planning to Deliver Homes** large schemes (50 or more homes) Finalists

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#### Blythe Valley Park submitted by IM Properties plc

A truly mixed-use development seamlessly blending employment, leisure and residential uses to create a shared community in a country park setting.

#### Brownfield Regeneration Programme submitted by Leeds City Council

Brownfield Regeneration Programme is a Council initiative based on partnership working to deliver new housing, infrastructure and employment on brownfield land in challenging market conditions. Image by Keepmoat.



#### Garnett Wharfe submitted by Barratt and David Wilson Homes Yorkshire West

Garnett Wharfe is a carbon neutral mixeduse development located on the banks of the River Wharfe, the site features a hydroelectric renewable Archimedes screw system.



**Greenford Quay submitted by Iceni Projects** Comprehensive redevelopment of previously inaccessible and impermeable site to provide a new community with over 2,000 homes (BTR and sale) and 20,000sqm of commercial floorspace.



#### Primrose Gardens Retirement Living submitted by Chorley Council

An exciting council development, the first affordable extra care scheme in Chorley, delivering high quality housing specifically for older people, including professionally designed dancehall, café, beauty salon and landscaped gardens.



**Rochester Riverside submitted by BPTW** Located in one of Kent's most historic cities, Rochester Riverside is revitalising a brownfield site to provide 1,400 new homes, commercial space and a new school.



Somerdale submitted by Barton Willmore Successful transformation of the old Somerdale Cadbury's Factory into a liveable, mixed use neighbourhood and employment hub with a thriving, diverse new community.

### **Excellence in Tech Within Planning Practice** Winner

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## Affordable Homes Monitoring submitted by Southwark Council

Tracking affordable housing effectively and efficiently has never been done before. It's crucial to helping planners deliver on a basic human need.

Urban areas in particular face chronic shortages. But most local authorities don't know how many affordable homes they have. Southwark Council and dxw have built a new digital service that enables affordable homes to be tracked throughout their entire lifespan, for the first time.

Without reliable monitoring, the housing crisis won't get solved at local or national level. Having found a way to fix this for one council, it can be fixed for others.



#### The judges' comments:

"Affordable Homes Monitoring is an exemplar of planning led problem solving and the judges applauded their user led approach. They felt the lack of consistency in the way levels of affordable homes are measured across local authorities is a real problem that this project addresses. Their code is open source which means their success can be easily transferred and replicated across all local authorities. It can assist those delivering the much needed level of affordable housing."

### **Excellence in Tech Within Planning Practice** Finalists

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Consultation of the Living Lakes – Your Local Plan submitted by Lake District National Park Authority

Digital tools were crucial in the highly successful consultation on the Local Plan, securing a high response rate equivalent to 7% of the resident population. Image by LDNPA.

#### Development Brief Prototype submitted by North Ayrshire Council

North Ayrshire Council has developed an engaging and accessible video style design brief incorporating 3D fly-throughs as an alternative to traditional text-based planning documents.



#### Wind Microclimate Guidelines submitted by City of London

The UK's first Wind Microclimate Guidelines represents a key new planning tool resulting from collaboration between the City of London and the wind engineering industry. Image by RWDI.

### **International Award for Planning Excellence** Winner

## Hills at Charlesworth Sustainability Plaza submitted by Stantec Consulting Ltd

Communities are fundamental. Whether around the corner or across the globe, they provide a foundation, a sense of place and belonging. That's why at Stantec, our consultants always design with community in mind. Our team cares about the communities it serves—because they are the communities we all share. Our tight-knit family of designers, engineers, scientists, and project managers innovate together at the intersection of community, creativity, and client relationships. Balancing these priorities results in projects that advance the quality of life in communities across the globe, especially in projects like Beaverbrook's Hills at Charlesworth Neighbourhood.



#### The judges' comments:

"The judges really liked that this project creates a strong community hub that can be used year-round, and they've used aspects of the natural winter location as a vision for design. The project not only showcases sustainability in planning, but has been able to demonstrate strong community outcomes too. An ingenious scheme."

