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Winners, Commended Entries and Finalists





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#RTPIAwards

Welcome to our brochure of the winners, commended entries and finalists for the RTPI Awards for Planning Excellence 2022

The RTPI Awards for Planning Excellence celebrate outstanding plans, projects and people that demonstrate the power of planning. These awards continue to recognise and reward the brightest talent in the profession; the most outstanding plans, projects and people helping to transform economies, environments, and communities.

On 30 November 2022 we announced and celebrated the best of the best in the planning profession at our national awards presentation.

Congratulations to all the winners and commended entries.

We hope you enjoy this brochure and we look forward to hearing from you in January when we open for the 2023 Awards for Planning Excellence.

rtpi.org.uk/excellence



Thank you to our 2022 sponsors

Headline sponsor



The Planning Consultancy team at WSP, having acquired Indigo Planning in 2019, is one of the leading town planning practices in the country. We have over 30 years' experience of working on and delivering planning projects throughout the UK with offices in each country. We have offices across the country with over 150 members of staff. This equates to over 500 years of planning experience, which we seek to share on all planning projects and utilise to solve problems and find innovative solutions.

We also have in-house expertise in socioeconomic, public consultation and heritage expertise, together with the wider suite of WSP environmental disciplines that we can utilise for planning projects. WSP combines the resources and expertise of a leading, town planning practice with a local understanding and a hands-on approach by the project director and project manager.

WSP is also category sponsor for Excellence in Planning for Communities (large schemes of 50 or more) and Excellence in Planning for Communities (small schemes of 50 or less).

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Excellence in Planning for the Natural Environment category sponsor



Savills is the largest planning consultancy in the UK, with a team of over 300 members operating from 23 offices across all the principal regional markets. Our aim is to deliver planning solutions that maximise the value of our clients' property assets, taking into account the planning policy context, technical and environmental factors, local community considerations and overall sustainability. Our approach to achieving the best value outcome is founded on having a clear understanding of the client's objectives, comprehension of local policy and its interpretation, early engagement with planning officers as well as the local community and relevant councilors, and detailed negotiation of conditions and legal agreements. We provide a range of specialist services to ensure the highest standard of advice in all aspects of the planning process, including urban design, socio-economic appraisal, Heritage services, Environmental Impact Assessment, Community Infrastructure Levy and Section 106 negotiation.

savills.co.uk [@savills](https://twitter.com/savills)

Planning Authority of the Year category sponsor



Public Practice is a social enterprise with a mission to build the public sector's capacity to improve the quality, equality, and sustainability of places. Public Practice finds, selects, places and trains-built environment professionals into local authority teams. They also create opportunities for collaboration and cross-authority learning through their network, events and publications. To date, Public Practice has placed over 225 Associates in 58 public authorities across London, the South East and East of England and will now be supporting authorities in the North of England.

publicpractice.org.uk [@practicepublic](https://twitter.com/practicepublic)

Small Planning Consultancy of the Year category sponsor



Optimis Consulting is an award-winning planning and development consultancy, specialising in residential-led developments. We have sponsored the category of RTPI Small Planning Consultancy of the Year since 2018 and are delighted to be sponsoring this category again in 2022. As a former winner of this competitive category in 2017, we congratulate all of the finalists who have demonstrated their undoubted talents to the RTPI judging panel and wish them the very best of luck.

optimis-consulting.co.uk [@OptimisInfo](https://twitter.com/OptimisInfo)

Excellence in Plan Making Practice Winner

Housing Delivery Programme

submitted by City of York Council and Mikhail Riches with Tibbalds, Civic, Turner & Townsend, Urbed, Warm, LEDA and ImaginePlaces

The City of York Housing Delivery Programme responds to local housing need within the context of the climate crisis. The aim is to create mixed and inclusive communities that promote well-being and healthy lifestyles.

The programme is driven by the Council's Housing Delivery Programme Design Manual which establishes the design brief for the project and reflects best practice, policy and guidance - both local and national.

All homes will be certified Passivhaus. They will be accessible and inclusive places, designed to build community cohesion and promote intergenerational living.



The judges' comments:

"Judges awarded Housing Delivery Programme as the winner for Excellence in Plan Making Practice as it is an interesting and socially driven plan. It has an imaginative response to a challenging context in terms of the place, land values and the planning policy position. Furthermore, Judges described it as fantastic that the local plan is not only thinking of the future but also addressing the real-life challenges faced by communities in the short term i.e., cost of living."

Excellence in Plan Making Practice Commended

Holme-next-the-Sea Neighbourhood Plan

submitted by Holme-next-the-Sea Parish Council

This community-led plan provides a route to a sustainable future for Holme-next-the-Sea, a small parish in the Norfolk Coast AONB. Holme faces significant and complex challenges. The resident population is under severe pressure from external competition in the housing market and the natural and built environments face threats from climate change and sea level rise. Traffic, pollution, noise and declining biodiversity are all linked to these trends and mounting visitor pressure jeopardises the environment which underpins the tourist based economy. An innovative, zone-based approach that recognises the importance of natural capital and ecosystem services offers a solution.



The judges' comments:

"Judges commended this entry for its strong and clear example of community led plan making. This project is an imaginative response to the widely varied and severe challenges that the village faces. Surprisingly complex with six zones each responding to different challenges and opportunities. It was fantastic to see the local community now take ownership of the plan. Judges went on to say it is great to see a pragmatic approach to development being taken that balances the needs for growth to retain vitality of the community and development needs."

Excellence in Plan Making Practice Finalists



The Baltic Triangle SRF submitted by LDA Design
The Baltic Triangle SRF sets a strategic vision and planning framework for Liverpool's coolest neighbourhood, defining a future which framed by creativity, liveability and prosperity.



Clyst Valley Regional Park Masterplan submitted by East Devon District Council
The multi-disciplinary team from East Devon District Council has transformed good planning policy into good practice, giving the fledgling Clyst Valley Regional Park wings.



Edinburgh City Centre Transformation submitted by Jacobs
Edinburgh City Centre Transformation is an ambitious plan for a vibrant people-focused capital city centre to improve community wellbeing, economic vitality and the cultural experience.



