



RTPI Yorkshire
mediation of space · making of place

Royal Town Planning Institute

Annual Review 2016



RTPI Yorkshire

Chair's Foreword

A thriving RTPI Region

You told us that you want the RTPI to raise the profile of planning and to ensure that it is properly resourced to promote better places. We have done this through the widely acclaimed [Yorkshire Conference Series](#); the [Practice Seminars](#) of place-based affordable CPD events, a thriving [Young Planners' network](#) and a flourishing Schools Ambassador's programme.

Innovations in 2016

These include the recently established [Policy Forum](#) supporting the [Better Planning](#) initiative; a forward-looking [International Network](#), launched in November; and meetings with Heads of Planning in Local Authorities in order to develop closer relationships with members in the private and public sectors, and a new Planning Lawyers' Group.

Regional Management Board (RMB)

- Phil Crabtree (Chair)
- Emma Lancaster (Vice Chair)
- Jennifer Winyard (Immediate Past Chair)
- Bob Wolfe (Hon. Secretary)
- Stan Driver (Hon. Treasurer)
- Christine Naylor (General Assembly representative)
- Richard Crabtree (Assistant Treasurer)

Success in 2016

The year began with Lord Heseltine and the joint launch with IPPR North of the Great North Plan. The [Annual Lecture](#) in July was extremely well received with Sir Michael Lyons addressing the housing crisis in *2040: Where Shall we all Live*. A further highlight being the [Climate Change conference](#) in Hull, addressed by the Lords Prescott and Haskins. However, changes in CPD delivery at national level could have significant implications for our activities in future.

Our activities are greatly valued and this would not be possible without an active volunteer base and robust leadership from the [Regional Management Board](#), underpinned by strong financial management. I wish to thank everyone who has helped throughout the year and I know that our 2017 Chair, Emma Lancaster, will continue to champion the importance of planning.

Regional Activities Committee (RAC)

- Lucy Bullock
- Ken Burley
- Bhupinder Dev
- Ying Ho
- Janine Laver
- Paul Leeming
- Harvey Pritchard
- Tony Ray
- Simon Smales
- Nick Smithson
- Pat Sutor
- Philipp Tschavoll-Selenko
- Edward Wills

A Region which is in touch with its members' needs and represents their views is responsive to a changing world and is enthusiastic in its delivery of services.



Championing the Planning Profession

The 2016 President's Visit

The [RTPI President visited our Region](#) in July to meet practising planners, finding out about their concerns and seeing for himself what had been achieved. Leeds City Council demonstrated their innovative ways of tackling the housing challenge, including 70,000 homes to be provided by 2028. In York, the President was briefed on challenges in the city and on its Local Plan.

RTPI Yorkshire Champions

In 2016 we met with Heads of Planning in the Leeds, Sheffield and Hull City Regions and North Yorkshire. These meetings have been welcomed, are instructive and provide a very useful forum for the exchange of ideas. We now have several local authority Champions who are developing a representative and advocacy role for the RTPI; supporting RTPI members in the workplace and encouraging others to join the Institute; and promoting RTPI

services, including CPD, Planning Aid and apprenticeships.

Regional Awards

Submitted jointly by the Environment Agency and Ove Arup, the Skipton Flood Alleviation Scheme won the [2016 RTPI Yorkshire Planning Excellence Award](#). The judges were impressed by the quality of the technical planning input and the effective management of the scheme through a complex and complicated planning regime. The scheme is a beacon of town planning and testament to how the profession can enrich the built environment.

We were thrilled that RAC member Pat Sutor received an RTPI Award for Outstanding Service, particularly for his work in supporting our CPD initiatives over many years. And we were delighted that our Vice Chair, Emma Lancaster, became the RTPI's [2016 Young Planner of the Year](#).

Many congratulations to them all.

“The standard of submitted projects highlights the important contribution planners and planning make in delivering high quality, innovative solutions.”

Phil Crabtree



Pat Sutor (centre) receiving his award from RTPI President Phil Williams and Emma Lancaster.



Winners of the 2016 Planning Excellence Award: Emma Morrish (EA), Jenny Cooke (EA), Laura Marchant (Arup).

Supporting and Growing Membership

Our Conferences

Our [RTPI Yorkshire Conference Series](#), run in partnership with Leeds Beckett and Sheffield Hallam universities, is well respected and highly regarded by our members, attracting over 800 delegates each year. Highlights from the 2016 Series have been the Lords Prescott and Haskins both speaking at our [Climate Change conference](#) in Hull and our ever popular planning law conferences in York and Leeds attended by over 300 delegates.

Our low cost Seminars

Our members' survey this year revealed just how grateful members are to have the opportunity of obtaining high quality but low cost CPD. At just £15 +vat our [Yorkshire Practice Seminars](#) in 2016 looked at *Small Places, Big Ambitions*, visiting Skipton, Keighley, Castleford, Malton, Thirsk and Hebden Bridge.