### International Award for Planning Excellence Commended

### Slender West Lake Region Masterplan submitted by Shanghai Tongji Urban Planning & Design Institute

The Masterplan delivers a comprehensive strategy to stimulate sustainable development through effective use and restoration of urban scenic heritage. Diverse issues have been positively embraced to create an attractive link between the waterways, historic area and urban neighbourhoods. The Masterplan demonstrates a strong long-term approach and good collaboration with officials and the local community. It has reinforced a sense of place by retaining the local distinctiveness of the setting and the special qualities of the World Heritage (tentative). The project has created wide-ranging benefits in key agendas of economic growth, environmental preservation, retaining cultural heritage, and social inclusion. Image by Tongji.

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#### The judges' comments:

"This was recognised by the judges to have a comprehensive and strategic plan led approach. Slender West Lake is a city region has demonstrated on scale, in a highly populated area, how this form of planning can be implemented. They had a good approach to the challenging exercise of blending the historic and natural environment."

### **International Award for Planning Excellence Finalists**



#### Dubai Master Planning Guidelines submitted by Ove Arup & Partners Ltd

The focus of the Master Planning Guidelines (MPG) is ultimately to deliver a better built environment for current and future residents of Dubai.

#### Guangzhou Tianhe CBD Comprehensive Improvement Action Plan submitted by AECOM

The Action Plan is the result of a holistic planning process to deliver a framework for future action to promote a world-class CBD to 2035.

#### Mahindra World City, Jaipur submitted by Ove Arup & Partners Ltd

The new development will deliver twenty-five thousand new homes, two new retail centres, a network of new university buildings, and recreation and leisure facilities just outside Jaipur.



Fingal County Council has undertaken a multifocus planning initiative to support town planning in Lesotho which involves mapping, Local Area Plan production, capacity building and national planning guidance.



### RailSmart Planning Support System submitted by Planning and Transport Research Centre

The RailSmart Planning Support System is a digital, interactive Smart Cities tool to better inform integrated planning and transportation development.



### Townsville Hospital Master Plan submitted by HASSELL

The Master Plan considers the health service as a complete institution, applying its strategies to satellite and remote rural sites across the region.

## In-house Planning Team of the Year Winner

#### Sponsored by



#### **Anglian Water Services Limited**

Anglian Water serves a fifth of England's landmass – one of the fastest growing, yet driest and water-stressed, regions of the country. The company works with a range of national and local government bodies and policymakers to place sustainable water resource management at the heart of development and infrastructure.

Additionally, the company deliver its own infrastructure projects, influences development of national infrastructure projects (like the Oxford-Cambridge Arc), spatial plans, and planning applications. Anglian Water ensures critical infrastructure is delivered to facilitate growth and wider environment and social value.



#### The judges' comments:

"Anglian Water Services are responding to a need to address issues affecting their industry and are committed to putting planning resource in place to facilitate their business. They have successfully used the tools of the planning system in their work. The judges applauded their silo breaking and co-creation approach. They showed a commitment to development and inclusivity and showed good examples of VR used in engagement, which received good feedback from councils."

### In-house Planning Team of the Year Commended

#### Sponsored by



#### **Planning Aid Wales**

Planning Aid Wales is a Wales-wide charity working for effective community involvement in planning. The organisation works with local planning authorities, communities and the Welsh Government to help create a more accessible and participative planning system.

The website, telephone Helpline, publications and training events give thousands of people each year the information and advice they need to engage with planning. Staff work with a network of dedicated volunteers, mostly chartered planners, to deliver services.

An impartial and independent stakeholder, Planning Aid Wales works to build public understanding, increase community engagement and manage expectations, thereby supporting delivery of the planning system.



#### The judges' comments:

"The judges commended Planning Aid Wales for performing well across all entry criteria and were impressed by their digital facilitation and engagement process. They provided good examples of inclusivity and the judges admired the spirit of their work."

### In-house Planning Team of the Year Finalists

#### **Sponsored by**





Architecture & Design Scotland (A&DS) A&DS is the Scottish Government's design agency who bring people together to create better and more climate responsive places to live, learn and reside in.