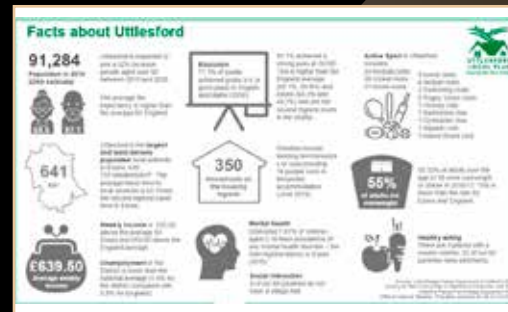
Nottingham Design Quality Framework submitted by Nottingham City Council
The Design Quality Framework is a series of design guides and quality evaluation tools applicable to all kinds of projects during design and planning processes.



Smethwick to Birmingham Corridor Framework Document and Grove Lane Masterplan submitted by Birmingham City Council, Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council, Tibbalds Planning and Urban Design
The Smethwick to Birmingham Corridor Framework and Grove Lane Masterplan united stakeholders to deliver coordinated planning and transport improvements in this major regeneration corridor.



Sustainable Construction Supplementary Planning Document 2021 submitted by Milton Keynes Council
The Sustainable Construction Supplementary Planning Document provides developers with plain guidance on meeting local sustainability policy criteria and sets a leading example for closing the performance gap.



Uttlesford Community Stakeholder Forum submitted by Uttlesford District Council
An online initiative, engaging with representative interest groups, to explore innovative ideas on creating a sustainable, inclusive and responsive net zero carbon future.



Winchester City Council Local Plan Consultation submitted by Winchester City Council
Designing a Local Plan consultation is always challenging but was compounded by national lockdown. The outcome has been positive and inclusive with record responses received.

Excellence in Planning for a Successful Economy Winner

Merthyr Tydfil Transport Interchange

submitted by Merthyr Tydfil County
Borough Council

The Merthyr Tydfil Transport Interchange is a state of the art and stunning transport facility that sets itself apart while catering for the public transport needs of Merthyr Tydfil and the region. The newest developments created during this project link multiple public transport elements including the bus, taxi and rail metro infrastructure. This has been completed to support future regeneration and growth of the town Centre. All this has been done with Sustainability at the core, by introducing electrification of public transport and the facility itself, ensuring green renewable energy sources are prioritized, as well as other key environmental features.



The judges' comments:

"Judges described this project as being an ambitious project for top of Valley town rather than transport crossroads to secure its future role and connectivity. The bus station roof replicates iconic furnaces of ironworks that once punctured the Skyline which reinforces its sense of place."

Excellence in Planning for a Successful Economy Commended

The Box

submitted by Plymouth City Council

The Box brings together museum, archive, local studies, film & photographic collections within a new building crafted from three listed-buildings and organised around a dramatic new extension and piazza below the precious jewelled archive box. At its heart the ethos is conservation, heritage and preservation of Plymouth's rich history and heritage, bringing together six outstanding national collections in a new and sustainable home. This rich blend of collections will enable the stories of international and local significance to be told through immersive experiences and amazing objects. Temporary galleries are integrated enabling both contemporary and heritage exhibitions of internationally significant scale.



The judges' comments:

"Judges described this project as a complex project which faced a wide range of issues. There was strong planner involvement and sets leading practice by supporting the local economy and creating a high-quality place to visit."

Excellence in Planning for a Successful Economy Finalists



Bus Station, Whitehaven submitted by Copeland Borough Council

The Bus Station development is pivotal in Whitehaven's transformation. Repurposing Whitehaven's historic gateway art-deco Bus Station to be Cumbria's flagship digital and creative hub.



Circle Square Masterplan submitted by Deloitte

The Circle Square Masterplan is an exemplar of successful regeneration, transforming an area of brownfield land into a thriving mixed-use community.



City Hall submitted by Cundall

City Hall is an iconic contribution to significant regeneration of the Riverside Sunderland Masterplan which has facilitated positive change for people and businesses. Image by Ben Clarkson.



Fraserburgh 2021 Project submitted by Aberdeenshire Council

The project was to transform the image, quality and economic vibrancy of the commercial core of Fraserburgh by investing in the unique built heritage. Image by Simon Kennedy.



The Hub at DIRFT submitted by Lichfields and Prologis UK Ltd.

The Hub at DIRFT is a unique, socially geared project that will deliver economic growth by advancing skills, expertise and capabilities in the logistics sector. Image - Prologis UK Ltd.



Lowestoft Eastern Energy Facility submitted by ABP, East Suffolk Council and the MMO

LEEF demonstrates exemplary partnership working on an important, complex project that will bring jobs and prosperity to Lowestoft whilst enabling the UK's clean energy transition.

Excellence in Planning for Health and Wellbeing Winner

South Point Primary School

submitted by Vale of Glamorgan Council

South Point Primary School is a project which aimed to deliver the first net zero carbon in operation school in Wales and provide a model for future developments to use and build upon to achieve the national objectives in response to the climate emergency. The project was a collaborative venture between Welsh Government, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Taylor Wimpey, Aecom, ISG, Stride Treglown and McCanns & Partners. The project has provided a high-quality education environment, as part of a mixed-use development secured through the planning process. This has been achieved through a strong vision and collaboratively working with stakeholders.



The judges' comments:

"Judges described this project as an exemplar for schools, helping to set a new national approach in Wales. They applauded the leadership taken to deliver Wales's first net zero carbon primary school as part of a comprehensive mixed used development benefitting the health and wellbeing of pupils and the wider community through high quality active travel links, access to nature and greenspace and the provision of rich learning environments and community facilities."

Excellence in Planning for Health and Wellbeing Finalists



Alexander Stadium Redevelopment submitted by Arup

Reimagining a stadium to create a modern, dynamic venue to support both international and community participation alike.



Gortin Glen Forest Park - A Sustainable Family Orientated Outdoor Experience submitted by Fermanagh and Omagh District Council

Development enhancements to make Gortin Glen Forest Park a sustainable family-friendly outdoor recreation resource for residents and visitors.



Safety of Women and Girls Project submitted by Arup

The London Legacy Development Corporation and Arup have collaborated on a to improve the safety of women and girls across the former Olympic Park site. Image by LLDC.



Maggie's Centre, Leeds submitted by Leeds City Council

Maggie's Centre, Leeds exemplifies successful collaboration in Planning to create a highly attractive, sustainable community facility, providing vital, inclusive support for people affected by cancer.



St. Sidwell's Point submitted by Exeter City Council

St. Sidwell's Point sets new standards for energy performance and reflects Exeter City Council's no-compromise approach to quality, sustainability and community.



