

National Planning Forum: Inspiring Planning

**Meeting on 14 December 2004 at Local Government House,
Smith Square, London.**

AGENDA

Morning session 11am-12 noon. Parallel sessions.

Appeals: Katrine Sporle (PINS) and John Stambollouian (ODPM) to discuss the latest position on planning appeals and identify further measures with NPF support to improve performance.

Design: Esther Kurland (CABE) to discuss the establishment of an NPF Design Group, discuss the draft 'Design in Planning Manifesto' and possible NPF Planning Awards scheme (see attachments).

12 noon FORMAL BUSINESS in plenary

- 1 Apologies**
- 2 Notes of last meeting (attached)**
- 3 Matters arising (pl let the Secretary know in advance to speed business)**
- 4 Secretary's report (see attachment)**
- 5 To consider the adoption of the draft Best Practice Notes for Community Involvement, Pre-application Discussions, Design in Planning Manifesto and Planning Awards scheme.**
- 6 AOB (pl let the Secretary know in advance)**

12.30 Presentation by Andrew Wright (POS Enterprises) NPF report 'Creative Planning' and discussion.

NB Report to be available on the day.

1pm. Address by Richard Simmons, Chief Executive, CABE

1.15pm Buffet Lunch

1.30 DEBATE: 'Infrastructure-What cost, who pays, who delivers?'

Introduction by Alison Quant (Hampshire CC and CSS) and presentation by Roger Tyms and Partners (tbc) on the costing of Infrastructure for the SE. Several contributors have been invited to attend including Govt. depts.

3pm Tea and depart

NPF Secretary's Report: December 2004

1 Funding NPF

The application to the ODPM for Special Grant is still being considered. In the current year, ODPM contributes 10K and the LGA 2K (plus officer support). There is no guarantee of funding after March 2005. Your Executive is examining options to help financially underpin the work of the Forum and Members are invited to send their ideas and views to the Secretary.

2 Best Practice Notes/Manifesto/Concordat

There are now three in draft awaiting ratification and adoption:

- ❖ Community Involvement**
- ❖ Pre-application discussions**
- ❖ Design in Planning**

There is also the proposal for a Planning Awards Scheme which would be recommended to local planning authorities.

3 Projects

National Spatial Framework (Vice Chair-Henry Oliver)

The NPF hosted a meeting in October of the J Rowntree supported proposal to bring together the various groups engaged in 'national planning' to share thinking and avoid duplication of effort. The Regional Assembly's report 'Regional Futures' will be published shortly (Arup) and the TCPA Commission will have its second meeting this month. The NPF hosts a further liaison meeting in January.

Branding Planning (Vice Chair-Mark Southgate)

A meeting (arranged courtesy CBI) has been held with the Chair of Interbrand, Rita Clifton. She has agreed to facilitate a half day workshop on the 'branding' of planners and planning, exploring ways of upgrading the image and promoting culture change.

Community Involvement (Vice Chair-Michael Coupe)

The original proposal drawn up for the Task Group has been re-vamped following discussions with the ODPM. This is now being considered before formally submitting the project for funding support.

Creative Planning (Chair-Liz Peace)

This is reporting at this Forum meeting. The project is financed by the BPF.

4 Conferences

The Annual conference with the LGA will be at LGA House on 7 March and will include a Ministerial address.

During the past quarter the Secretary has spoken at:

- ❖ RTPI Scotland National Conference
- ❖ St Helens: Member training for RTPI NW Branch
- ❖ Planning Aid: National Conference.

4 Elections

Colleagues will recall that two Vice Chair positions are filled on a temporary basis. It is intended that elections will be held in time for the April meeting for VC's to represent the professional institutes and Government depts/agencies/regional offices. Any prospective candidate should notify the Secretary before cop on March 11th 2005.

**Graeme Bell
Secretary NPF
December 2004**