**Countryside Properties** 

Countryside is a housebuilder and Master Developer specialising in place making and urban regeneration, being at the forefront of delivering sustainable new communities.



**Department for Education** The team works with partners and stakeholders to inform policy, promote sites, secure planning permissions, and facilitate the delivery of schools when and where required.



**SP Energy Networks** 

SP Energy Networks gets electricity to homes and businesses across the UK. Its in-house planning team delivers essential energy infrastructure in consultation with stakeholders.



**SSEN Transmission** 

SSEN Transmission, operating under licence as Scottish Hydro Electric Transmission Plc, owns and operates the electricity transmission network in the north of Scotland.

# Local Authority Planning Team of the Year Winner

#### **Sponsored by**

Pegasus

### London Borough of Tower Hamlets Council

Tower Hamlets recognises the importance of a high quality Infrastructure Planning Service (IP) to link planning to delivery making the Local Plan Spatial Vision a reality. Officers listen to local people through engagement about their infrastructure priorities. IP uses data analysis and digital solutions to plan delivery of the right infrastructure, in the right place, at the right time. It drives development viability to maximise input from developers. Viewed as an industry leader in an emerging field, IP delivers results using award winning staff (Tower Hamlets' Team of the Year 2019) and innovative partnerships with the GLA, RTPI, other boroughs and more.



#### The judges' comments:

"London Borough of Tower Hamlets Council faces a number of social challenges and has helped developers through inclusive engagement and a smarter approach to infrastructure; creating a community of infrastructure planners. They have provided an evolving model for innovation, which has been applied to the delivery and consultation model to ensure inclusivity. The judges applauded their clear commitment to working with local communities."

### Local Authority Planning Team of the Year Commended

#### Sponsored by

Pegasus Group

### apT, Telford & Wrekin Council

#### "Tailoring Spaces and Creating Places"

Leading the way for the public sector, apT deliver a full range of statutory Planning, Building Control, Highways Development Management and specialist services whilst facilitating wider development beyond the Local Authority Area.

Recognising the skill sets and expertise within the team, a desire to inspire positive development, deliver growth and generate additional income to support diminishing Local Authority resources, apT offer a full solution partner for development projects.

apT pride themselves on the continuing value and quality they provide for people and the environments they work with, achieving shared priorities to create better places.



#### The judges' comments:

"apT, Telford and Wrekin Council is innovative with regards to delivering planning services. They are commitment to inclusivity in the community and staff development and also showcase great examples of good practice and planning principles. They have also demonstrated a clear link between how the income generated by their services is used, investing in their staff development and business improvement activities."

### Local Authority Planning Team of the Year Finalists

#### Sponsored by

Pegasus Group



**Derbyshire County Council** Derbyshire County Council's Planning Service is a strategic planning authority that is

waste and its own county development.

responsible for delivering sustainable minerals,

**Doncaster Council** 

Doncaster Council has revolutionised its planning processes to place customers at the heart of their service with record levels of delivery for quality housing. London Borough of Lewisham, Planning Service

Lewisham Planning Service is leading the way in promoting ambitious regeneration to the borough and with the planned Bakerloo Line Extension, transformation is well underway. Image by London Borough of Lewisham.

#### London Borough of Southwark

Southwark leads the way in delivery of new homes, celebrating diversity in the community and in its recruitment and moving towards a digital service.



#### Urban and Environmental Design Team, Sheffield City Council

UED brings together the specialist elements of Sheffield's planning service in a single unit to promote and deliver positive change across the built environment.

### **Small Planning Consultancy of the Year** Winner

### Sponsored by



#### **Atriarc Planning**

Atriarc Planning is a straight-talking planning, design and environmental consultancy that excels in collaborating in a multi-disciplinary environment.

We work tirelessly and creatively to achieve your vision and ensure sustainable, aspirational schemes that adds value to you, and to the local community.

Our specialist insight into the Welsh planning system, agricultural and commercial rural developments and project management helps us secure multi-million pound schemes as well as smaller, bespoke commercial and diversification projects.

Our clients value our bespoke approach, our flexibility and our honesty, with a view to the commercial scope of the development as well as the planning fundamentals.