Waterfront Place submitted by Dundee City Council

Waterfront Place is a major civic space that excites, encourages a range of active uses and engages all who choose to explore the wider waterfront. Image by Mark Thomas.



The Whitehill & Bordon Green Loop and Wayfinding Project submitted by East Hampshire District Council

The Green Loop with its waymarkers is encouraging residents to travel on foot, by bike, or even scooter, contributing to better physical and mental health.

Excellence in Planning for Heritage and Culture Winner

Houlton School

submitted by David Lock Associates,
Urban&Civic, Rugby Borough Council

The Houlton School project has fully realised the ambitions set for it: restoring the heritage of Rugby Radio Station and making it publicly accessible, creating a sustainable, distinctive and state-of-the-art school. An innovative and committed public/private partnership has created an iconic education facility in the heart of a new community, delivered on budget and on programme, almost entirely during a global pandemic.

Standing proud once again, not just as a preserved heritage building but as a vibrant, bustling school where children are learning and being inspired by how their school was part of our country's most pioneering communications advances.



The judges' comments:

"The judges felt that the planning strategy, the need to overcome significant programme issues around construction and the engagement with the LPA were done with great planning skill. This entry looked at a number of SDGs but also exemplified the use of a significant heritage building as a community asset for all who lived in this settlement. The education element made it stand out, but also the use of unique and sustainable design solutions, whilst preserving the heritage character of the building."

Excellence in Planning for Heritage and Culture Commended

The Fife Pilgrim Way

submitted by Fife Coast and
Countryside Trust

The Fife Pilgrim Way is a long-distance walking route that winds its way eastwards for 64 miles through the very best of Fife's villages, towns and rolling countryside before terminating in front of the spectacular ruins of St Andrews cathedral. Themed around Fife's rich medieval heritage, the fully way-marked, richly interpreted and actively managed walking route delivers unparalleled access to the countryside. It includes many miles of upgraded and new path and historic features along the way, whilst online interpretation, companion maps and the official path guidebook ensure an enjoyable, cultural and recreational experience for all.



The judges' comments:

"Judges commended this project for its outstanding engagement and monitoring to show how the scheme had progressed. Judges enjoyed this well curated project as it shows the power of doing something local and having real impact if there is buy-in from various partners, often with little money. The Fife Pilgrim Way is a wonderful example of enthusiastic and sustained partnership working for the benefit of the area's communities and visitors. The project has made great use of the area's distinctive heritage to inform the upgrading and development of a sustainable path network across the region. Judges felt this submission is doing more to connect economic value to health and wellbeing growth, with great use of PM skills to deliver the project."

Excellence in Planning for Heritage and Culture Commended

Park Hill

submitted by Places for People and Urban
Splash

Park Hill is one of the UK's most significant regeneration projects. Built in 1961, it was an emblem for social change but by the 1990s was suffering dwindling occupancy and antisocial behaviour. The partners and planners' strategy has retained this iconic building, enhancing its fabric so it can better meet residents' needs and introduced a range of uses and tenures.

To date 460 multi-tenure homes have been completed, as well as in excess of 50,000 sq ft of commercial space, and plans for a new art gallery will anchor Park Hill as Sheffield's new cultural quarter.



The judges' comments:

"Judges commended Park Hill, as it excels as a leading example for the creative re-use of a historic structure. Retaining and re-using this iconic structure has allowed for the transformation of an urban neighbourhood, while making an important contribution towards climate action. Overall judges felt this is an incredible project, which has UN SDGs at its heart and that there needs to be more projects like this in the future."

Excellence in Planning for Heritage and Culture Finalists



The Box submitted by Plymouth City Council

The Box brings together museum, archive, local studies, film and photographic collections, crafted from 3-listed buildings organised around a dramatic new extension and piazza.



Bus Station, Whitehaven submitted by Copeland Borough Council

The Bus Station development is pivotal in Whitehaven's transformation. Repurposing Whitehaven's historic gateway art-deco Bus Station to be Cumbria's flagship digital and creative hub.



Fraserburgh 2021 Project submitted by Aberdeenshire Council

The project was to transform the image, quality and economic vibrancy of the commercial core of Fraserburgh by investing in the unique built heritage. Image by Simon Kennedy.



The Restoration of Auckland Castle submitted by Durham County Council

Auckland Castle, home to the Prince Bishops, has been restored to become the anchor for the new visitor destination in Bishop Auckland.



RHS Garden Bridgewater submitted by Barton Willmore

Bringing new life to the historic grounds of Worsley New Hall, RHS Garden Bridgewater creates a major new destination garden to treasure, inspire and excite. Image by Tom Stuart-Smith.

Excellence in Planning for the Natural Environment Winner

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Leeds Skelton Lake Services

submitted by Spawforths

Leeds Skelton Lake Services creates an iconic gateway to eastern Leeds using innovative design to deliver socio-economic and environmental benefits. The motorway services incorporate the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) visitor centre, integrates with the Aire Valley Green Infrastructure Network, with access to the public right of way network and the adjacent Skelton Lake and the Amenity Building has an extensive Biodiverse Green Roof and is supported by long and short-stay cycle parking.



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The judges' comments:

"The judges felt that this project evolves standard of service stations and benefits to wider community. Judges particularly noted the level of engagement undertaken in the implementation of the scheme."

Excellence in Planning for the Natural Environment Commended

Sponsored by



Our Future City Nature Plan

submitted by Birmingham City Council

Birmingham as a City of Nature is one which prioritises our natural environment, enabling us to meet the adaptation challenge we must tackle the climate crisis we face. Our 25-year City of Nature Plan brings together a range of council departments and community groups to focus our attention on those parts of Birmingham which are environmentally poor, helping them to achieve environmental justice. Planning is at the heart of this ambitious plan which looks to change the governance around how we consider green spaces and importantly fund them.



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The judges' comments:

"Judges commended the clear leadership demonstrated with planning at the fore. The project delivered by developing a collaborative working and partnership approach across the Council. Judges also described the entry as being an example of leading practice."

Excellence in Planning for the Natural Environment Finalists

Sponsored by



Central Park Hub submitted by Plymouth City Council

A Plymouth City Council partnership project transforming a public greenspace into an environmentally and financially sustainable city asset for nature connection and health and wellbeing. Image by Andrew Clanfield.



Edinburgh Strategic Green Blue Network submitted by Atkins

The Edinburgh Strategic Green-Blue Network holistically considers nature-based solutions at a strategic scale to underpin future change and development as part of Edinburgh Cityplan 2030.



