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## Board of Trustees

# COP26 UPDATE

## Report from the Director of Scotland, Ireland and English Regions

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### FOR NOTING

The BOT is asked to note the COP26 update.

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## 1. Introduction

This paper updates SET on progress being made with the Institute's involvement with COP26.

## 2. Progress

Annex 1 sets out the key milestones and planned RTPI activities in the run up to and during COP26. This involves a range of events, social media and publications. This is very much a working document and subject to change.

Some key areas of work include:

### RTPI Event at the COP26 Fringe

Arrangements are in hand on the RTPI event "The Race to Zero: Plan the World We Need". This will take place between 6pm – 9pm in the Studio, Hope Street, Glasgow, and it will be webcast. This event is being organised by RTPI in partnership with the APA, GPN, CAP and ISOCARP. It will comprise a series of presentations and discussions that highlight the critical role of, and opportunities for, towns and cities across the globe to address climate change and achieve zero carbon places. It will showcase where planners and planning have and can play a vital role in redesigning our places and spaces, in minimising the need for travel through cohesive and holistic place-based approach to development and through driving forward the delivery of low carbon design and mainstreaming the use of renewables energy in new development.

### Plan The World We Need 2.0

It is planned to publish the RTPI Plan the World We Need 2.0 research at the summit on 8 November, which is World Town Planning Day. This builds on the original Plan the World We Need research but introduces a more international dimension. The publication will be referenced in the event taking place that evening.

### RTPI COP26 Web Hub

It is proposed to launch a new hub on the RTPI website to highlight any RTPI activities around COP26 and to act as a 'library' of any publications, events or media channels that have been recorded as part of our work on COP26.

## **UKGBC Virtual Pavilion**

RTPI is a delivery partner in the UK Green Building Council virtual pavilion which will be live through the summit. This is being curated by a coalition of 40+ delivery partner organisations across the built environment sector, to give the sector a strong voice at COP26. And has 3 elements:

- Exhibition: to include a showcase of global best practice within a bespoke VR space, which (if allowed) will also be accessible via ocular rift headsets in the Green Zone.
- Installation; to design an inspirational and artistic centrepiece for the Pavilion.
- Events series; a programme of tours and talks, keynotes, panels, and other downloadable content

RTPI sits on the event planning programme group and am promoting the idea of a virtual event on the importance of place-based approaches to tackling climate change and are proposing to organise 3 events to be taken forward jointly with RIBA and ICE, and possibly others. These are:

- How do we build holistic net-zero 'places' of the future? This would feature the role of holistic planning, good design, nudging people to make better net-zero decisions
- The net-zero built environment professionals of the future. What do they look like and what do we need to do? This will be a panel discussion either of young people, or chaired by a young person with senior reps from our orgs and would feature the decisions we have made or need to make to ensure future professionals have the right skills
- How are we going to green the existing and future built environment? This will feature carbon codes, standards, and regulations, retrofit of assets

The President has been asked to sit on the judging panel for the exhibitions and installations to be included in the virtual pavilion.

## **International Partners**

Discussion has taken place with CAP and the APA about their involvement in the face-to-face event to be held on 8 November and they are keen to engage in this. A further discussion needs to take place with the Global Planners Network. I have also had initial discussions with ISOCARP and aim to touch base with them regarding their plans.

We also wish to explore with them about the possibility of publishing a short joint statement outlining the important role of planning and planners in supporting net zero growth ambitions and their needs in advance of COP26.

## **Attendance at the Summit**

Arrangements have been made to allow the RTPI Presidential team and key staff to be in Glasgow between Monday 8 November and Wednesday 11 November. This includes World Town Planning Day and the day themed around Cities, Regions, and the Built Environment. Details on activities that will be underway in this period are still scant, but we will look to explore opportunities to raise the profile of planning and the Institute when more details emerge.

### **3. Recommendation**

The BOT is asked to note the COP26 update.

