

ODPM Planning Research Network Newsletter No.2 July 2004

'Young researcher' prize papers

The Network has established an annual prize to be awarded to the best planning research paper produced by young researchers. Details of the selection panel and criteria for the award are on the Network website, and for this first year entry six papers and one essay have been received. The papers are:

An Investigation into the role of Scottish Local Planning Authorities in the Provision of Affordable Housing (Scott Leitch, Aberdeen)

Negotiated Settlement in Land Development Process: Conceptualising the Negotiation Process (Noor Rosly Hanif, Dundee)

Fractal Spaces for Planning and Governance (Angelique Chettiparamb, Cardiff)

Constructions of Sustainability and Spatial Planning: the case of Dalton Flatts, Co. Durham Planning Enquiry (Amanda Smith, Leeds Metropolitan)

"Bringing it all back home": the making of place and planning in the age of 'glocalisation' (Olivier Sykes, Liverpool)

Managing diversity: developing common ground through urban regeneration initiatives in the UK, the case of Hackney, London (Penny Koutrolikou, UCL).

Next Network Seminar 19 October 2004

Strategic European Planning Research and Research Priorities

Further details and agenda will be circulated in advance but please book your diary.

Professor Hugo Priemus, Dean of the Faculty of Technology, Policy and Management at Delft University of Technology, will speak at one session about a major government-sponsored planning research initiative in the Netherlands in which he is playing a leading role. This will provide a valuable opportunity for Network members and ODPM to exchange knowledge and experience about strategic planning research with researchers in other European countries. A second session will have a focus on planning research priorities and progress including the ODPM planning research programme.

DTI: More City Growth Areas Selected - towards an integrated approach to economic, social and environmental issues?

The DTI has announced that ten inner city areas have been chosen to take forward the second phase of the Government's City Growth Strategy (CGS). These urban areas are to adopt a model of private sector led regeneration led by a US economic development expert Michael Porter. The areas will follow the approach based on using the private sector as a lead partner to exploit potential economic strengths of these areas. Plymouth, London and Nottingham have already been piloting this scheme in several locations within the cities. The ten new areas which have been selected are: Leeds, Liverpool, Derby, Manchester, Luton, Leicester, Portsmouth and three parts of London Park Royal/Wembley/White City, the heart of South London and Deptford New Cross.

Reports

Property development and urban regeneration partnerships

More harm than good in Urban Regeneration partnership? A study published by the ESRC finds that the problems created by the partnership approach to urban deprivation could outweigh the benefits. This could have major implications for wider public sector policy, raising issues about trust, leadership, costs, and having too many unproductive meetings. The study concludes that new 'neither market nor state' projects should be properly tested before being implemented. Their major claimed benefits may overplay the importance of sharing knowledge and expertise and underplay issues such as social conflict, cultural difference and opportunism. A summary of the findings can be viewed on the ESRC website.

<http://www.esrc.ac.uk/esrccontent/news/april%2004-2.asp>

Towards More Sustainable Places

With funding provided by Turner and Townsend, and in conjunction with the RICS Foundation, the University of Aberdeen, UK have carried out a study looking at the issues involved in creating more sustainable places.

The evolution of regeneration policy and practice over the last thirty five years has been neither inevitable nor unproblematic. This varied experience of regeneration has, nonetheless, resulted in a widely-based appreciation of the need for more 'joined-up' and holistic approaches to regeneration, integrating the social, economic and physical dimensions and focusing on the creation of places where people want to live, work, and invest, and which people will cherish and value over time. Regeneration is - or should be - about creating 'sustainable places'. Details can be found at:

<http://www.rics-foundation.org/publish/document.aspx?did=3239>

Planning for economic development: A scoping study for PPG 4.

The recent Planning Green Paper, Planning: delivering a fundamental change signalled the Government's intention to review Planning Policy Guidance 4 (Industrial and Commercial Development and Small Firms). ECOTEC was

commissioned to assess the scope and content of a revised version of PPG4, covering planning and economic development, to address the principles set out in the Planning Green Paper. This report is the outcome of that assessment and makes detailed recommendations for the coverage and content of revised policy in PPG4 and, where necessary, supporting good practice guidance. Further information from:

http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_028810.hcsp

Recent ODPM Guidance

Regional spatial strategies

This note supplements Planning Policy Guidance Note 11 - Regional Planning (PPG11) (DETR, October 2000) following the introduction of the new Planning and Compulsory Purchase Bill in December 2002. The note provides advice on how Regional Planning Bodies (RPBs) can prepare for the introduction of Regional Spatial Strategies (RSSs) and what this means for reviews of Regional Planning Guidance (RPG) in the meantime. It is interim guidance in the sense that it is prior to the revised version of PPG11 due out later this year and it is based on the Bill as it stands at the end of February 2003. Further details on:

http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/page/odpm_plan_609496-01.hcsp#P26_1053

Conference news

On the Waterfront: Regeneration of a City - Belfast, 19 November 2004

This one day conference will facilitate discussion on and raise awareness of the successful regeneration of Belfast's Waterfront development and examine how lessons learned can be employed elsewhere. The discussion will encompass new acts, regulations and policies affecting development and construction and particular emphasis will be placed upon the following interlinking areas: Decontamination; Brownfield development; Urban regeneration; Sustainable communities; Developing business; Community involvement; Housing; Environment and habitat; Sustainable development; Social development

Further details can be found at www.biat.org.uk

ODPM Planning Research

Selected Research Projects, commissioned this year with planning relevance:

New Horizons Research (full reports available late July on ODPM Science and Research Pages)

Planning, Sustainability and Environmental Risks

Enhancing the Decision Making Process in Urban Spatial Planning using Advanced ICT

Suburban Office Space: Polycentric Employment Space and Sustainable Suburban Centres

The Future of City Living: Implications for Urban Policy

The Local Impact of New Housing Supply

Planning Research (in progress)

Planning Obligations - Good Practice Guidance (est. completion Nov.)

Evidence Review of Scoping in Environmental Assessment (EIA) (est. completion Nov.)

Planning and renewable energy: a companion Guide for PPS22 (est. completion Oct.)

Scoping the Formative Evaluation of Local Development Frameworks (est. completion Sept.)

For planning research commissioned and reports produced for or by the ODPM, please visit the related website:

http://www.odpm.gov.uk/stellent/groups/odpm_planning/documents/sectionhomepage/odpm_planning_page.hcsp

Feedback

Please send feedback or items for inclusion in the next issue to Steve Littlewood.

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