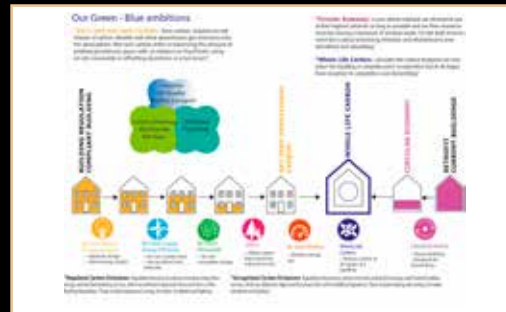
The Floating House submitted by Elliott Architects Ltd.

The Floating House is a new build house in the greenbelt which demonstrates sustainable, innovative design on a challenging rural site.



Otley Flood Alleviation Scheme submitted by WSP

WSP, Leeds City Council and the Environment Agency delivered a sensitive scheme to protect homes and businesses from flooding while enhancing biodiversity and habitats.



RBKC - Planning for a Green Borough submitted by Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea's places environment at the centre of its consideration of new development proposals.

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Excellence in Planning for Communities (small schemes of 50 or less) Winner

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Olive Morris Court, Homeless Accommodation

submitted by Sphere25

Haringey and London have seen a significant increase in the number of people rough sleeping. Hill Group's Foundation 200 scheme, alongside support from Haringey Council, provided a modular development to take people off the streets and into a safe, secure, and well-designed space to enable them to get back on their feet with on-site support provided.

The development includes 33 modular units for homeless accommodation and site management. The scheme has been designed carefully in consideration of neighbours and secured temporary permission with a minimal build period, maximising its positive social, economic, and sustainable purposes.



The judges' comments:

"This project provides a strong example of a meanwhile use that addresses a specific housing need with positive local outcomes and transferrable learning. Judges felt that there are many positive aspects to the scheme, and that the initiative could easily be transferred to other parts of the UK."

Excellence in Planning for Communities (small schemes of 50 or less) Commended

Sponsored by
wsp

St George's Vicarage

submitted by Barton Willmore

The site was subject to a turbulent planning history prior to the involvement of Barton Willmore in which there was a genuine and realistic concern that the heritage asset at the site was completely unsalvageable.

Barton Willmore's expertise in planning and heritage matters as well as understanding of commercial realities facing such a site enabled the developer to propose a creative and innovative scheme that struck the right balance between heritage conservation and delivering a viable development to secure that conservation.



The judges' comments:

"This entry demonstrates a positive example of collaborative working to regenerate a heritage asset with wider benefit for the local community. Judges felt that this entry is a particularly good example of a development which takes positive steps to address climate action and of the role of planner and planning in the scheme progression."

Excellence in Planning for Communities (small schemes of 50 or less) Finalists

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Colonel Wright Close, Bakewell submitted by Peak District National Park Authority
Colonel Wright Close is a high quality development of 30 affordable local needs houses on an important gateway site in the Peak District National Park.



The Gannochy Estate Housing Expansion submitted by Anderson Bell Christie
A 'Lifetime Neighbourhood' which supports a sociable intergenerational community and provides healthy, adaptable and inclusive homes for all abilities. Image by Keith Hunter.




Marple Dale, Stockport submitted by P4 Planning Limited
P4 led a successful application for developer, Seddon Homes, proposing new homes in the Green Belt that integrate with the operational care home.



Webster Court submitted by Bidwells
Webster Court provided rapid development of affordable housing to address homelessness in Norwich through dynamic partnership working with the local authority and developer. Image by Broadland Housing Association.

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Excellence in Planning for Communities (large schemes of 50 or more) Winner

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Park East

submitted by CBRE

Park East, Erith, within the London Borough of Bexley provides a new high quality and inclusive community of 320 tenure blind homes with 80% affordable housing overall. The new homes are set within landscaped green spaces providing a strong sense of community. Park East is being delivered by Orbit and Wates, who have previous experience in delivering high-quality, large scale estate regeneration within the area having been responsible for the award-winning Erith Park (former Lerner Road Estate). The quality of the Park East development has provided a major role in transforming perceptions of Erith and Slade Green.



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The judges' comments:

"The judges felt that this project demonstrates a positive regeneration project which has delivered for both the local community and wider area. Particularly good examples provided to demonstrate how climate action and sustainability are at the heart of the project. Good example of positive community engagement in a difficult to reach community. Judges were impressed by the excellent demonstration of planning role and partnership working."

Excellence in Planning for Communities (large schemes of 50 or more) Commended

Sponsored by
WSP

Phase 3 of the regeneration of the Pendleton neighbourhood (Salford) submitted by Barton Willmore

Through extensive, and early stakeholder engagement, Barton Willmore have been instrumental in re-igniting Pendleton, and breathing new life into a once neglected urban neighbourhood.

This complex, urban regeneration project sought to build upon the good work undertaken at Phase 1 to develop an exemplar of what a modern urban neighbourhood should be, with a highly sustainable, accessible and navigable built-form, where the movements of pedestrians and cycles are prioritised, to create a place where people want to live.

Barton Willmore's strategy to engage extensively at the pre-application stage resulted in the determination of this major development in under four months.



The judges' comments:

"Judges described this entry as a well-presented entry which addresses the criteria by way of specific examples. The entry was particularly clear on the role of the planner in the overall project and the benefits of the same. Provides a good example of positive community engagement despite challenges presented by the pandemic."

Excellence in Planning for Communities (large schemes of 50 or more) Finalists

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30 Harbord Square submitted by Canary Wharf Communities

30 Harbord Square is one of the first affordable apartment buildings within Wood Wharf, a new 23 acre neighbourhood within Canary Wharf.



Student Residences, Campus East, University of York submitted by WSP

WSP secured approval for new colleges, using Modern Methods of Construction, at the University of York. The colleges created inclusive communities, enabling students to thrive. Image by David Millington Photography Ltd.



The Sycamores submitted by Keepmoat Homes

Situated in the heart of Stockton-on-Tees, The Sycamores - a stylish 157-home regeneration development, delivered by Keepmoat Homes in partnership with Stockton Borough Council.



Thornesgate submitted by Spawforths

Thornesgate in Wakefield provides 96 high quality new homes in a well considered public realm which supports and encourages community to come together.







Trent Bridge Quays - a new sustainable community for Nottingham submitted by Ridge and Partners LLP

Trent Bridge Quays is a brilliantly conceived regeneration project providing a sustainable community kick-starting a new wave of regeneration for the wider Waterside Regeneration area.