### **4. Health and safety implications**

*It is considered that there are no immediate health and safety implications of the proposals contained in the report although it is anticipated that health and safety risk assessments will be undertaken regarding the face-to-face elements of the COP26 for the Presidential Team and staff.*

### **5. Equality and diversity implications**

*The activities on COP26 provide opportunities to promote the ambitions of the Equality, Diversity and Inclusivity Strategy and to stimulate debate and discussion around the issues faced by minority groups. In particular, the proposed fringe event will be a collaboration of partners from the Global North and the Global South and will enable diversity and inclusivity to be a golden thread throughout our activities. The EDI Manager has been engaged in the development of the programme and is currently assessing how to make best use of the Plan the World We Need 2.0 publication.*

### **6. Financial implications**

*There is an allocated budget for COP26 activities.*

### **7. Communications Implications**

*The communications team are important contributors to this work and are currently developing a communications strategy for RTPI's COP26 activities.*

### **8. Governance and Compliance implications**

*It is considered that there are no immediate governance, data protection or legal implications of the proposals contained in the report. However, any possible implications and mitigation will be discussed if and when any of them are taken forward.*

### **9. Jurisdiction and devolution implications**

*This report covers all RTPI jurisdictions across the UK and Ireland. It also touches on the Institute's international activities.*

### **10. Corporate Strategy - Climate action**

*The RTPI's COP26 activities are aimed at supported climate change and zero carbon ambitions and urging others to do tis also. The Climate action plan will be taken into consideration when making decisions around travel to and from and within the summit.*

### **11. Corporate Strategy - GROWPLAN (Corporate Strategy)**

*The COP26 activity will support Corporate Strategy ambitions in raising the profile of planning and the Institute in an international setting.*

## **12. Corporate Strategy - Digital Transformation**

*The actions aim to make best use of technology, especially in webcasting the RTPI COP26 event.*

## Annex 1

### COP26: DRAFT SCHEDULE

Date	Activity	Lead	Comments
TBC September	<b>COP26 web hub on website</b>	SC	
7/9/21	<b>Irish Planner Live – Planning for Zero Carbon</b> Virtual online 3 session event covering compact growth, transport, and energy	CMcL	Member engagement To be badged with #PTWWN
8/9/21	Meeting with Michael Matheson MSP, Zero Carbon Cabinet Secretary, Scottish Government	CMcL	Public affairs #PTWWN messaging
13-19/9 21	<b>Scotland's Climate Week</b> celebrating the action being taken across Scotland to reach net zero emissions, in the run up to COP26.	CMcL	TBC
14/9/21	<b>Northern Irish Planner Live</b> xxx	RW	Member engagement To be badged with #PTWWN
22/9/21	<b>RTPI NW event on climate change</b> xxx	BW	Member engagement
23/9/21	<b>RTPI Scotland West of Scotland Chapter event – Renewable Energy and Planning for Climate Change</b> This event will provide an overview of the latest developments in renewable energy generation and the evolving role for the planning system.	JS	Member engagement
28-30/9/21	<b>COP26 Youth Summit: Youth4Climate: Driving Ambition</b> 400 young people aged between 18 and 29 from the 197 member-countries of the UNFCCC to develop concrete proposals for Pre-COP26 in Milan and COP26 in Glasgow	CMcL	Monitor
28/9/21	<b>RTPI South West International Group Webinar on Shaping Neighbourhoods</b> How to plan, deliver and manage successful urban settlements which meet (UN) Sustainable Development, climate, noise, and health (eg. WHO) Goals in a wide range of socio-economic contexts, is at the heart of much placemaking activity.	CD	Member engagement
30/9/21 – 2 /10/21	<b>Pre-COP Milan</b> Final official ministerial meeting ahead of the COP	CMcL	Monitor
TBC September	<b>The Scottish Planner published – themed on COP26</b>	CMcL	
7/10/21	<b>Scottish Planner Live – Planning for a Green Recovery</b>	CMcL	Member engagement To be badged with #PTWWN

	TBC in Aberdeen		
19/10/21	<b>Launch of TCPA and RTPI new guidance on climate action</b> which will be aimed at Local planning authorities	RB	
TBC October	<b>Joint Statement from RTPI/ GPN/ CAP/ ISOCARP on importance of planning in tackling achieving zero carbon?</b> A short joint statement outlining the important role of planning and planners in supporting net zero growth ambitions and their needs	VH	TBA
?	<b>The Planner magazine COP26 edition</b>	SC	
1/11/21 – 10/11/21	<b>UK Green Building Council virtual pavilion</b>  Bid in for 3 events to be taken forward jointly with RIBA and ICE:  <b>How do we build holistic net-zero 'places' of the future?</b> This would feature the role of holistic planning, good design, nudging people to make better net-zero decisions  <b>The net-zero built environment professionals of the future. What do they look like and what do we need to do?</b> This will be a panel discussion either of young people, or chaired by a young person with senior reps from our orgs and would feature the decisions we have made or need to make to ensure future professionals have the right skills  <b>How are we going to green the existing and future built environment?</b> This will feature carbon codes, standards, and regulations, retrofit of assets	CMcL	
1/11/21	Negotiations day  RTPI blog – RTPI President  UK Green Building Council virtual pavilion		
2/11/21	Negotiations day  RTPI blog – Young Planner of the Year  UK Green Building Council virtual pavilion		

