

Policy Update: Accreditation during the academic year 2021-22 and until completion of the RTPI Education Policy Review

The [RTPI Corporate Strategy 2020-2030](#) has committed the Institute to undertake a review of accreditation policies and procedures to attract diverse talent. The 'Education for Everyone' programme is underway and includes reviewing the time taken to secure an RTPI-accredited qualification, the delivery mechanisms and the content of degree courses to broaden access into the planning profession and support the implementation of the [RTPI CHANGE action plan](#).

The Institute is therefore undertaking an Education Policy Review. This is a full revision of its accreditation policies and procedures with the intention of adopting a new Policy Statement on Initial Planning Education by the end of 2022.

Given the potential impact of the Review, **new requests to enter the formal dialogue stage for RTPI accreditation (from non-accredited universities) are not being taken forward: they are on pause.** Information has been kept on file and enquirers will be notified of the outcome of the Review in due course.

This approach will also apply for the academic year 2021-22 to the accreditation of new planning courses presented by existing RTPI-accredited Planning Schools. This mitigates Planning Schools' time and effort with developing the required paperwork for submission, and Partnership Boards' subsequent technical assessment, when the process would then need to be repeated with a new set of RTPI Learning Outcomes in 2022-23, once agreed by the RTPI Education & Lifelong Learning Committee. Therefore **new course accreditation will be paused** until the Education Policy Review is complete. It remains the case that courses approved in 2022-23 should be able to benefit from the current retrospective accreditation policy.

To note: exemptions to this interim policy position are: a) accreditation decisions can still be made by Partnership Boards on i) minor amendments to module titles or changes not impacting upon the RTPI Learning Outcomes; ii) apprenticeships that include existing RTPI accredited degrees; and b) non-accredited universities already formally 'in dialogue' with the Institute, or former university partners.

Review date: October 2022, RTPI Education & Lifelong Learning Committee