RTPI Future Planners

We have significantly increased our work with schools this year, as part of the RTPI's [Future Planners](#) initiative. With 53 Ambassadors in our Region we have been able to attend careers fairs at 19 schools and universities in 2016, encouraging students from ages 11-21 to consider planning as a career and to promote the RTPI.

Supporting our future leaders

Our Young Planners have a good track record of delivering events focused on new RTPI members, although they are open to all. We have a tried and tested mix of social and CPD events held on weekday evenings and usually free of charge. Events are run under the [YORnet](#) banner to maximise numbers and attract a range of built environment professionals. All our young planner events held in 2016 have been fully booked.

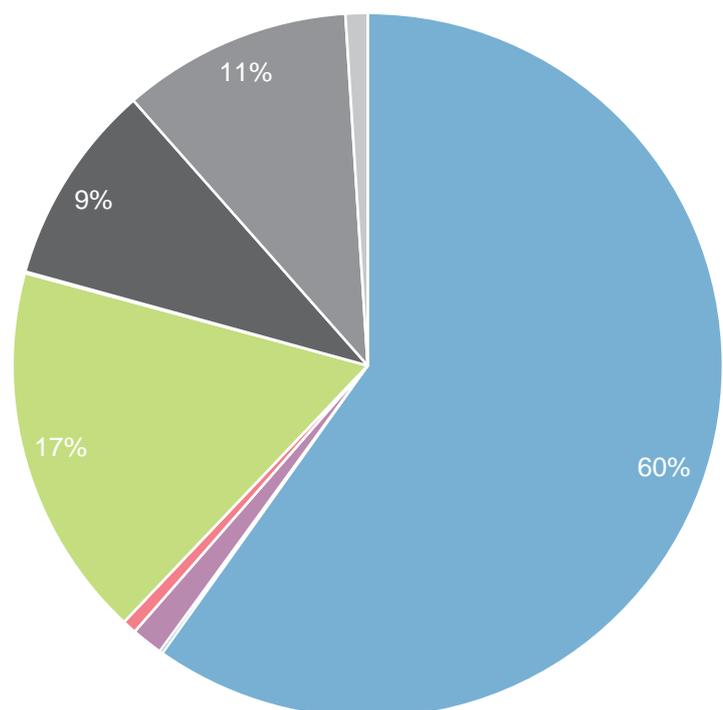
“One of the best planning conferences I have ever attended. A real blend of experience and practical application presented by some excellent speakers.”

Delegate at September's Climate Change Conference

Regional Membership Figures 2016

Membership Class

- Chartered Town Planner
- Fellow
- Associate
- Legal Associate
- Technical
- Retired
- Honorary
- Licentiate
- Student
- Affiliate



Shaping and Informing Policy and Practice

The Great North Plan

The Northern Summit, initiated in 2015 by RTPI Yorkshire, in partnership with the RTPI North West and North East Regions and IPPR North, brought together 150 participants with a range of backgrounds to Leeds in January. Participatory, collaborative and engaging throughout the day, the delegates were addressed, amongst others, by Lord Heseltine. The outcome, a blueprint for [A Great North Plan](#), was published in June, to help make the 'Northern Powerhouse' a reality and provide its missing spatial dimension.

The 2016 RTPI Yorkshire Lecture

Attended by 160 practitioners from across Yorkshire at Leeds Civic Hall, our [2016 Lecture](#), *2040: Where Shall We All Live?*, demonstrated the complexity of housing delivery, especially in the North of England, the risks of depending wholly on market forces, and the impact of the new Planning and Housing Act 2016.

Sir Michael Lyons called on the Government “to adopt a comprehensive national housing strategy that invests in homes for all rather than just home ownership for the few.”

The RTPI Yorkshire Policy Forum

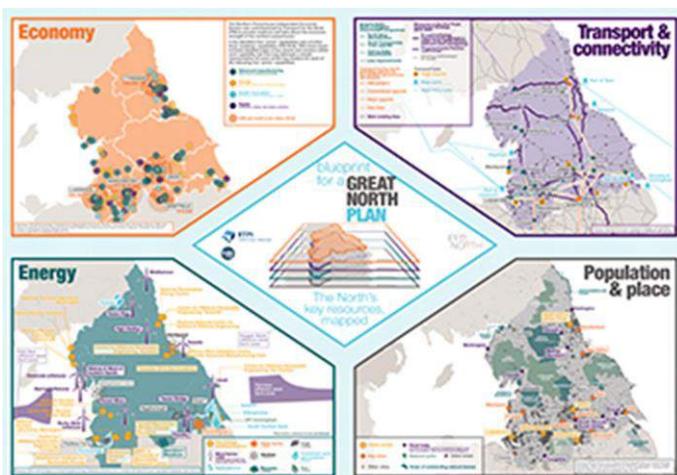
Our [Policy Forum](#) aims to influence planning policy from a Yorkshire perspective, respond to government initiatives and advise on or undertake research projects. It is a significant step in developing a policy-based approach to complement our successful CPD programme. We are supporting the RTPI's [Better Planning](#) initiative to support our members, particularly in the public sector.