3/11/21	<p>Finance Day</p> <p><b>RTPI blog</b> – importance of resourcing planning systems</p> <p><b>UK Green Building Council virtual pavilion</b></p>		
4/11/21	<p>Energy day</p> <p><b>RTPI blog</b> – planning for renewables</p> <p><b>RTPI Scotland Grampian Chapter webinar – Offshore Wind</b> Gaining insight into Scotland’s renewable energy targets and the role of offshore wind (4pm- 5pm)</p> <p><b>UK Green Building Council virtual pavilion</b></p>		
5/11/21	<p>Youth and Public Engagement day</p> <p><b>RTPI blog</b> – careers? Apprenticeships? BALANCE</p> <p><b>UK Green Building Council virtual pavilion</b></p>		
6/11/21	<p>Nature day</p> <p><b>RTPI blog</b> – planning for biodiversity</p> <p><b>UK Green Building Council virtual pavilion</b></p>		
7/11/21	<p>Rest day</p> <p><b>RTPI blog</b> – review of week 1/ forward look</p> <p><b>UK Green Building Council virtual pavilion</b></p>		
8/11/21	<p>Adaptation, Loss and Damage Day</p> <p><b>Publish Plan the World We Need 2.0</b></p> <p><b>The Race to Zero: Plan The World We Need</b> 6pm – 9pm, The Studio, Hope Street, Glasgow + webcast This event is being organised by RTPI in partnership with the APA, GPN, CAP and</p>	<p>RB</p> <p>CMcL</p>	<p>Presidential team and staff in Glasgow</p> <p>Public affairs #PTWWN messaging</p>

	<p>ISOCARP. It will comprise a series of presentations and discussions that highlight the critical role of, and opportunities for, towns and cities across the globe to address climate change and achieve zero carbon places. It will showcase where planners and planning have and can play a vital role in redesigning our places and spaces, in minimising the need for travel through cohesive and holistic place-based approach to development and through driving forward the delivery of low carbon design and mainstreaming the use of renewables energy in new development.</p> <p><b>RTPI NE webinar - COP26 and the Ambitions for the North Webinar</b></p> <p><b>RTPI blog</b> – adaption example - Climate Ready Clyde?</p> <p><b>UK Green Building Council virtual pavilion</b></p>	JS	
9/11/21	<p>Gender/ Science and Innovation Day</p> <p><b>RTPI hosted breakfast for CAP, GPN, APAA and ISOCARP</b> TBC</p> <p><b>UK Green Building Council virtual pavilion</b></p> <p><b>RTPI vlog</b> – Wei, Victoria, Sue, Bernadette, Barbara in discussion on the role of women in planning and how this needs to be taken forward</p>		Presidential team and staff in Glasgow
10/11/21	<p>Transport day</p> <p><b>UK Green Building Council virtual pavilion</b></p> <p><b>Roundtable with major planning consultancies</b> – venue required Discussion on planning's role in zero carbon TBC</p> <p><b>RTPI blog</b> – planning for active travel/ reducing car use</p> <p><b>Stantec events, Glasgow Royal Concert Hall</b> – possible speaking opportunity and attendance</p>		Presidential team and staff in Glasgow
11/11/21	Cities, Regions and Built Environment Day		Presidential team and staff in Glasgow

	<p><b>UK Green Building Council virtual pavilion</b></p> <p><b>Roundtable with Heads of Planning –</b> venue required Discussion on planning’s role in zero carbon <b>TBC</b></p> <p><b>Planners Making a Difference</b> Publish paper on the key role of planning and built environment – pen pictures of planners making a difference? Series of case studies from each region and nation (based on awards)</p> <p><b>RTPI blog – PTWWN/ reflection on COP26</b></p>		
12/11/21	<p><b>RTPI Member e-bulletin</b> pulling together all RTPI’s activities on COP26</p>		