



Association of Directors of
Environment, Economy, Planning & Transport

Meeting Notes of the Planning Sub-Group

25th July 2023, 11am

Held on Microsoft Teams

Present

Paul Barnard (Chair), Sarah McLaughlin, Margaret Baddeley, Barry Wyatt, James Chadwick, Georgina Bright, Hannah Bartram, Katie Hornsey, Rachel Jones, Kylie Russell, Matthew Jericho, Laura McCulloch, Rachael Ferry-Jones, Stacey Wylie, Martin Wells, Mike Garrity, Alison Ives,

Apologies

Colin Haigh, Tom Marchant, Joe Jenkinson, Samantha Campbell, Helen Leach, Adam Birchall, Ian Achurch, Louise Wood, Sally Gill, Pam Neal, James Crosbie, Rob Harbour, Anna Rose, Jan Feeney, Lucy Hargreaves, Caroline Sutton, Rob Murfin, Ashley Baldwin.

Item	Notes	Actions
1	Welcome and introductions Apologies are as stated above.	
2	Actions and minutes from the previous meeting The previous meeting was held on 27 June 2023. Actions: None	
3	Pathways to Planning-LGA Working Group (Anna Buttenshaw) Anna Buttenshaw from the Local Government Association (LGA) did a presentation on 'Pathways to Planning' a summary of the presentation is outlined below: <u>Basic outline:</u> Funded by DLUHC and delivered by the LGA building on the success of the National Graduate Development Programme for local government. Initial agreement covers three cohorts. First cohort covers 30 places, the next two cover 120 places. Councils will pay the graduate salaries but no further costs. Minimum three-year work contract and anticipate the salary range will be between £26,000 to £29,000.	

Item	Notes	Actions
	<p><u>Cohort 1:</u> Sign up by 5 September. Graduates to sign up by 18 September, with interviews by early February 2024. Contracts to be signed by 31 March 2024.</p> <p>Bursary of £10,000 per graduate must be used on an RTPPI accredited Master’s course. Currently, demand from councils exceed the 30 places so cannot guarantee places for Cohort 1.</p> <p><u>Cohort 2:</u> Anticipate council sign up will be between October 2023 and March 2024. Receive information about graduates to interview around summer/autumn 2024. Graduates start work in January 2025.</p> <p>Bursary of £5,000 per graduate which can be used to cover half an RTPPI accredited part-time Master’s, or costs associated with RTPPI accredited Level 7 apprenticeship (funded through the levy). Anticipate being able to accommodate all interested councils.</p> <p><u>What the scheme offers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Targeted marketing campaign in participating local areas, • a rigorous assessment process to identify top talent, • bursary for graduates’ postgraduate qualification, • cost effective for councils and a graduate network with a package of LGA/PAS support and training to support graduates in their first 3-6 months on the job. <p><u>What the scheme asks:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A range of work experience to ensure graduates can fast track their career in planning. Supporting all councils to form a plan to provide their graduates with varied work experience. • Mentoring and development to bridge the gap from university to the world of work. Supporting councils to develop a support plan for their graduates to ensure mentoring and support are in place before the graduate starts work. <p>130 councils are already expressing an interest in the scheme. A list of councils that are taking part will be included for cohort 1.</p> <p>There is no age limit for the scheme.</p>	
4	<p>Planning and Water Catchment Plans (Catriona Penny and Katie Hornsey-DEFRA)</p> <p>Katie Hornsey from DEFRA did a presentation on Planning and Water Catchment Plans.</p> <p>The plan for water was published in April 2023 and aims to improve the delivery and coordination at a catchment level with a tailored long-term catchment plans that will cover all water bodies in England.</p> <p>Sets out the key issues and priorities identified in Local Nature Recovery Strategies. Streamline the policy and legal framework, in order to make it more outcome-focussed and integrated with other environmental and government delivery plans.</p>	

Item	Notes	Actions
	<p>It will also improve the regulatory system and targeting of investment to ensure environmental improvements provide greatest impact.</p> <p>Deliver the plan for water at a catchment-by-catchment scale.</p> <p>Any further updates are welcome with a possible further presentation being given to ADEPT at an appropriate time in the future.</p>	
5	<p>Round Table</p> <p>There are currently three consultations that are of relevance to the group:</p> <p><u>(1) Permitted development rights</u> The Department for Levelling Up Housing & Communities has opened a consultation on additional flexibilities to support housing delivery, the agricultural sector, businesses, high streets and open prisons; and a call for evidence on nature-based solutions, farm efficiency projects and diversification. Opens: 24 July 2023 Closes: 25 September 2023 https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/permitted-development-rights</p> <p><u>(2) Plan-making reforms: consultation on implementation</u> The Department for Levelling Up Housing & Communities has opened a consultation proposals to make local plans (and minerals and waste plans) simpler, faster to prepare, and more accessible. solutions, farm efficiency projects and diversification. Opens: 25 July 2023 Closes: 18 October 2023 https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/plan-making-reforms-consultation-on-implementation</p> <p>ADEPT will be making a response to this consultation and will be sent round for comment. If anyone is interested in helping to draft this response, please let Paul and Hannah know.</p> <p><u>(3) Public Bodies Review of Homes England: call for evidence</u> The Public Bodies Review team are launching a call for evidence to gather views and experiences of working with Homes England. The review will focus on how effectively Homes England carries out its responsibilities, how efficiently it is run and whether it has appropriate governance in place. Opens: 21 July 2023 Closes: 14 September 2023 https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/public-bodies-review-of-homes-england-call-for-evidence</p> <p>There was also an announcement by the SoS and PM for a long term plan for housing that sets out further plans for regeneration, inner-city densification and housing delivery across England, with transformational plans to supply beautiful, safe, decent homes in places with high-growth potential in partnership with local communities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • £800 million will also be allocated today from the £1.5 billion Brownfield, Infrastructure and Land fund to unlock up to 56,000 new homes on 	

Item	Notes	Actions
	<p>brownfield sites, taking an infrastructure first approach to build up our cities. We are funding Homes England with £550 million, which with income generated will mean a total investment of £1 billion. We are also providing landmark investments of £150 million to Greater Manchester and £100 million to the West Midlands.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional reforms to the planning system will speed up new developments, put power in the hands of local communities to build their own homes, and unlock planning decisions – with a new fund of £24 million to scale up local planning capacity, and an additional £13.5 million to stand up a new “super-squad” of experts to support large scale development projects. 	
6	<p>Confirm date of next meeting</p> <p>26th September 2023 at 11am (MS Teams)</p>	