

MEETING: NATIONAL PLANNING FORUM

TIME: 12.45pm for 1.30pm WEDNESDAY DECEMBER 15th 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. The Decentralisation and Localism Bill

Presentations and a Forum discussion.

- **Steve Quartermain, Chief Planner CLG**

An overview of the Bill (subject to prior publication)

Steve took up the post of Chief Planner at the Department of Communities and Local Government on 11 August 2008. The Chief Planner's role is to drive forward planning reform and delivery agenda, work with senior stakeholders – national and local government, the planning profession and across business, environmental and social sectors and to champion planning, and as Head of Profession to be the voice of planning in government. Steve also deals with planning applications of major significance and political sensitivity.

- **Hugh Ellis, Chief Planner, Town and Country Planning Association**

The issues raised by the Bill

Hugh Ellis was appointed Chief Planner at the Town and Country Planning Association in March 2009. Prior to this, Hugh was National Planning Advisor to Friends of the Earth England, Wales and Northern Ireland since 2000. He holds a Diploma in Town Planning, a Bachelor of Arts (with Honours) in Urban Studies and a Doctorate in land use planning from the University of Sheffield. After spending a number of years working for the Coalfield Planning Co-operative on community planning projects Hugh took up a teaching and research post at the University of Sheffield where his key interests were sustainable development and community participation.

In 2006 Hugh co-authored the joint publication on the case for a Planning Policy Statement on climate change and worked on secondment to the Department of Communities and Local Government in the early development process of the current PPS 1 Supplement on Climate Change. His role in Friends of the Earth UK led to close involvement with the development of national policy including PPS 1, 4, 6, 9 and 22. He has also been closely involved in the passage of the 2004 and 2008 Planning Acts, including providing evidence to select committees and working closely with parliamentarians on both the Commons and Lords committee stages of both Bills.

- **Kelvin Macdonald, Director, Spatial Effects and RTPI Chief Policy Advisor**

The 12 tests the Bill must pass

Kelvin is Senior Visiting Fellow at the Department of Land Economy, Cambridge University, a CABE Enabler and a Registered Infrastructure Planning Commission (IPC) Commissioner. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Shelter.

Until the May 2010 election, he was a specialist adviser to the House of Commons' Energy and Climate Change, CLG and Transport Select Committees.

He has been the Director of Policy and Research at the RTPI and the Director of ROOM. He was Visiting Professor at Westminster University and was a Commissioner on the Westminster Housing Commission. He has been an adviser to the Guangdong Provincial Government in China. He is a Member of the Chartered Institute of Housing and a Fellow of the Royal Town Planning Institute.

- **Speaker from the Local Government Association** (invited)

The local government response

- **Forum discussion**

3. Localism in Practice

Experience on the ground from local authorities leading the way in developing localism

- **Winchester City Council – engaging communities in plan making**
Steve Tilbury, Director of Operations, Winchester City Council
- **London Borough of Sutton – localism and climate change**
Chris Reid, Executive Head of Environmental Sustainability
- **Forum Q and A**

4. Planning Performance Agreements

Simon Leask, Head of ATLAS reports on the ATLAS evaluation report

5. Updates from the Executive Board

The Secretary

- a. 2009/10 Annual Report
- b. 2010/12 Business Plan
- c. Membership policy, subscriptions and funding
- d. Update on NPF projects:
 - i. 'Mediation in Planning' – progress on implementing the report's recommendations
 - ii. Improving the Connection – the relationship between planning and building control
- e. Appointment of Vice-chair (Professions)

6. Draft note of October 2010 meeting (to follow)

For approval and signature

7. AOB

FUTURE FORUM MEETINGS IN 2011

- **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