#### The judges' comments:

"The judges were extremely impressed by Atriarc Planning who, as a sole practitioner, outshone several larger firms. They felt that not only did the submission give the best description of work on a project in terms of the planning process, but outcomes too. The judges were impressed by the flexible approach, willingness to learn and the drive to see projects through to implementation. This entry showed a great deal of passion and dedication to projects and clients evidenced by the comprehensive service offered."

### **Small Planning Consultancy of the Year Commended**



#### **Kevin Murray Associates**

Kevin Murray Associates is a Glasgow-based niche consultancy working across the UK on research, strategy and visioning in planning and regeneration, specialising in stakeholder and community engagement, including design charrettes.

Their inclusive place momentum approach assists Councils and communities with regeneration; government bodies with research; garden village promoters with engagement; and planning students with applied contemporary learning.

Led by Kevin Murray (RTPI Past President) and Jas Atwal, their team is outward-looking and active in the RTPI, Academy of Urbanism, Scottish Towns Partnership and Partners in Planning, as well as teaching at several planning schools and supporting development trusts.



#### The judges' comments:

"Kevin Murray Associates are a niche firm who are interesting, innovative and client and engagement based. The judges were particularly impressed by the variety of work carried out by the practice, with exceptional performance in consultation and engagement, and the calibre of their clients. "

### **Small Planning Consultancy of the Year Finalists**

### Sponsored by





#### **Collective Planning**

Innovation, collaboration and creativity are at the core of Collective Planning. Collective Planning is at the forefront of pushing boundaries to deliver pioneering projects.

#### Halliday Fraser Munro

Halliday Fraser Munro's planning team provides delivery focussed planning consultancy, benefitting from our wider architectural and masterplanning expertise and offering realistic and considered planning solutions.



#### **HTA Design LLP**

HTA Design's Planning Team works in a multidisciplinary design practice specialising in residential-led urban regeneration projects. complemented by their research and thought leadership.

#### Lawson Planning Partnership Ltd

Versatility, inclusivity and professionalism underpin LPP's approach to delivering sustainable development and providing an exemplary planning service to its clients.



#### **Planning Insight**

Planning Insight prides itself on its honest and personal approach to planning issues enabling it to deliver successful results for its clients.



#### nineteen47

nineteen47 is a multi-disciplinary consultancy providing planning and urban design services across the UK, which offers a professional and dynamic service to its clients.



#### **Place Studio**

Place Studio focus all their work on delivering and promoting genuinely collaborative place making approaches across strategic planning, neighbourhood planning, urban design and development projects.



#### **Smith Jenkins Planning**

Smith Jenkins provide planning consultancy services across the UK acting with honesty and integrity to achieve the best possible outcomes for its valued clients.

### **Planning Consultancy of the Year** Winner

Sponsored by



Nexus Planning is an independent consultancy operated and managed by Chartered Town Planners. Nexus Planning delivers planning solutions across a variety of development sectors.

Private sector: Nexus Planning delivers planning permissions for significant city-centre mixed-use projects, new residential schemes, office, education, retail and leisure, and energy projects.

Public sector: Nexus Planning prepares town centre investment strategies, feasibility studies and retail assessments.

Through diversity of expertise and experience, Nexus Planning applies the relevant skills to our projects providing a 'whole life' service, from initial strategy and policy advice, co-ordination and negotiation of applications and stakeholder consultation through to project implementation.



#### The judges' comments:

"Although the judges found the final decision difficult, because of the overall quality of entries, they were particularly impressed by this submission as they demonstrate what it means to be a planning professional in the current climate. They are a contemporary firm who are focused on the needs of now and have strong community engagement. The judges were particularly impressed by the spatial approach they took to deliver their planning outcomes."

### Planning Consultancy of the Year Commended

# Sponsored by

#### **Edgars**

Edgars is an independent planning consultancy. Through collaboration with Local Planning Authorities and leading consultant teams, they deliver high quality development across the rural and urban context.

Based in Oxfordshire with 12 planners including four apprentices, their approach to investing and developing employees and the profession, supported by whole company devised core values, has created a specialist team of planners able to undertake work of the highest standard. Their focus on understanding the client's needs and how planning can deliver positive outcomes for all, has resulted in consents for major projects despite significant planning challenges.



