

Northern Ireland Planning Conference

Thursday 11th February 2021
Online Conference

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Northern Ireland Planning Conference 2021

agendaNi's Northern Ireland Planning Conference is now firmly established as the major annual event for all those with an interest or role in planning and development in Northern Ireland. The 2021 conference comes at a time of great change. As of January 2020 we have a functioning Assembly in place with the New Decade, New Approach deal. A key priority of the restored Executive is 'Investing for our Future' – effective planning will be a key component to ensure Northern Ireland's economic and social potential can be realised.

With Minister for Infrastructure Nichola Mallon now in place, decisions on major projects of regional significance can be taken. Local authorities are also progressing Local Development Plans to shape local areas for the next decade and beyond.

However, no one could have guessed that the new decade would begin with the Covid-19 pandemic, affecting all areas of life across the globe and creating exceptional challenges and widespread disruption. The Department for Infrastructure introduced a number of measures to try to overcome some of the obstacles to planning and ensure no unnecessary delays. While these measures were temporary, as we move into the recovery phase of the pandemic, there may be the opportunity to rethink processes. Covid-19, while having a huge economic impact on Northern Ireland, may also give the chance to look again at town and city planning – the long term changes to our work and travel patterns may not be known for some time.

The conference will provide an opportunity for all those with a role or interest in planning locally to come together for discussion and debate. An expert speaker panel comprising local and visiting speakers will look at these issues in detail. Attendees will come from across all sectors and will include government policymakers and decision-takers, other government agencies and NDPBs, local government officials, planners, developers, waste companies, advisory organisations, community representative groups and political representatives. The conference aims to be as interactive as possible with delegates able to put questions directly to the expert panel.

2021 discussion topics

- ✓ Update on planning policy
- ✓ Local Development Plans to shape the next decade
- ✓ Covid-19 as an opportunity to rethink town and city planning
- ✓ Planning for major projects in infrastructure and housing
- ✓ Shaping places with transformative digital planning
- ✓ Community engagement in planning projects
- ✓ Putting climate at the heart of planning and development
- ✓ Planning Engagement Partnership to strengthen public participation
- ✓ The future of town centres post Covid-19
- ✓ A collaborative approach to placemaking
- ✓ Best practice case studies



Sponsorship opportunities

There are a limited number of available sponsorship opportunities at this conference which will be of interest to companies and organisations with products or services they wish to promote. For further information on sponsorship and speaking opportunities and how your organisation can benefit, contact **Lynda Millar** on **028 9261 9933** or email **Lynda.Millar@agendani.com**.

0900 Chairman's welcome and introduction: **Owen McQuade**, Managing Editor, agendaNi

Planning for recovery and growth in Northern Ireland

Angus Kerr, Chief Planner and Director of Regional Planning, **Department for Infrastructure**

Planning case law update

Presented by Carson McDowell

Local Development Plan to shape the next decade and beyond

Paul Duffy, Head of Planning, **Mid and East Antrim Borough Council**

Building Ireland's future: Planning for major projects in infrastructure and housing

Dave Walsh, Chairperson, **An Bord Pleanála**

Questions & answers / Panel discussion

1045 Comfort break

1115 Placemaking and community

Community engagement in planning projects

Petra Biberbach, Chief Executive, **Planning Aid Scotland**

The future of town centres post-pandemic

Helen Quigley, CEO, **Inner City Trust**

The Planning Engagement Partnership to strengthen public participation in the planning process

Dr Louise O'Kane, Planner and Engagement Officer, **Community Places**

A collaborative approach to placemaking

Professor Brian Evans, City Urbanist, **Glasgow City Council**

Questions & answers / Panel discussion

1300 Comfort break

1400 Planning for the future

Covid-19 as an opportunity to rethink town and city planning

Professor Geraint Ellis, School of Natural and Built Environment, **Queen's University Belfast**

Climate Action Plan: Putting climate at the heart of planning and development

James Orr, Director, **Friends of the Earth Northern Ireland**

Shaping places with transformative digital planning

Stefan Webb, Place Director, **FutureGov**

The future of planning in Northern Ireland

William Orbinson QC *(invited)*

1545 Chairman's summary and conference close

Booking form

I wish to:

- Reserve ____ places at the conference
Conference fee £175 + VAT @ 20% = £210
- Discounted rate for local government sector (councils only)
Conference fee £145 + VAT @ 20% = £174
- Discounted rate for voluntary/community sector
Conference fee £145 + VAT @ 20% = £174
- Receive details on future agendaNi events and publications

Discounts available for group bookings - contact us for details

Delegate details

Name (Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms/Dr): _____
Job title: _____
Organisation: _____
Address: _____

Postcode: _____
Telephone: _____
Email: _____

Payment options

- I enclose a cheque for £ _____
Payable to 'bmf Business Services'
- Please invoice me
- Please debit my Visa / Mastercard / AMEX

Card number

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Name of card holder _____

Signature _____

Expiry date _____

Security code _____

(Please provide card billing address if different from company address)

Cancellations / substitutions

Please note that once purchased delegate places cannot be cancelled.

Who should attend?

This conference will be of interest to all stakeholders involved in and affected by the planning system in Northern Ireland, including:

- Planning professionals;
- Senior policy makers;
- Elected representatives;
- Local government officers;
- Developers;
- Building companies;
- Housing sector managers;
- Senior managers in government agencies;
- Infrastructure developers;
- Quantity surveyors;
- Architects;
- Environmentalists;
- Lawyers;
- Planning consultants;
- Public affairs consultants.



How to register



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Acknowledgement of registration

Confirmation of registration will be sent to all delegates, following receipt of registration details. If you have not received your acknowledgement within 48 hours, please email registration@agendaNi.com to confirm your booking.

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