



Welcome to the NZPI UK's first newsletter of 2017. A belated HAPPY NEW YEAR! The newsletter brings you planning news from the UK and NZ, including from our very own Rik Dorbeck and also Isobel Bruun-Kiaer on her research in Tauranga. We also confirm our Summer Event in July with Eiighty4 Recruitment. We'll keep you posted on events and updates on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=9005231687

Call for Committee volunteers for 2017

Every year at this time we call for volunteers to join the Committee. If you would like to expand your CPD activities to help plan events and prepare newsletters and information to Kiwi planners in the UK and those interested in UK and New Zealand planning issues, please do put yourself forward. We mainly communicate through emails so there is no great time commitment but we do need your contributions to make this Network a useful port of call for Kiwi planners in the UK as well as those UK planners with an interest in New Zealand.

We would like to thank **Sarah Marshall**, who is retiring from her long service.

The following people are standing for re-election for the 2017-2018 year:

- **Kate Biddlecombe**
- **Michael Chang**
- **Rick Dorbeck**
- **Adonica Giborees**
- **Claire Gray**
- **Harry Halpin**
- **Lynette Hughes**
- **Hannah Murphy**
- **Kate Randell**
- **Claire Steele**

Should you wish to be on the Committee please email us on at nzpiuk@gmail.com by **Monday 1 May 2017**. We will then email all members to confirm the 2017-18 Committee.

We are also very interested in knowing of any other kiwi planners here in the UK (or about to arrive) so please forward our details on to them. They can also sign up on our Facebook page.



What's new... in the UK

Planning Update ^(MC)

Welcome to the Branch's first newsletter of 2017 with a short summary of planning updates to give you since our last newsletter.

The much-awaited English Housing White Paper 'Fixing our broken housing market' was published in February 2017. Along with the Housing White Paper, a number of reports were published, including the report of the CIL Review Team. Look out for more consultations as the National Planning Policy Framework is revised in the coming months.

Across the border in the north, the Scottish Government published Places, people and planning - a consultation on the future of the Scottish planning system. Comments closes 4 April.

The Neighbourhood Planning Bill completed its passage through the House of Lords in mid March.

Draft Regulations for Permission in Principle have been published to enact the new mechanism set out in the Housing and Planning Act 2016.

In the March Spring Budget, the government announced it would be devolving more powers to London. Action to tackle congestion is one of the areas to be devolved.

The Government's Industrial Strategy green paper, published in January 2017, aims to drive growth and create more high skilled jobs. Comments close on 17 April 2017.

Bids for reorganisation involving unitary status have been submitted by Dorset, Oxfordshire, and Buckinghamshire. The bids are primarily motivated by potential for cost savings.

OUR REGULAR NEW FEATURE

A Day in the Life of...

... a Senior Planner at a central London Planning Consultancy - Henrik (Rik) Dorbeck

I am currently a Senior Planner at Porta Planning – a West End based planning and development consultancy, founded in 2010. I joined Porta Planning in 2014, having worked for two London boroughs after 6 years as a consultant in New Zealand.

My days can be extremely varied, with some involving back-to-back design team or client meetings, some involving full days in the office liaising with clients, consultants, consultancy partners or Council Officers, and some split between travelling and working en route to various locations within the UK.

The type of work is diverse and changes week to week, with a wide range of queries, projects or issues for each client. Tasks will often include site appraisals, advising on planning strategy and tactics, preparing representations to applications or Local Plans, promoting sites, coordinating planning submissions, liaising with client and consultant teams, preparing invoices and managing budgets.

There are a few reasons I take pleasure in working as a planning consultant: firstly, being involved in critical decisions at every and any stage of the property cycle; secondly, being able to see a project right the way through from an initial brief or 'idea', devising a planning strategy, securing permission, construction, through to its end use; and lastly, being able to achieve great outcomes for great clients.

One of the most interesting days 'in the office', was earlier in 2016 when tasked with travelling to Cumbria to drive a key meeting between the client's appointed contractors, the client and our environmental team. The meeting was supposed to be about the coordination of CTMPs for five (out of a total of 32) major simultaneous construction projects.

Being a Ministry of Defence secure site, one must surrender one's electronic devices including phones and laptops. However, this coupled with not having a UK passport, I did not have the relevant security clearance to access the site and ended up spending two and a half hours (of the three hour meeting) outside waiting for it to be obtained. Nevermind – At least I managed to catch the last 30 minutes of the meeting before embarking on my five hour train back to London...



**Henrik
Dorbeck**
March 2017

Is this a useful regular feature? Please let us know your views!

Are you interested in contributing to future features of **A Day in the Life of**? If so, please email us with a sentence about what you do and we will get back in touch!