#### The judges' comments:

"The judges commended Edgars for planning for the future thorough their approach to projects, their focus on apprentices and their strong values. They demonstrated a good mix of in house initiatives with external involvement."

### **Planning Consultancy of the Year Finalists**





#### **BPTW**

BPTW offers a client focused, flexible and responsive planning consultancy service. They have a strong collaborative working culture and are passionate about planning and regeneration.



#### **Deloitte Real Estate**

Deloitte Real Estate is a national planning consultancy which delivers complex planning projects and strategies for a range of public and private sector clients.



Fisher German

A national team of property consultants, planners, agents and project managers with a heritage approaching 190 years with 500 people across 16 offices.



#### Savills

With over 280 planners across 22 locations, Savills has the expertise to advise on projects of all scales and land use types throughout the UK. Image by Simon Howard.



#### Lichfields

Lichfields is a leading planning and development consultancy in the UK. The company has been helping create great places for over 50 years.



#### Pegasus Group

Pegasus Group is a leading development UK consultancy specialising in planning, design, environment, economics and heritage.



#### **Ridge and Partners LLP**

The valued planning team at Ridge provides visionary and practical solutions, delivering sustainable environments whilst encouraging the promotion of the planning profession within the community.



#### WSP | Indigo

WSP | Indigo is the planning consultancy division of WSP, the global advisory and technical consultancy advising on sustainable development in the built and natural environment.

### Young Planner of the Year Winner



### Robyn Skerratt Department for International Development

Robyn has proactively sought out a broad and varied range of planning roles. She is also passionate about bringing a spatial planning perspective to other related disciplines. Her biggest achievement to date has been overseeing the delivery of the UK's first Voluntary National Review of progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals, presented to the United Nations in July 2019.

With a strong commitment to personal and professional development, Robyn frequently pushes herself outside her comfort zone in pursuit of new opportunities. She is a strong advocate for planning/the built environment and is a regular Open House volunteer and APC mentor. Image by Matthew Lewis.



The Julie Cowans Memorial Trust is delighted to award Robyn with a £1,000 prize to contribute towards her career development.



#### The judges' comments:

"The judges believe Robyn embodies the idea of what an ambassador should be, for not only Young Planners but the profession for many years to come. Her confidence and passion for planning, and the future of the profession, shone through; it was all encompassing and reached beyond the conventional realms of planning. Her work on developing the SDGs within Government and with the UN was particularly impressive and noteworthy. The judging panel were in awe of what she has been able to achieve in her career to date and are excited to see what she achieves as the Young Planner of the Year, and beyond. "

### Young Planner of the Year Finalists

### Sponsored by





Emily Anderson Lincolnshire County Council Emily is showing amazing dedication and enthusiasm to qualify as a chartered planner via the Apprenticeship route and is an excellent role model to promote planning apprenticeships.



Laura Archer Alexandra Eqge **Barton Wilmore** Mott MacDonald Laura is an ambitious. Alex is a transport highly motivated planner at Mott MacDonald leading and passionate planner who seeks the development of to promote the an innovative process planning profession to embed social and inspire younger sustainability into generations into the infrastructure and built environment. placemaking projects.



Kate Green Turley Kate is an inspirational young planner. She is driven and passionate about the work she does and is a champion for diversity and inclusion.



Jeffrey Ng West Berkshire Council Jeffrey's enthusiasm, dedication and commitment is self-evident, he is an outstanding planning officer earning the respect of his peers; a role model for young planners.



Hannah Pavne Lara Peter WSP | Indiao WSP | Indigo Hannah is a A role model for committed and planners involved in delivering major enthusiastic planner who has led on a infrastructure number of significant projects. projects. delivering always working consents for high collaboratively quality developments to achieve the to improve right outcome communities. that respects the



environment and

communities.

M Proventier

Karen Phimister Swindon Borough Council

An outstanding ambassador for the profession, Karen has a remarkable ability to engage and enthuse external stakeholders in the merits of positive planning. Image by Karen Phimister.



