

Beth is an inspiring and highly regarded MRTPI chartered young planner with professional experience across Minerals and Waste, Development and Flood Risk, and Planning Policy. She is a member of the East of England RAC and is both the current chair and founder of the young planner's committee, having established the committee in 2020 which already has 9 members and has created a number of popular events and webinar series!

Beth reaches out to share her insight and knowledge and inspire others through her blogs, helping other planners with their L-APC submissions and by creating the popular Plan Pals series

Beth is an inspiring MRTPI chartered young planner with an MSc in Town Planning and BSc in Geography and Natural Hazards, who's enthusiasm for planning has enabled her to become a highly regarded planner within the built environment network.

She has been a member of the East of England Regional Activities Committee (RAC) since 2017, contributing to RTPI activity in the East of England, such as career presentations at regional planning schools and being a judge for the 2019 Regional Awards. Her experience from this work enabled her to feel ready to take on a new challenge and set a goal to build the profile of the East of England young planners network not only across the region but across other regions and nations as well.

She is both the current chair and founder of the young planner's committee for the East of England, having established the committee in 2020 which already has 9 members with a balance across both public and private sectors, plus casual members and growing! During 2021 Beth has devised and established a popular monthly event called 'Plan Pals' that has already attracted a wide-spread audience of participants beyond the East of England region. She was involved in running the young planners conference 2020 where she ran a breakout session on planning committees going virtual. This was one of the highest attended breakout sessions of the conference with over 50 people tuning in.

Through the committee she also progressed, and developed an idea from another young planners committee member to create 'Bridging the Gap', a seminar series bringing academic planning research to the forefront of those working in the profession, with two sessions in the series having already been held. Beyond this, she is strikingly ambitious in her plans for the committee and region moving forward, setting, and already working towards a long-term goal of submitting a bid to hold the Young Planners conference in the coming years.

Beth makes strong efforts to reach out to share her insight and knowledge and inspire other through blogs. She wrote a blog post reflecting on her first year as chair of the young planners committee as part of a blog series she initiated as per of her young planners committee endeavours - and encourages others within the committee to follow her lead.

Beth is currently in her third role within planning, having joined the Planning Policy Team at Colchester Borough Council in July 2018 following previous employment at Essex County Council within Minerals and Waste Planning and Flood and Water Management Teams.

Her work on the Colchester Local Plan across the last 2 years has been critical in working with developers, promoters, other professionals, and locals to investigate sites to bring forward for major developments. She has been heavily involved with the local authority's preparation for the hearing sessions, statements, and site-specific matters. She worked closely with the Tiptree and Eight Ash Green Neighbourhood Plan groups for example, to provide guidance in bringing forward their neighbourhood plan for examination. As a part of this work, she also recently presented at the Colchester Local Plan Examination in Public, presenting information and responding to questions pertaining to residential allocations, affordable housing, housing diversity and flood risk, handling the situation and every question expertly with a maturity and ability beyond her years. Beth has also begun working on the Tendring Colchester Borders Garden



Community, with specific involvement in engagement and consultation outside of traditional methods, and has become the voice for the project adverts on Spotify.

Setting an excellent example for other young planners, she gained her RTPI chartership in February 2020. Subsequently she has provided L-APC mentoring to another young planner regarding their Personal Development Plan for their L-APC submission.

Beth is also a demonstrably well-rounded planner who consistently seeks to enhance her soft skills outside of planning as well. Through her current employer she has been put forward this year to go on an ILM Level 5 Leadership and Management course that will enable her to further develop as a current leader and future manager within the profession.

Beth seizes opportunities to help and address changing situations as demonstrated by her versatile approach to fulfilling her responsibilities during the COVID pandemic. This is demonstrated by her positive approach to how she has held young planners committee meetings, events and socials since the beginning of the pandemic, but also in becoming the 'IT champion' for the planning policy team she works within, helping team members resolve IT issues and get used to new ways of working.

Beth, in short is a prime example of a passionate young planner who is current and future leader within the profession and has the vision to appreciate the importance of helping her peers develop and in seeking a well-rounded skill set and knowledge.