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Join the conversation

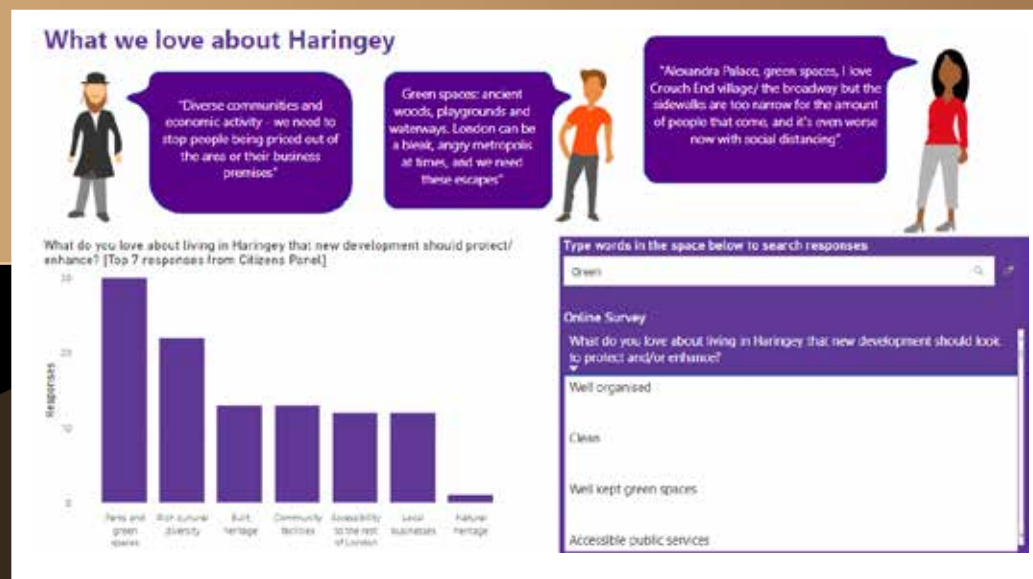
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Excellence in Tech within Planning Excellence Winner

New Haringey Local Plan: First Steps Engagement submitted by London Borough of Haringey

Haringey's New Local Plan First Steps Engagement is an example of an imaginative, innovative, inclusive industry-leading approach to planning consultation. Mid-way through the pandemic the Council delivered a digitally focused consultation to begin a conversation about its New Local Plan. Despite the enormous challenges at play for the borough's communities, the Council succeeded in obtaining over 1,500 unique responses from individuals and organisations with high levels of representation from people in the east of the borough and younger people, two groups who had traditionally been under-represented.



The judges' comments:

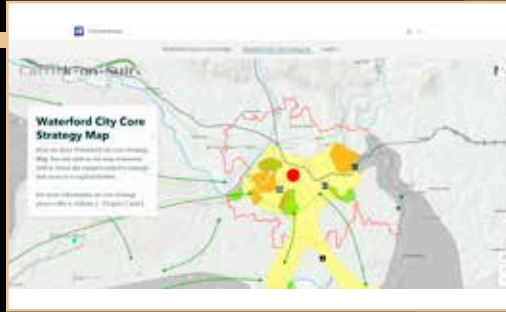
“The judges were very impressed with Haringey's great example of engagement during the covid pandemic. They set the mark in 2020 that others have since followed. The dedicated policy planning team showed remarkable leadership and clarity of thought with their visionary engagement plan which aimed to reach out as much as possible during a difficult time. They ensured that the plan was not only socialised but reached under-represented groups and engaging with a huge range of people through innovative methods. The team went above and beyond what was required and have paved the way for others who wish to follow.”

Excellence in Tech within Planning Excellence Finalists



City of London Thermal Comfort Guidelines submitted by City of London

The City of London have employed innovative technology to model the wind, sunlight, temperature and humidity to deliver inclusive and sustainable growth.



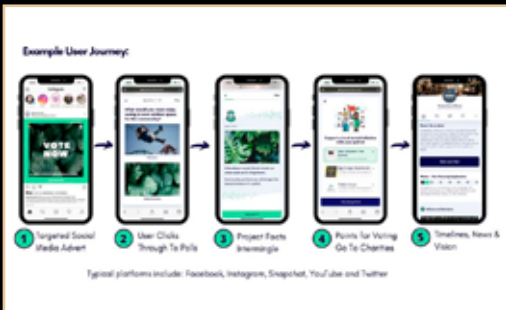
Draft Development Plan Story Maps submitted by Waterford City and County Council

Waterford Council's Draft Development Plan Story Maps visually displayed strategic spatial data that encouraged public participation in the plan making process during Covid-19.



St Cuthbert's Garden Village Interactive 360 Degree Virtual Exhibition and Promotional Video submitted by Carlisle City Council

An innovative in-house developed Virtual Exhibition Room and promotional video for the St Cuthbert's Garden Village Local Plan consultation during Covid lockdown.



Use of digital technologies for better planning submitted by Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

Clever use of technology helps planners at Kensington and Chelsea improve engagement and outcomes for the community in their New Local Plan.

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International Award for Planning Excellence Winner

25 Connects: A Transit-Oriented Development Plan for West 25th Street Cleveland, Ohio, United States submitted by Stantec

This transit-oriented development plan is a best-in-class example of integrating rapid transit service with contemporary planning strategies. Across multiple neighbourhoods five catalytic sites were identified and studied. To address each area with authenticity; the core of our TOD strategies includes right-sizing for density; collaborating locally to invite diversity into development opportunities; and design that enables multimodal mobility, safety, and equitable access to housing, jobs, healthcare, and places of culture and community. The plan aligns community-driven ideas with strong, vibrant station areas that function as catalysts for future corridor development.



The judges' comments:

"Judges said 25 Connects is an excellent example of how to work with an existing constraint, and to improve the lives of users and the community that must embrace living alongside of it. A key infrastructure project that cannot simply be turned off; mitigation and improvement is key, both for economic and social reasons, and this entry gives a real sense of how to achieve this, through ambition and pragmatism. It is also a project that demonstrates transferable application to a UK context. This project demonstrates the true value of how to apply planning principles through the lens of international development. Far reaching, and community-based, it provides a template for long-term positive change."