Our new International Network

Through our [International Network](#) we are exchanging planning experience between planners from our region and abroad, providing opportunities to learn new approaches and insights from each other. Our first event, on Working in Planning in Australia, received excellent feedback.

“Investment in housing and the infrastructure to support it is now a priority if we are to strengthen our economy and tackle growing inequality.”

Sir Michael Lyons



Blueprint for a Great North Plan which was published in June 2016.



Speakers at our 1st International Network event: Graeme Holbeck, Janine Laver, Philipp Tschavoll-Selenko (Chair)

Empowering Communities

Planning Aid England in Yorkshire

Regions are supported by central Planning Aid England (PAE) staff who help to organise volunteers, projects and work activities.

In Yorkshire we have substantial experience in delivering [Planning Aid](#) services and we have a core of long standing volunteers. We also encourage students at our universities to volunteer for Planning Aid.

We are currently putting in place a 'development plan' which will identify opportunities for Planning Aid England in Yorkshire, what work it can do, with and for whom.

Our activities this year

We have been involved in a number of projects this year:

- a series of site allocations public consultation events in Calderdale and in Barnsley;

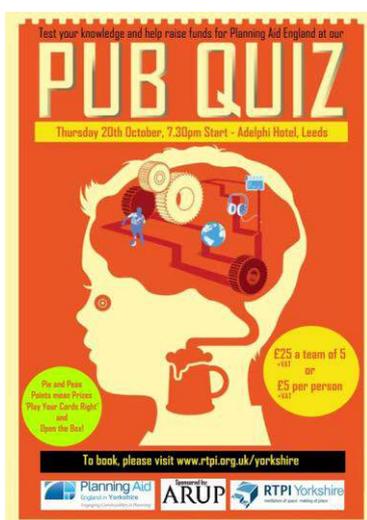
- neighbourhood planning seminars in the East Riding of Yorkshire and Rotherham;
- continued involvement in the Holbeck neighbourhood plan;
- the recent start-up of the Beeston neighbourhood plan and upcoming similar work at Dinnington near Rotherham.

We shortly expect to be discussing how we can become involved with the Yorkshire Local Councils Association.

A very successful and sold out fundraising Planning Aid England in Yorkshire pub quiz was held in Leeds at the end of October, enjoyed by all, especially the pies and peas!

We also worked with the RTPI North West region to hold a free volunteer training event in Manchester in July on the topic of fracking.

We believe everyone should have the opportunity to get involved in planning their local area, and provide people with the knowledge and tools to achieve this.



Flyer for our Planning Aid England fundraising pub quiz held at the Adelphi hotel in Leeds in October 2016.

RTPI Chief Executive Trudi Elliott at our RAC meeting. Harvey Pritchard (back row right) is our PAE coordinator.

Achieving Good Governance

Our regional governance structure

We currently have 20 members on our [Regional Activities Committee](#) (RAC), 7 of them being on the [Regional Management Board](#) (RMB). We have sub-groups which, with the Regional Coordinator, deliver a wide range of activities for our 1400 members.

- Find out how you can get involved by contacting yorkshire@rtpi.org.uk.

Our Budget and Business Plan

We continue to operate within our allocated deficit budget and have been able to support a number of projects through the allocation of Reserves. New initiatives this year include: a new [International Network](#); piloting of RTPI Champions within local authorities; a significant expansion of our work in schools; meetings with Local Authority Heads of Planning and planning lawyers; working with IPPR North to deliver a

[Great North Plan blueprint](#); and increased [Planning Aid](#) activity.

Our other regular and successful activities have continued and we have also continued to fund several activities first set up in the RTPI's Centenary year: a [Lecture and Reception](#); a themed programme of [low cost seminars](#); an annual [football tournament](#); an annual pub quiz; and the [Future Planners](#) programme.

This year we have adopted a Sponsorship Strategy and our [2017 sponsorship opportunities](#) aim to increase the amount we receive within the region, both monetary and in kind.

We have also continued to support the bursary awards and student prizes at our three regional accredited universities: Leeds Beckett, Sheffield and Sheffield Hallam.

We have achieved all the targets set out in our 2016 Business Plan and have put in place our plans for 2017.

The regions are a critical conduit for members and stakeholders alike to showcase organisational strength and bring together volunteers to engage with planning at a local and national level.

RTPI Yorkshire Budget Summary

		2015 Actual	2016 Forecast (August)	2017 Budget
Income £	Yorkshire Conference Series	25867	24093	23000
	Other	9886	4237	3400
	Total Income	35753	28330	26400
Expenditure £	Grant	-19681	-19596	-19791
	Allocated Direct Costs	33817	40201	40201
	Activities	18728	19068	14000
	Total Expenditure	32864	39673	34410
Surplus (Deficit)		2889	11343	8010



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The RTPI is a charity registered in England (262865) and Scotland (SC037841).
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