

CONFERENCE



Planning and Development

8th October 2024

Discover the latest in regulatory changes and plan for their impacts across the landscape





Type of event

Face to face



CPD Hours

5

Formal

Book your place today

[Click here](#)

This conference will provide stakeholders with a valuable opportunity to understand the impact of regulatory changes to the planning and development process across the UK.

The programme will consider measures impacting the ability to develop and deliver housing and commercial spaces across the UK, in light of challenges including rising materials costs and a continued cost-of-living crisis.

Examine new government directives for the UK planning system, and how best to implement meaningful strategies to achieve new housing targets and successful regionalised investment patterns. Come together to understand the implications that the latest developments in planning reform will have on your organisation and look to the future with other industry leaders to discuss best strategies for approaching these changes.

A close look at case studies such as Finch v Surrey County Council will give delegates the opportunity to reflect on changing environmental responsibilities for developers. This, alongside our sessions on placemaking and the future of planning, will encourage attendees to explore the role of renewable energy and environment-orientated strategies in building urban environments fit for the future.



Time zone:

BST

8:30

Registration

9:00

Welcome Remarks from the Conference Chair Faraz Baber, Operational Director, Midlands and South East, RPS

9:20

Keynote: Planning and development under a new government

Join this opening keynote to explore new directions for planning reform, looking at the implications of Labour's plans and their implications for the landscape of UK planning and development. What are strategies for achieving new targets for housing provision in Britain's towns and cities? What might the introduction of 'grey belt' sites mean for the UK's developers? How might an increased emphasis on sustainable developments impact project delivery for planners and developers across the UK? Find out more about the implications of P&D changes in this highly informative first session.

9:55

Panel: How regionalised development will be delivered - What does it mean at a local level?

Join our panel as they look to the future of regional development and investment in UK housing, discussing new directives for localised housing investment plans. The panel will examine the performance of previous government schemes for allocating regional funding. Are there any compelling examples of what 'levelling up' funding delivered under the UK's previous government? What is needed from future approaches towards localised investment across the UK?

Speaker/s: **Richard Parker, Mayor of the West Midlands**

10:55

Coffee and Networking Break

Refresh yourself in one of our subject-specific networking areas.



Time zone:

BST

11:25

Policy & Legal Update – How are we navigating the Supreme Court ruling in R (Finch) v. Surrey County Council?

The June 2024 judgement has potentially far-reaching implications for understandings of developers' environmental responsibilities. Join these two specialists for a discussion about the implications of the judgement for those involved at different stages of the planning process.

Moderator: **Atam Verdi, Executive Director, *AspinallVerdi***

Speakers: **Simon Ricketts, Partner, *Town Legal LLP***, and **Tony Mulhall, Senior Specialist; Land and Resources, *RICS***

12:10

Lunch break

13:00

Panel: Delivering homes in the UK – Will the most recent planning reform do the trick?

Many homes are missing from the housing market in the UK, and housebuilding rates continue to drop significantly below European averages. The inadequate supply of housing has a direct correlation on property prices, rent and quality. Continual macro- environmental challenges, such as the cost-of-living crisis and Ukraine, have further exasperated the situation, with increases in construction material costs. Join this session to investigate the meaning of low housing for UK debt, and to explore what is needed from the planning measures set out by government.

Speaker/s: **Fiona Fletcher-Smith, Chief Executive Officer, *L&Q Group***, and **Bob Weston, Chairman, *Weston Homes***

14:00

Panel: Placemaking - Methods for future-proofing the UK's cities

This session will examine strategies for making urban spaces distinctive, attractive and value-generative, looking at industry priorities for planning and delivering infrastructure projects that are sustainable, accessible and built for the future. Join our panel as they examine some of the exciting technological innovations and long-term strategies in housing and commercial space development.

Moderator: **Bek Seeley, Founder, *Place Partners UK***

Speaker/s: **Marianne Brook, Head of Development, *Old Oak Park Royal Development Corporation***

15:00

Coffee and Networking Break in a subject-specific networking area.



Time zone:

BST

15:45

Planning & Development Matrix

Hear members of RICS Professional Group Panels across Land and Natural Resources, Building Surveying and Control, and Construction, discuss some of the most pertinent issues and opportunities facing the sector, and their aims for future collaboration.

16:30

Panel: The future of planning – Viewpoint from a local government lens

The UK continues to struggle with low productivity and growth, skills shortages and the ever-growing housing crisis. The direction of the new government with regard to these issues has large implications for councils' capacities to develop their regions. Join this panel of local officials to examine the likelihood of new legal and regulatory changes being implemented, and how this might affect developers in the Commercial Real Estate industry.

Speakers: **Martin Reeves**, Chief Executive, *Oxfordshire County Council*; **Tom Stannard**, Chief Executive, *Salford City Council*, and **Michael Kiely**, Chair of the Board, *Planning Officers Society*

17:25

Chair's closing remarks

17:30

End of conference