International Award for Planning Excellence Commended

Sustainable Urban Economic Plans submitted by Atkins

The UK Government, through its Sustainable Urban Economic Programme (SUED) is supporting Kenyan municipalities to develop locally relevant Urban Economic Plans (UEPs). The UEPs were shaped to integrate a market-based approach, helped to identify viable value chains and supported critical climate-resilient infrastructure development that will maximise the economic potential of intermediary cities and localities. The plans guided the development of inclusive, climate-resilient interventions in each town and addressed challenges and gaps including those created by climatic shocks such as floods and droughts that exacerbate already difficult conditions for urban and rural populations and put vulnerable groups at risk.



The judges' comments:

"Sustainable Urban Economic Kenya demonstrates the true value of how to apply planning principles through the lens of international development. There was real, tangible, and clearly demonstrated benefits for the local community. The judges applauded the strong community engagement, and described Sustainable Urban Economic Plans Kenya as, extremely strong on under-represented groups, demonstrating a fully participatory and inclusive approach. From a societal perspective it is likely to have profound impacts."

International Award for Planning Excellence Finalists



Future Ready NextGen Infrastructure Action Plan ("NextGen Action Plan")
Centennial, Colorado, United States
 submitted by **Stantec**
 Stantec brings multi-discipline approach to smart city focused project to develop action plan focused on adaptability and implementation with next generation infrastructure in mind.



'South Pole' Peninsula (Urban Design and Regulatory Control Planning of Jiaowei Town, Zhanjiang, China)
 submitted by **Urban Design International Co. Ltd. (UDI)**
 The 'South Pole' is an idyllic coastal peninsula in China where UDI & NULDI have created a uniquely sustainable Rural Revitalization and Eco-Tourism development project.



Te Whaihanga - Building Capacity to Decolonise Planning Aotearoa New Zealand
 submitted by **Reeves and Associates**
 Te Whaihanga, a planning led, multi-disciplinary project designed to better prepare built environment professionals to work with Māori, the indigenous people of Aotearoa New Zealand.

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In-house Planning Team of the Year Winner

NHS Property Services

An established in-house team of twelve planning professionals. We are the only dedicated in-house Town Planning team in the NHS covering all aspects of spatial planning including preparing and submitting applications, proactive monitoring of planning policy, strategic site promotions, reviewing financial viability assessments, and securing developer contributions. Our national team partners with a range of stakeholders within and beyond the NHS and provides expert planning advice to optimise the NHS estate. We explore the practical and strategic aspects of each project alongside exploring commercial potential, prioritising healthcare outcomes across all, and guide developments from conception to completion.



The judges' comments:

"The judges were impressed by the diversity of the type of work the team were involved in, covering all aspects of spatial planning, national planning policy monitoring, and development management. Furthermore, the judges said the team demonstrated agility and flexibility in conjunction with successfully utilising their planning knowledge to resolve planning matters to support the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The judging panel went on to say their approach to team development and inclusivity should be applauded and would appear to be testament to their staff retention and APC pass rate figures. Overall, the judges felt this entry was all round outstanding."

In-house Planning Team of the Year Finalists






ilke Homes

ilke Homes are one of the UK's largest volumetric modular house builders at the forefront of delivering sustainable and beautiful homes using MMC.

Vistry Group

Vistry Group is a top five housebuilder with a purpose to develop sustainable new homes and communities across all sectors of the UK housing market.

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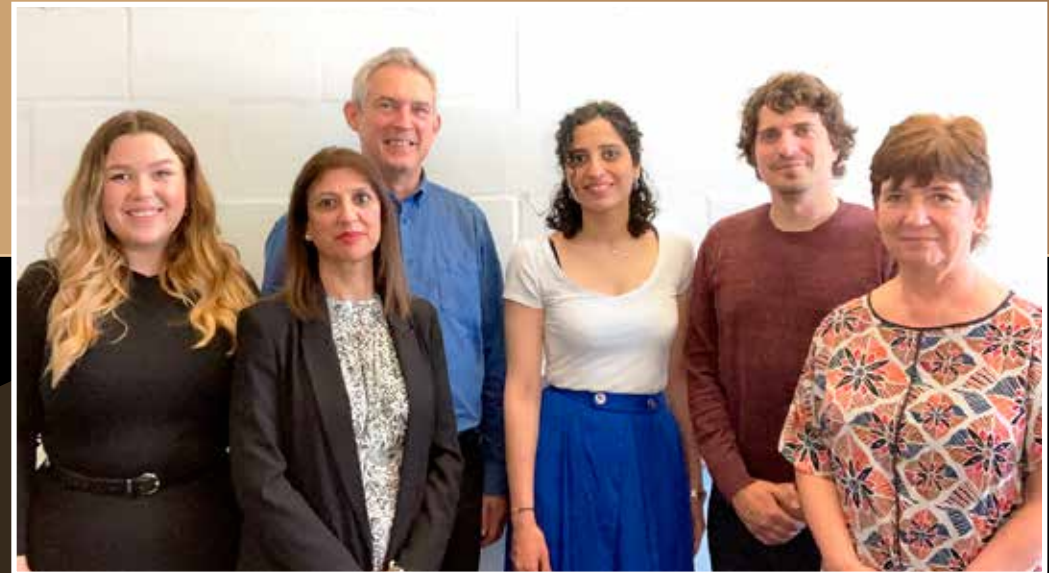
Small Planning Consultancy of the Year Winner

Sponsored by



Kevin Murray Associates

Kevin Murray Associates is a specialist consultancy in strategic visioning, action planning and research; facilitating progressive stakeholder and community engagement inputs into the planning process, both in-person and through on-line events. KMA delivers an innovative services for clients from a compact team – planning and regeneration, research, leading-edge engagement, strategy and policy development – across a wide range of locations. Their inclusive place momentum approach transcends different cultures, disciplines and administrative systems. Professionally active in circles like the RTPI, Academy of Urbanism, and teaching at various universities, the outward-looking KMA team also volunteer with community development trusts and youth organisations.



The judges' comments:

"The judges were impressed by their strong focus on internal and external cohesion as well as their creative and inclusive approach to EDI. Judges also noted their ethos of 'place momentum' as an excellent means of embedding spatial and socio-economic values in their work."

Small Planning Consultancy of the Year Commended

Sponsored by



Chris Jones Regeneration

Chris Jones is a chartered town planner and place practitioner based in Abergavenny, Monmouthshire, with a focus on making things happen in towns and communities.



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The judges' comments:

"The judges noted that Chris Jones Regeneration has demonstrated an obvious commitment to putting people first and a passion for place making through meaningful engagement, whilst also maintaining a focus on meeting client needs. They have demonstrated commendable client relationships, embedded with community, and in local community life."

