

Minerals Planning Conference 2021: Planning for a Green Recovery

Programme

- 9.00AM** **Registration**
Networking
- 9.30AM** **Opening remarks**
Wei Yang FRTPI – President, Royal Town Planning Institute
- 9.40AM** **Keynote address**
Simon Gallagher – Director of Planning, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
- 10.10AM** **Planning Reform & Minerals**
[“Planning for the Future”](#) was published on the 6th August 2020 with the ambition to make the English planning system *‘significantly simpler, faster and more predictable...’* by replacing the entire corpus of planning law founded on the 1947 Town & Country Planning Act. Many of the proposed reforms could potentially address areas of weakness that apply to the current mineral planning regime. However, the consultation only addresses housing and associated infrastructure. The minerals planning system already operates differently to other forms of spatial planning, reflecting the nature of minerals distribution and development, which is dictated by geology. Against the backdrop of Government’s ‘green recovery’ agenda, this session will explore some of the opportunities and challenges for mineral planning that may emerge from the wider planning reform agenda.
- Richard Greaves MRTPI** – Chief Planning Officer (County Planning and Major Development), Essex County Council
Stephen Redwood – Land Development and Permitting Director – Europe, CEMEX
Lonek Wojtulewicz MRTPI – Planning & Infrastructure Division, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government
Chair: Wei Yang FRTPI – President, Royal Town Planning Institute
- 11.00AM** **Comfort networking break**
- 11.15AM** **Net Gain & Minerals**
The forthcoming Environment Bill includes provisions to amend the Town & Country Planning Act which will require almost all development to demonstrate delivery of biodiversity gain of at least 10%. The NPPF encourages plans to pursue opportunities for securing measurable net gains for biodiversity, and some planning authorities already require this through plan policies. Defra and Natural England has developed a ‘metric’ and tool

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to standardise the calculation of biodiversity value of a site prior to and following development, with the gain delivered on-site, off-site, or through purchase of credits. Development and restoration of mineral extraction sites has a long track record of delivering benefits for nature conservation and biodiversity, although the 'net' gain has not been measured routinely in the past. The legislation is being introduced primarily to address the failure of other types of development, particularly housing, to deliver biodiversity gains, and so the metric and tool have been designed to reflect this. This session will explore how the approach is being rolled-out, experiences so far, and why its application to minerals may need to reflect the unique challenges and opportunities presented.

Max Heaver – Net Gain Policy and Legislation, Defra

Kirsty Kirkham – Director - Derbyshire, BSG Ecology

Dr Nick White – Principal Advisor - Net Gain, Natural England

Chair: David Payne MRTPI – Senior Planning Advisor, Mineral Products Association

12.15PM **Networking Lunch and Expo**

Use this time to network with your fellow attendees and visit our expo booths

1.30PM **Legal Update – sponsored by No5 Chambers**



Richard Kimblin QC – Barrister, No5 Chambers

Nina Pindham – Barrister, No5 Chambers

2.30PM **Comfort networking break**

2.40PM **Net Zero & Mineral Planning**

While the majority of attention is focused on more strategic climate change issues and the steps required to achieve net zero by 2050, planners and mineral operators will increasingly be challenged with addressing similar issues through the local planning system. A number of local planning authorities have already declared a 'climate emergency' and will be developing and adopting local policies that seek to ensure that development addresses climate change impacts, mitigation and adaptation. Therefore, while the headlines are made by political statements of ambition and national policy, it is likely to be at the local scale where the challenge of answering the climate change and net zero exam question actually start to manifest themselves in practice. Given the mineral products sector covers a wide spectrum of land-use, resource consumption, energy use, transport,

and end-use activities, this session will consider what net zero could mean for mineral planning and how the mineral products sector is responding.

Adrian Cooper MRTPI – Climate Change Task Force Leader, Shropshire Council

Dr Richard Leese – Director - MPA Cement & Director - Energy & Climate Change, Mineral Products Association

Carolyn McKenzie – Director of Environment, Surrey County Council

Chair: Mark Russell - Executive Director, Mineral Products Association

3.30PM Refreshment break

3.35PM Closing remarks
Nigel Jackson – Chief Executive, Mineral Products Association

3.45PM Close

For further information, please contact conferences@rtpi.org.uk.