What's new... in NZ

In this edition we bring you an update from **Isobel Bruun-Kiaer** who is currently in Tauranga undertaking a piece of work as a recipient of the RTPI George Pepler Award.

Are you prepared for climate change?

Last week, a local resident out walking his dog told me in passing why Tauranga needed to be prepared for a significant tsunami event...

"If there's a big earthquake out in the Pacific, we could be under water in 50 minutes" he enlightens me, matter-of-factly. "We've got to be ready, it could happen anytime. So, we're prepared." he adds.

I'm blown away. Unprompted, the local community here is educating visitors about building resilience and preparedness for natural disasters, despite a low probability of them occurring.



What I'm looking at are the Tsunami information boards which stretch along the Mount Maunganui coastline. These maps plan for up to a one in > 2500 year event: meaning the likelihood of the yellow area in the maps being inundated would be once every 2500 years or more.

In true planner mode, I'm thrilled. They're colourful, simple, spatial, and relateable – you can tell whether your house would be in the danger zone and where you'd need to evacuate to. And, the man with the dog is highlighting that local residents are passing on the message. They're informed and proud of it. They're in the know.

So, what does this tsunami preparedness have to do with climate change?



Tauranga's planning for tsunami is based on the understanding that "these sized events are possible rather than a certainty of when or where they will happen. To me, this highlights two things:

1. You can model and plan for hazards (climate change impacts) where there is high uncertainty; and
2. There is power and value in community understanding and awareness.

These are key ingredients in building resilient places.

Summing up...

The impacts of climate change are certainly less tangible and more difficult to communicate to the public than the catastrophic impacts of a tsunami. But, what the man with the dog has proven to me is the power in residents spreading the word to newcomers about local risks, despite scientific uncertainty.

The way that Tauranga has successfully planned for tsunami risk and resilience sheds light on the possibilities for planning for climate change. Resilience is about change - the ability to respond and adapt – but its success is intrinsically tied to the lived understanding of place: one's local knowledge and understanding of the local situation. For this, communities need to be kept in the loop on planning for climate change resilience because its success rests upon more than just scientific understanding.

~

This was taken from Isobel's regular blog update on the 6 March 2017. You can follow her twitter on @climateNZ

Events around the UK...

How can councils secure the delivery of more affordable homes? New models, partnerships and innovations, 13 June, TCPA, London SW1Y 5AS

Join the TCPA for this FREE timely seminar exploring how councils can secure the delivery of more affordable homes. The seminar will include presentations by the TCPA and the Smith Institute on two new research projects, both supported by the Nationwide Foundation, looking at new models, partnerships and innovations in local government. Register [here](#).

Next steps for natural environment policy in England, 27th April 2017, London

This seminar will provide an opportunity to assess the next steps for biodiversity, wildlife conservation and natural capital, including priorities for natural environment policy following Brexit. Register for the event [here](#).

Summer Conference: Creating great places for happy, healthy kids 15 June, U+I, 7a Howick Place, London

It is often said that young people spend too much time looking at screens and not enough time outside. Yet when it comes to planning and creating places they are rarely - if ever - asked what they would like. How can we create places that kids will want to explore, feel safe in and enjoy? This event will look at creative place-making for fun and activity and ask how we need to do to make this commonplace. Book for this innovative creative conference [here](#).

RICS Residential Property Conference 2017, 5 July, Hilton Tower Bridge, London

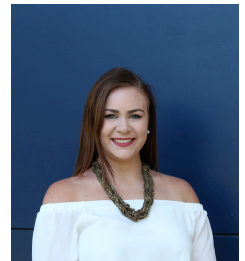
The Government has targeted a figure of delivering one million new homes. The annual RICS Residential Property Conference brings together the leading experts to debate and analyse how the industry needs to react to meet this ambitious goal. Attend the conference and benefit from critical updates that will impact anyone involved in residential surveying, valuation, lettings and property management. Register for this RICS conference [here](#).

UK Branch 2017 Events...

NZPI Summer Event 2017

We are very pleased to confirm initial details of our annual summer event! Set for **Thursday 13 July**, our annual summer event will be held at the **TCPA in central London from 6pm**. We welcome Georgia and Mark from our sponsor this year, direct from New Zealand, **Eighty4 Recruitment**. So please put this date in your diaries and also let your planning colleagues know! More details to follow.

Eighty4
— RECRUITMENT —



'Every Third Wednesday Every 3 Months'

Get your diaries out because The NZPI UK Branch have a regular informal networking drinks session 'Every Third Wednesday Every 3 Months' and would like you to come along. Pencil in 19 April at 6pm. More details on our Facebook page on venue and exact timings.

And Finally

If you are not on our mailing list but wish to be, please email the Committee at nzpiuk@gmail.com. You can also find updates and information on **Facebook** at www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=9005231687



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