Small Planning Consultancy of the Year Finalists

Sponsored by



Arrow Planning

As a small business, Arrow is more flexible and adaptable than larger practices. The team is actively encouraged to innovate and use size and agility as strengths.

Eldnar Consultancy

Eldnar Consultancy - they do not pretend to be a massive company, nor do they intend to be the biggest – just one of the very best. Image by Eleni Randle.

Ethical Partnership

Ethical Partnership is a planning and sustainability consultancy incorporating three values - people, planet and equitable profit. We work with clients who share these values.

Feria Urbanism - 2021 team

Feria Urbanism's co-creative philosophy is enabling and gives people a voice. They make plans and build places from local knowledge, aspiration, and collective dreaming.



Juno Planning & Environmental

Juno Planning prides itself on delivering successful planning outcomes for notable projects which make positive contributions to society, the environment and the economy.

Lawson Planning Partnership

Versatility, inclusivity and professionalism underpin LPP's approach to delivering sustainable development and providing an exemplary planning service to its clients.

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Small Planning Consultancy of the Year Finalists

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NTR Planning

NTR Planning strives to put its love of the profession first. Passionate, intelligent, resilient, thoughtful. Working hard to make planning accessible and better for all.



Urban Imprint

Urban Imprint is a personable, multi-disciplinary team with an exceptionally diverse and successful portfolio. 2022 marks ten years of hard-work, creativity, integrity and care.



Urbana

Urbana is a town planning, urbanism, and development consultancy. They make unique places using passion and expertise, delivering results for clients and the built environment.

Planning Consultancy of the Year Winner

LUC

LUC provides high quality planning, impact assessment, landscape design, ecology, historic environment, transport, and geospatial services to a wide range of public and private sector clients.

With a track record spanning over 55 years and a team of more than 200 skilled professionals, LUC is united by a determination to achieve sustainable development on behalf of its clients. With the current climate emergency in mind, LUC ensures that all its work promotes climate change mitigation and resilience.

LUC became a fully employee-owned business in January 2020, sharing profits on an equal basis and involving everyone in key decisions.



The judges' comments:

"This entry was praised by the judges for having a lot of imaginative and innovative solutions as well as holistic insight research on client experience. Their award-winning approach to inclusion of a diverse range of groups is genuinely inspiring. The judges commented that LUC should be held up as an example of best practice, leading the way for diversity and inclusion."

Planning Consultancy of the Year Finalists



Deloitte

Deloitte is a national planning consultancy which delivers complex planning projects and strategies for a range of public and private sector clients.



DHA Planning Ltd – 2021 team

The South East's largest independent multi-disciplinary planning consultancy, DHA offers town planning & development, transport, design, environmental impact, infrastructure and land from Maidstone and Crawley.



hgh Consulting

hgh is a creative and independent consultancy that guides clients through the complexities of the planning system, with a strong track record of success.



HTA Design LLP

HTA Planning is part of a multi-disciplinary design practice specialising in residential-led urban regeneration projects, leading innovation, complemented by their research, and thought leadership. Image by HTA Design LLP.



Lichfields

Lichfields is the pre-eminent planning and development consultancy in the UK. The company has been helping create great places for 60 years.



Nexus Planning – 2021 team

Nexus Planning is a highly skilled team of planning and regeneration consultants, providing market-leading planning, regeneration and development advice to the private and public sectors.



P4

We're a team of hard working, proactive and pragmatic planners who cut through the complexities of the planning system and provide straightforward advice.



Quod – 2021 team

Quod is a specialist, independent consultancy at the cutting edge of planning and development economics.





Planning Consultancy of the Year Finalists



WSP

WSP Planning Consultancy team is unique in its focus on people; communities and delivering long lasting and impactful solutions to uniquely complex problems.

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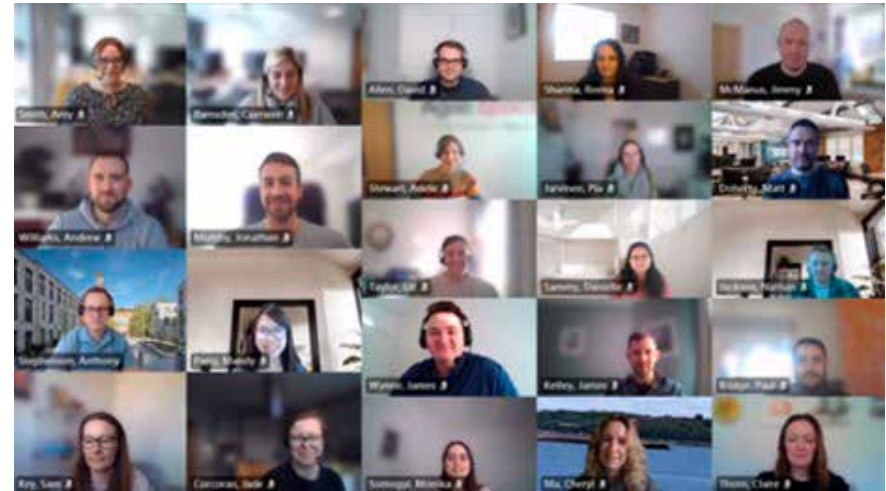
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Planning Authority of the Year Winner

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**PUBLIC
PRACTICE**

Salford City Council

Salford has seen huge investment in new homes, businesses, infrastructure and public realm. The delivery of major projects such as MediaCityUK, Greengate and the revitalization of road and riverside corridors has transformed large areas of Salford and had a significant impact on the City's economy and profile. Team Salford are bold, brave, and passionate about creating a better and fairer Salford for all. They have a strong appetite to be the best and have worked tirelessly to capitalise on the investment for the benefit of its communities. They have not stood still and continue to push forward and be innovative.



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The judges' comments:

"The judges described this entry as having very high-quality stakeholder recognition. The team's proactive approach to staff development, and their culture of continuous learning should also be applauded. They showed high commitment, and they were able to innovate and do things out of the ordinary. Overall, the judges felt this submission really demonstrated the application of cutting edge and forward-thinking initiatives to provide an excellent planning service."

Planning Authority of the Year Finalists

Sponsored by
PUBLIC PRACTICE



Birmingham City Council

Birmingham's planning approach is centred around achieving net zero carbon across the city and ensuring equality for all through levelling-up.