Lisa Proudfoot Montagu Evans Lisa's drive, ambition, and commitment have helped promote planning as a profession in Scotland; inspiring a new generation of future planners.



William Steel Atkins William is a Senior Planner at Atkins, and is Vice Chair for RTPI Yorkshire Young Planners and Secretary for the RTPI Regional Management Board.

### The Silver Jubilee Cup Overall Winner

#### Marmalade Lane submitted by TOWN & Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service

#### The judges' comments:

44

"The judges thought this project was an extremely worthy winner of the Silver Jubilee Cup. Planners were central to this innovative scheme, and the judges were particularly impressed by their collaborative approach to problem solving to overcome the range of challenges that came their way. A well designed and attractive place has been created which puts the needs of the user at its centre. The development highlights both best practice and the benefits that can come from thinking outside the box. Community is both at the forefront and heart of Marmalade Lane, which the judges not only thought was timely but also a model that others will be looking to replicate in the future. Congratulations to TOWN & Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service!"



Since 1977, the magnificent silver goblet - the prestigious Silver Jubilee Cup - is awarded annually to the entry judged to be the most outstanding from amongst the eight project category winners.



#### Thank you to the 2020 Awards Judges

**Chair of the Judging Panel:** 

Prof Sadie Morgan drMM Architects

**Policy Advisors:** 

Craig McClaren FRTPI Director, RTPI Scotland and Ireland

Dr Roisin Willmott OBE FRTPI Director, RTPI Wales and Northern Ireland

Judging Panel: Tola Amodu LARTPI University of East Anglia

Ailsa Anderson MRTPI Aberdeenshire Council

Jonathan Bell MRTPI Plymouth City Council

Jan Bessell FRTPI Pinsent Masons LLP

Alison Blom-Cooper MRTPI Fortismere Associates

**Clive Brook FRTPI** 

**Marion Chalmers MRTPI** 

Simin Davoudi FRTP Newcastle University

Maria Dunn MRTPI Worcester City Council Sarah Elliott MRTPI AECOM

Helen Fadipe MRTPI

Diana Fitzsimons FRTPI

Sandra Ford MRTPI Homes England

Peter Geraghty FRTPI Southend Borough Council

Alan Goodrum FRTPI

Gary Halman FRTPI Avison Young

Colin Haylock FRTPI

Jane Healey Brown FRTPI Arup

Kieron Hyams FRTPI Arup

David Jackson MRTPI Savills

Euan Kellie FRTPI Euan Kellie Property Solutions

Chloe King Sandwell Council

Andrew Martin FRTPI AM Plan Robert May FRTPI Turlev

Duncan McCallum FRTPI Historic England

Euan Mills Connected Places Catapult

Angela Moore MRTPI Horsham District Council

Frank Rallings FRTPI

Lindsey Richards FRTPI Homes England

Adrian Salt FRTPI Adrian Salt and Pang Limited

Stefano Smith FRTPI Stefano Smith Planning

Andrew Taylor FRTPI Countryside Properties

Robin Tetlow FRTPI Tetlow King Planning

Keith Thomas FRTPI per Consulting Ltd

Martin Willey FRTPI

Roger Wilshaw Places for People 'Our lives are all being tested in ways that we could not have imagined when these awards where launched. The coronavirus outbreak has caused a massive reset – an enforced shutdown that will affect our livelihoods, our relationships and our wellbeing for years to come. Yet as we look at the shortlist and this year's rightful winner, it is clear that the values imbedded in these projects will set the example for the changing world that we now inhabit. Marmalade Lane, the Silver Jubilee Cup winner, showed that greater local participation; more opportunities for accessing nature: prioritising people over cars; creates a place that inspire a sense of belonging; local services that answer local need: and a rich local culture that harnesses all the humour and warmth we know we are capable of showing in even the worst of times.

Planners had a critical role in the success of all the winners, and we must not forget the importance of collaboration and in allowing innovation and ingenuity to thrive - essential for the months and years ahead.'

Prof Sadie Morgan drMM Architects

## RTPI AWARDS FOR PLANNING EXCELLENCE 2020



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