



RTPI

Royal Town Planning Institute

From neighbourhoods to nations – the importance of planning

A Manifesto for Planning 2019

The Royal Town Planning Institute

Planning for the environment and climate change for the world:

As the UK exits the EU it is vital we continue to lead the world on environmental and climate action. Planning systems, policies and planners are vital to deliver carbon net zero targets locally and nationally. We call on the next government to:

- Ensure Local planning authorities are adequately resourced and trained to deliver carbon net zero development and transport
- Ensure world-leading legislation is in place to support the highest environmental standards
- Protect the target of net zero carbon emissions by 2050 and support devolved Nations' to achieve their net zero targets

Planning with communities for communities at neighbourhood level:

Local and neighbourhood plans along with the planners to deliver them, are critical for successful, sustainable places with more quality housing connected to infrastructure and amenities - yet local authority planning teams have seen a reduction of 42% in funding since 2009/10. We call on the next government to:

- Allow local areas to decide how they can best support the resourcing of their planning function through setting planning fees
- Resist further amendments to the planning system that cause extra burden to under-resourced local authorities and risk putting vital investment on further hold - instead support local authorities to fully utilise existing planning legislation to work in partnership with others to bring land into best use for their local communities (building on the success of Homes England)

Planning with the wider area to benefit local communities:

Strategic planning at city-region level using devolved powers is critical to enable quality design, integrated development and environmental sustainability. We call on the next government to:

- Protect and grow devolved powers to city regions and extend to other areas
- Remove barriers to city-regional spatial strategies for development and infrastructure
- Remove legal barriers to allow city regions to fully use their devolved planning powers

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Planning by Nations to benefit communities:

Nations' governments and administrations are best placed to legislate and enact their own planning systems. We call on the next government to:

- Recognise that the devolved administrations are best placed to plan for their respective nations

Resourcing Planning Authorities to benefit the community:

To enable the critical role of planners to deliver nations' net zero carbon targets and connect housing, infrastructure to create sustainable, successful urban and rural places, we call on the next government to:

- Ensure resources, proportionate to the scale of the national challenge, is in place to equip local planning authorities to deliver for communities
- The future pipeline of urgently needed planners via apprenticeships and planning schools should continue to be strongly supported by government to ensure we attract a bright and diverse pool of talent.

Planners work to achieve:

Nations' zero carbon targets to be a reality

We plan for net zero-carbon places and facilitate the creation of a green economy. We will equip our country to adapt to climate change

Support current and future generations

Our planning will meet the needs of current and future generations for decent homes, jobs and well-being, and space for nature.

Connect places

We will plan to ensure that places are connected by sustainable and active transport, digital communications, and are accessible to all.

How we do it:

- We plan with and for people
- We plan long term
- We plan from neighbourhoods to nations



Ministers have called for 10, 15 and 20-year strategic plans that address infrastructure and housing, and are able to 'escape the handbrakes of the short-term political cycle.'

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