Halton Council

Halton's Planning Service is small in number, but big in ambition, showcasing some big infrastructure, sites, and an emerging local plan.



London Borough of Redbridge

Redbridge's planning service has undergone a transformation involving difficult questions, uncomfortable change, and new ways of working - all to provide an outstanding community service.



London Borough of Tower Hamlets - Strategic Planning

The Tower Hamlets Strategic Planning service develops policy and guidance to manage high levels of growth and meet the needs of the local community.



Sedgemoor District Council

Sedgemoor District Council is a pro-growth and proactive local authority which is committed to equity, its staff and supportive of continued development and performance.

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Head Planner of the Year (Local Planning Authority) Winner

Karen Syrett
Lead Officer for Planning
and Place Strategy
Colchester Borough Council

Karen has worked in local authorities for over 30 years and was one of the first women in the East to be promoted to a senior management level in Planning at a Local Authority. Currently the Lead Officer for Planning and Place Strategy at Colchester Borough Council, she is influential in the delivery of the Local Plan. She also holds a key directional role in Development Management. There are few development sites in Colchester that she does not know in detail. Karen is a strong, and well-respected figure for the Council. She is a true role model for her teams.



The judges' comments:

"The judges highlighted the wealth of Karen's experience across the different thematic areas of planning, how she has significantly influenced the local authority in the development and promotion of the corporate policies and initiatives. Karen is clearly a strategic leader and a team player. She goes the extra mile in her relationships with the team, partners, and the profession."

Head Planner of the Year (Local Planning Authority) Finalists



Jeni Jackson
Chief Planning Officer
Richmond and
Wandsworth SSA

Jeni is positively passionate about planning, thinks strategically and innovatively and uses her influence, knowledge, and passion for place well within the organisation.



Jonathan Bell
Head of Development
Planning Plymouth City
Council

Jonathan has personally led a number of award-winning initiatives that have pushed the boundaries of creativity and innovation in what planning can achieve for people.

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Young Planner of the Year Winner

Simeon Shtebunaev
Birmingham City University

Simeon's fervour for inclusion has led him to become a passionate advocate for youth-friendly future cities working with developers, local authorities, and professional organisations. Simeon is an ambassador for town planning across the cultural and architecture sectors, promoting the value of planning on regional, national and international level.

Practicing what he believes, he teaches secondary school children in underrepresented communities; co-ordinates annual summer school in architecture and urban planning in Bulgaria; lectures undergraduate and master planning students focusing on professionalism, digital planning and interdisciplinary design skills; and researches the opportunities for young people to shape the futures of their cities.



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The judges' comments:

"Simeon is an ambassador for town planning across the cultural and architecture sectors, promoting the value of planning on regional, national, and international level. Judges noted that he has outstanding enthusiasm and passion for the planning profession and in a short career to date has sought to make effective change through research and their professional involvement."



The Julie Cowans Memorial Trust is delighted to award Simeon with a £1,000 prize to contribute towards his career development.

Young Planner of the Year Finalists



Alice Jones
Birmingham City Council
Alice's positive approach results in exceptional work across complex projects, using planning tools to deliver genuinely inclusive and sustainable growth which benefits Birmingham's residents.



Bethany Jones
Colchester Borough Council
Beth's inspirational ethic toward putting planning into action has enabled her to become a role model and leader to young planners, professionals and others alike.



Rhiannon Moore
Montagu Evans
Rhiannon's passion for planning shines through everything she does. Her ambition and commitment to promoting planning as a profession across the development sector is inspirational.



Oscar Wong
Deloitte
Oscar is a Manager at Deloitte, specialising in major urban development and infrastructure planning. He is also on London Mayor's Young Professionals Panel and RTPI International Committee.

Silver Jubilee Cup Winner



Housing Delivery Programme

submitted by City of York Council and Mikhail Riches with Tibbalds, Civic, Turner & Townsend, Urbed, Warm, LEDA and ImaginePlaces

The City of York Housing Delivery Programme responds to local housing need within the context of the climate crisis. The aim is to create mixed and inclusive communities that promote well-being and healthy lifestyles.

The programme is driven by the Council's Housing Delivery Programme Design Manual which establishes the design brief for the project and reflects best practice, policy and guidance - both local and national.

All homes will be certified Passivhaus. They will be accessible and inclusive places, designed to build community cohesion and promote intergenerational living.



The judges' comments:

"This scheme has been described as 'arguably the most ambitious council housing programme in a generation' (The Guardian). From inception, through the City of York Council's (CYC) Housing Delivery Programme Design Manual and community engagement, to construction the scheme is a model of town planning on bringing forward difficult and challenging urban infill sites. The result is that all the homes, with a mix of size and tenures, will be built to Certified Passivhaus standards which are net zero in operational carbon. The scheme demonstrates how the UN Sustainable Development Goals can be achieved in practice to create mixed and inclusive communities that promote well-being and healthy lifestyles."

Thank you to the judges

Ian Anderson MRTPI
Iceni

Alison Baisden MRTPI
Historic Environment Scotland

Kieran Blaydes MRTPI
Kingswood Homes

Clive Brook FRTPI

Rob Chichester MRTPI
C2J Architects and Planners

Heather Claridge MRTPI
Glasgow City Council

Claire Day FRTPI
Hybrid Planning & Development Limited

Viral Desai MRTPI
Atkins

Helen Fadipe MRTPI
FPP Associates Ltd

Julia Frost MRTPI
Scott Hobbs Planning Ltd

Uyen-Phan Han MRTPI
Birmingham City Council

Colin Haylock FRTPI

Russell Hughes-Pickering MRTPI
Ceredigion County Council

Dr Husam MRTPI
Dundee University

Judith Jones MRTPI
Merthyr Tydfil County Borough Council

Rob Krzyszowski MRTPI
Haringey Council

Adele Maher MRTPI
London Borough of Tower Hamlets

Catherine McEvoy MRTPI
Department for Infrastructure

Dee McGrath MRTPI
Limerick County Council

Nikola Miller MRTPI
The Scottish Government

Rob Murfin MRTPI
Northumberland County Council

Judith Onuh MRTPI
WSP

Lindsey Richards FRTPI
Homes England

Andrew Sim MRTPI
Fife Council

Danielle St Pierre MRTPI
Hybrid Planning & Development Limited

Olafiyin Taiwo MRTPI

Rob Thomas MRTPI
Vale of Glamorgan Council

Layla Vidal-Martin MRTPI
Edgars

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