

Minutes of meeting held 14 July 2010, 33 Great Portland Street, London W1W 8QG

Attendance

Policy Committee

Annie Coombs (AC)
Noel Farrer (NF)
Ian Phillips (IP)
Rachel Penny (RP) - on behalf of Val Kirby
Peter Wilder (PW)
Richard Copas (RC)
Clare Brockhurst (CB)
Jane Knight (JK)
Antonia Glyde (AG) - representing Technical Committee

Staff

Alastair McCapra (AMc)
Paul Lincoln (PL)
Stephen Russell (SR)

Apologies

Paul Tiplady (PT)
Sue Evans (SE)
Emily Smyth (ES)

Item	Report	Action
1	Attendance/apologies As above.	n/a
2	Declarations of interest AC declared that she was a registered commissioner for the Infrastructure Planning Commission.	n/a
3	Minutes of meeting held 28 May 2009 The minutes were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.	n/a
4	New Government PL outlined the primary purpose of this meeting of Policy Committee, which was to consider potential impacts following the change of Government and areas of concern to the LI. He highlighted the need to react quickly to proposals and the need to retain the organisation's messages but reframe them in a way which resonates with a more local audience. Policy Committee examined the paper supplementing this item which looked at the Government's programme and where the LI could contribute:	
4.1	<u>Natural Environment White Paper</u> SR to liaise with members of Policy Committee and the wider membership upon publication of the White Paper discussion document in order to submit comprehensive response from the LI.	SR and wider membership
4.2	<u>Abolition of Regional Spatial Strategies</u> SR to work with IP and AC on the development of a response to a committee inquiry into the abolition of Regional Spatial Strategies.	SR/AC/IP
4.3	<u>Consolidation of PPSs and PPGs into National Planning Policy Framework</u> Upon publication of proposals, likely to be under the Localism Bill, SR to coordinate response with Policy Committee and wider membership	SR
4.4	<u>Sub-national growth white paper</u>	

	<p>It was agreed that when the sub-national growth white paper was published the LI should urge for acknowledgement of the economic benefits of green infrastructure.</p>	SR
4.5	<p><u>Localism Bill</u></p> <p>It was agreed that upon publication of the Localism Bill, scheduled for Autumn 2010, the LI would actively engage with its development through submissions to Committee Inquiries, collaboration with other organisations and corresponding with individual MPs. It was felt that it would be likely that the issue of planning for green infrastructure would be a key concern, given the proposals to remove the regional tier of planning.</p>	SR
4.7	<p><u>Abolition of quangos</u></p> <p>Concerns were raised surrounding the future of a number of agencies with similar aims to the LI and with whom the LI has developed good working relationships (particularly CABE Space and Natural England). It was decided that support for each of these would be provided as and when plans became more clear and where the LI's support would be beneficial. It was highlighted that the LI would need to be flexible in the face of rapidly changing scenarios.</p>	AMc/PL
4.8	<p><u>Cost-cutting across local government</u></p> <p>AMc explained that a current consultation on ways to reduce costs across local government provided an opportunity for the LI to raise the issue of excessive levels of PI cover and the impact upon smaller registered practices.</p>	AMc/SR
4.9	<p><u>Green infrastructure and localism</u></p> <p>It was agreed that the Policy Committee would make a recommendation to Board that a publication on the subject of GI and localism would now be a priority ahead of the Good Clients Guide and other subjects in the development plan (education and health)</p>	NF
5	<p>Good Clients Guide</p> <p>The following potential publishing brief was developed following discussions between those present:</p> <p><u>Audience (client sectors)</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Schools - Healthcare - Registered social landlords - Private housing developers - Office/retail - Highways - Parks departments <p><u>Methods of communication</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Members - Secretariat <p><u>Aim</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To persuade potential clients of the benefits of directly employing a landscape architect <p><u>Objectives</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To demonstrate a sound understanding of the business needs of each client sector - To illustrate the range of work undertaken by the landscape profession and the benefits they bring - To demonstrate how employing a landscape architect represents value for money 	

	<p><u>Contents</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Various methods of procurement and their advantages and disadvantages - How clients can get the best from their landscape architects <p>AC agreed to Chair the group that would lead on the development of the document. CB agreed to be a member of this group and it was decided that the work would provide a good opportunity to widen the activity of the Policy Committee to other members who had expressed an interest in the LI's policy work.</p> <p>AC highlighted the need for the Good Clients Guide to work with the update to the Landscape Consultants Appointment.</p> <p>SR to work with AC and NF to refine the scope of the project and seek additional members to get involved.</p>	SR
6	<p>Economics of landscape</p> <p>SR provided an update on progress, highlighting that the publication would be more of a campaign document in light of a lack of hard empirical evidence on the direct economic impacts of investment in landscape.</p>	
7	<p>Public policy consultation responses</p> <p>SR reported that the LI had submitted a response to CLG's PPS on a Healthy Natural Environment but that given the change of government and the proposals to create a National Planning Policy Framework, implementation of the PPS was likely to halt. IP highlighted the need to ensure that key concerns of the LI were adequately dealt with in any revisions to the planning system.</p>	
8	<p>Update from Policy Committee members</p> <p>n/a</p>	
9	<p>AOB</p> <p>n/a</p>	
10	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Tbc</p>	