

# RTPI London Young Planners Business Strategies 2021

The Royal Town Planning Institute defines practitioners with less than ten years of post-qualification experience as a “Young Planner” (YPs). As the headquarters of major consultancies, developers and government organisations, London attracts many YPs due to its unrivalled potential at offering the opportunity to work on a wide breadth and diversity of projects and experiences. RTPI London recognises the importance of YPs as the region believes they are the future leaders of the planning industry. Therefore, a “Young Planners Group” is proposed to be set-up as a sub-committee within the Regional Activities Committee (RAC). This document will lay out the Young Planners Group sub-committee structure, mission and plans for 2021.

## **Roles within the Young Planners Subcommittee**

The YP Sub-committee should be chaired by a RAC member who has been actively involved in YP events for at least six months (“YP London Chair”). The YP London Chair represents the voice of Young Planners in London and is democratically elected by YP Sub-committee members. Working with the regional coordinator, RMB and RAC, the YP London Chair also sits within the Regional Management Board (RMB), and attends RTPI National Young Planners Chair Meetings (held three times a year). The Chair is supported by a committee of officers, each holding specific responsibilities - the size of the committee can be changed according to the Chair’s view. For more details, please see the separate RTPI London Young Planners Representative(s) guidance.

Please note the roles listed below are for referencing purposes only. If a member in the sub-committee becomes unavailable due to personal or work commitment, their roles should be equally distributed among other officers. The job functions are not definitive and can be amended according to events or availability of personnel.

**The Secretary of YP** manages communication within the Sub-committee, which includes taking minutes at YP Sub-committee meetings and arranging meeting invites. They also act as an interim chair should the chair become unavailable due to personal or work commitments. **The Events Liaison of YP** manages the physical location or online platform booking, this role also works with the regional coordinator (Lucy Barton) to submit events proforma for the RTPI’s

internal processing. The **Networking Manager of YP** is in charge of coordinating social networking events, this could be stand-alone events or promoting YPs mission at other RTPI London events. **Talent and Sponsorship Manager** secures the bookings of potential speakers and sponsors, they also look for sponsors for YP's events. After identifying and before approaching desired talents or sponsors, they will work closely with the Regional Coordinator - Lucy Barton, to make sure there are no double bookings between YPs, the Region and the RTPI as a whole. **Educational Manager** creates links with the three London planning schools and engages with students who are interested in joining the profession.

## Mission of the Young Planners Sub-committee

The RTPI sets out Four Pillars as their priority as an organisation, which includes: **The value of membership and professionalism; Supporting planning services; Raising the profile of planning;** and **Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity**. Of which, **actions for climate emergency** cuts across all four pillars as an overarching strategy to be achieved for all RTPI engagements.

The YP aims to help to deliver these pillars for young planners at a local level with the following AVRIL missions:

- **Accessibility into the profession**

Raising the profile of planning by supporting students, apprentices or those who are currently considering the planning profession.

- **Visibility of the young planners' voice**

Representing the voices of young planners in London in an equal, diverse and inclusive manner.

- **Resistance in the times of change**

Supporting young planners to adapt after the Coronavirus pandemic and to climate emergency response.

- **Interaction between young planners**

Take advantage of the membership and reach of RTPI London to create networking opportunities between young planners.

- **Learning and professional development**

Maintain the level of professionalism of young planners with different learning opportunities.

## **Delivery by the Young Planners Subcommittee**

The Coronavirus creates uncertainty interacting with members, as the RTPI has postponed any physical events until April 2021. However, the Sub-committee looks at alternative ways to deliver our mission and connect with our members. Each proposed event will adhere to social distancing rules, any other necessary measures, and most importantly the mission of the subcommittee.

## **Pizza and Prosecco Networking Event**

**Accessibility** | **Visibility** | **Interactive**

The pizza and prosecco event has been run by the Sub-committee for the past two years with huge success. The event is normally held in March, but was cancelled in 2020 due to the national lockdown. This gives young planners a chance to network with colleagues at different organisations. The event gives great opportunities for sponsorship and revenue making. This event may be delayed depending on social distancing measures.

## **THE Summer Social**

**Accessibility** | **Visibility** | **Interactive**

The sub-committee is renowned for the annual summer social at unique locations. Previously the event has been attended not just by young planners, but their colleagues who may be a different built environment professional. This gives other professionals and young planners a networking opportunity in a social, relaxed manner. Again, the summer social gives great opportunities for sponsorship. This event may not be visible or delayed depending on social distancing measures.

## **Continue Professional Development (CPD) series**

**Accessibility** | **Resistance** | **Learning**

A series of three to four CPD events on the latest planning updates and interesting topics. This can be held in collaboration with the Region. Due to the coronavirus pandemic, a revised format has been trailed in 2020 by publishing a podcast series. The virtual distribution of CPD contents allows RTPI London a global reach, and positions itself as an esteemed organisation in London's built environment scene. As above, this gives great opportunities for sponsorship - as a sponsoring company can place advertisements or host an episode.

## **APC Submission Event**

**Visibility** | **Resistance** | **Learning**

To help young planners to gain their chartership status, the sub-committee will establish two APC mentoring events before the submission deadline in March and September. Recently chartered members are invited to highlight any tips or pitfalls for attendees and a Q&A will form part of the session. This event may be virtual depending on social distancing measures.

## **Mock Inquiry**

**Visibility** | **Resistance** | **Learning**

An integral part of a planner's role is to defend their decision making. The sub-committee will organise a mock inquiry event in late spring. Young planners can learn the procedures of an inquiry through a recent case. This event may be virtual depending on social distancing measures.

## **Universities Visits**

**Accessibility** | **Visibility**

To promote the RTPI as a chartership organisation, the Sub-committee will attend three separate virtual visits to the three London planning schools (LSBU, Westminster, UCL). A pre-recorded message will be accompanied by a live Q &A session.

## **Young Planners Conference 2022/23**

**Visibility** | **Resistance** | **Learning**

RTPI London YP Sub-committee has bid for the national annual Young Planners' Conference in 2020 for 2021/22. However, due to the coronavirus pandemic, all Young Planners Conferences has been postponed for a year. It is still this Committee's vision to bring the conference back to London in the coming years.