

MEETING: NATIONAL PLANNING FORUM

TIME: 12.45pm for 1.30pm FRIDAY OCTOBER 8th 2010

LOCATION: ROOM 8.01, LOCAL GOVERNMENT HOUSE, SMITH SQUARE, LONDON, SW1P 3HZ

AGENDA

1. Welcome and opening remarks.

Councillor Mike Haines, Local Government Association, Chair of the National Planning Forum and NPF Vice-chair (Local Government)

2. Seizing the Opportunity! – the proposed National Planning Policy Framework

Presentations and a Forum discussion.

- **Vincent Goodstadt**

An overview of the Coalition's proposition and experience elsewhere

Vincent Goodstadt is an advisor on planning policy and engagement strategies at a strategic and local level. He has held a range of senior management posts in local government responsible for statutory planning and major implementation projects. He was a member of the RTPI steering group for the 'Uniting Britain' study, and vice-chair of the TCPA commission and report 'Connecting England'. He is an Honorary Professor (the University of Manchester), Past President of the RTPI, Vice-president of the TCPA, CABE advisor and executive committee member of the European Council of Spatial Planning. He has worked with a range of international bodies including the METREX, the OECD, the University of Pennsylvania, the European Environment Agency, ICLEI, Global Planners' Network and UN-Habitat.

- **John Rhodes, Director Quod Consultancy**

Developing the National Planning Framework – Seeking a Shared Vision – a view from the development sector.

John Rhodes has recently established Quod as a new planning consultancy. Until recently, he was responsible for running the London office of RPS.

He has particular experience of larger mixed use regeneration projects and of large scale infrastructure schemes. Recent infrastructure experience includes:-

- Advising BAA on airport expansion at Heathrow and Stansted;
- Strategic witness for Network Rail promoting Thameslink 2000;
- Strategic railfreight interchanges in the south east, midlands and the north west;
- Planning adviser to EDF in relation to Hinkley C Nuclear Power Station.

In addition, John has extensive experience of large scale regeneration including the projects at Stratford City and Brent Cross, Cricklewood. He has extensive inquiry and examination experience on behalf of a wide range of public and private sector clients and he serves on CLG's CIL Policy Group on behalf of the Major Developers Group.

John Howell OBE MP

A response

John Howell is Member of Parliament for Henley and Parliamentary Private Secretary to the Leader of the House of Commons, Sir George Young Bt MP, to his Deputy David Heath MP and to Greg Clark MP, the Minister for Decentralisation, in order to help steer through Parliament the Decentralisation and Localism Bill.

He is the principal author of *Open Source Planning*, the Conservative's manifesto for reforming the planning system and is chair of the Planning Sounding Board, which was set up prior to the election by the Conservative Party as a means of engaging the development industry with planning reform.

3. Local Enterprise Partnerships – an update from Cathy Francis, Department of Communities and Local Government

Cathy Francis joined the Department for Communities and Local Government in April 2007. She is responsible for delivering on the Government's commitment to support the creation of local enterprise partnerships. Prior to this Cathy was Secretary to the independent Equalities Review commissioned by the Prime Minister. Before that Cathy worked in the Government Office for London where she was head of the youth and crime unit, she was also latterly responsible for developing London's Resettlement of Offenders Strategy. Cathy is a former member of the Social Exclusion Unit; while in the Unit Cathy worked on the Neighbourhood Renewal Strategy - the Government's Strategy to improve the lives of the most deprived people and places.

Cathy is also responsible for CLG's digital inclusion policy agenda. This involves delivery of the outputs from 2007's Digital Challenge, as well as taking forward the 'Community Voices' programme, embedding digital life skills in deprived communities, and the joint programme being run with DWP to enable estate wardens to take on a more supportive role using new technologies.

4. CLG Planning Programme Update – Steve Quartermain, Chief Planner, CLG

5. Updates from the Executive Board

The Secretary

- a. 'Improving the Connection' - update on the NPF report on Planning and Building Control
- b. 'Mediation in Planning' – progress on implementing the report's recommendations
- c. NPF at the 2010 RTPI Planning Convention – see attached report
- d. Membership policy – a review – see attached report
- e. 2009/10 – summary of accounts – attached
- f. Appointment of Vice-chair (Professions)

6. Draft note of May 2010 meeting (attached)

For approval and signature

7. AOB

FUTURE FORUM MEETINGS IN 2010 and 2011

- **Wednesday December 15th 2010**
- **Friday March 4th 2011**
- **Thursday June 23rd 2011**

All at 12.45pm for lunch - start of business 1.30pm at Local Government House, Smith Square, London