

MEETING: NATIONAL PLANNING FORUM
TIME: 12.45pm for 1.30pm WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 11th 2013
LOCATION: LOCAL GOVERNMENT HOUSE, SMITH SQUARE, LONDON, SW1P 3HZ

AGENDA

1. Welcome and opening remarks

Brian Waters: Chair of the National Planning Forum and NPF Vice-chair (Professions)

2. Plan making after the NPPF and Localism Act – how are we doing?

■ National overview

(a) Jane Everton, Deputy Director Planning Division, DCLG, Development Plans

Jane has responsibility for regional strategies revocation, planning practice guidance review, Growth and Infrastructure Act provisions and performance, liaison with LGA's Planning Advisory Service and is Planning Inspectorate and Planning Portal sponsor.

(b) Peter Burley, Chief Planning Inspector, the Planning Inspectorate

Peter was previously Director for Wales for the Planning Inspectorate. He is a qualified planner and landscape architect. He joined the Inspectorate as an inspector in 1989 and prior to that worked for a number of local authorities in both England and Wales.

The Planning Inspectorate deals with all planning appeals in England and Wales, including national infrastructure planning, listed building appeals and rights of way orders.

Peter has been a regular member of the National Planning Forum and a frequent presenter. He is taking early retirement at the end of the month and consequently this is his last appearance at the Forum, at least in his current role!

■ The Woking Borough experience

Ernest Amoako, Planning Policy Manger, Woking Borough Council

Ernest was appointed to his current role in 2009. He is a graduate of the Bartlett School of Planning at UCL and prior to Woking worked for Coventry City Council and Stratford upon Avon District Council.

■ How we delivered the Thame Neighbourhood Plan

The Thame Neighbourhood Plan is one of the first to be recommended for referendum by an independent examiner. A successful referendum was held on 2nd May 2013 and the plan was formally made part of the council's development plan by South Oxfordshire District Council on 18 July 2013.

In his report the independent examiner congratulated Thame Town Council on its production of the plan. "As one of the first neighbourhood plans in the country, and the first to involve land allocations and involve a hearing, Thame Town Council had little in the way of precedent, or examples from elsewhere. To have produced a plan of such high quality is a testament to the energy, commitment and hard work of all involved. As a result the Thame Neighbourhood Plan reflects the passion and pride that people have for the area."

The Thame Neighbourhood Plan was awarded the NPF sponsored RTP1 Award for Planning Excellence 2013 for innovative use of the plan-making process.

Talking about the Thame Neighbourhood Plan will be:

- Beryl Guiver, Planning Policy Officer, South Oxfordshire District Council
- Sue Rowlands, Director, Tibbalds Planning and Urban Design Ltd
- Cllr Mike Dyer, Thame Town Council

■ Forum discussion

3. Update – the Secretary

4. AOB

5. Minutes of the last meeting held on June 6th 2013 to be tabled

NEXT MEETING: December 11th 2013 at Local Government House

The future of shopping and the places where we do it!

12.45pm for lunch - start of business 1.30pm