

**jplc** 52  
.org

Joint Planning Law Conference Oxford  
20-22 September 2024

# Planning: things can only get better

Join us at New College, Oxford

Apply before  
30<sup>th</sup> June for  
Early Bird Fee

Scholarships  
available

CPD  
Available



# Connecting the professions - dissecting the issues

**The Joint Planning Law Conference (JPLC) – known as “The Oxford Conference” – brings together leading experts from across the four key professions in planning at this residential conference.**

Attended each year by town planners, chartered surveyors, solicitors, barristers, developers and guests from Government with an interest in planning law and environmental issues, the 52nd JPLC promises vibrant multidisciplinary discussion on the latest issues affecting the planning industry.

## Learn

Listen to original in-depth presentations by our industry’s leading thinkers, based on research papers specifically prepared for JPLC delegates. All delegates attend one programme, and there is plenty of opportunity for questions and discussion.

## Network

Grow your network, catch up with friends and peers and reconnect with former colleagues. Enjoy lively and constructive debate with professionals from all walks of the planning world – including invited guests from DLUHC, Planning Inspectorate, Scottish Government, PACNI, DAERA, Welsh Government and other Government organisations.

## Enjoy

Take advantage of our fantastic venue, with ensuite accommodation in 14<sup>th</sup>-century New College and talks at the nearby Rhodes House conference centre. The programme includes drinks receptions, dinners including a gala dinner on the second evening, and time to explore the city.

## Why attend the JPLC?

- The UK’s leading annual planning law conference
- Excellent speakers deliver topical research papers
- Ideal for planning professionals at all career stages
- A multi-disciplinary planning committee ensures high quality content relevant to all delegates
- A 50% scholarship scheme for recently qualified delegates (minimum 12 places available 3 per profession)
- Sponsored Local Authority places available to attend free of charge.
- CPD is available
- Friendly, informal networking opportunities
- 2 day residential conference enables you to catch up with old colleagues and meet new in an informal atmosphere.
- Beautiful Oxford University setting

“No other conference provides this calibre of speakers, or the ability to share ideas and explore the latest developments.”

Maria O’Loan  
Of Counsel  
Tughans LLP

“As a planning authority officer, I felt completely at home. Talking with such a wide cross section of legal and planning professionals was hugely beneficial too.”

Maggie Baddeley  
Principal Strategic Planner  
GLA

## Expert speakers for 2024



### **Thomas Heatherwick**

One of the UK's most prolific designers



### **Rachel Mundell**

Allies and Morrison



### **Rowan Moore**

Architecture critic



### **Nikki Webster**

City of London



### **Anthony Hollingsworth**

London Legacy  
Development Corporation



### **Clara Bagenal-George**

Etude



### **Rebecca Clutten**

Francis Taylor Building



### **Ant Breach**

Centre for Cities

## The conference committee

The JPLC is a not for profit event organised jointly by members of the Law Society, the Bar Council, the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) and the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (RICS).

## Bar Council members

Victoria Hutton, 39 Essex Chambers  
Hashi Mohamed, Landmark Chambers  
Melissa Murphy KC, Landmark Chambers  
Rupert Warren KC, Landmark Chambers

## Law Society members

Claire Dutch, Ashurst LLP  
Duncan Field, Town Legal LLP  
Matthew White, Herbert Smith Freehills LLP

## RICS members

Robert Evans, Quod  
Leonie Oliva, Gerald Eve LLP  
Mary Power, PowerHaus Consultancy

## RTPI members

Sarah Cary, Imperial College London  
Tom Dobson, Quod  
Christine Thorby, former Director of Strategy,  
Planning Inspectorate

For further details,  
please visit our website

[JPLC.ORG](https://www.jplc.org)



# Programme

## Friday 20 September

- 16:30 Arrival, registration, and tea (1700 Newcomers' welcome tea with organising committee), New College
- 19:00 Drinks reception in Cloisters, New College
- 20:00 Informal dinner (smart/casual) with keynote address by **Thomas Heatherwick, one of the UK's most prolific designers, whose varied work over two decades is characterised by its originality, inventiveness and humanity. Chaired by Rupert Warren KC, conference chair**

## Saturday 21 September

- 08:00 Breakfast, New College
- 09:30 Conference chair's introduction, **Rupert Warren KC**, Rhodes House
- 09:40 Opening address: **Rowan Moore**  
Architecture critic of the Observer and was named Critic of the Year at the UK press awards 2014. He is the author of Slow Burn City and Why We Build.
- 10:15 Questions and Discussion chaired by **Hashi Mohamed, Landmark Chambers**
- 10:35 Coffee and Networking
- 11:00 **BIGGER: Delivering more (and better): how can Development Corporations and New Towns play a leading role in the delivery of new homes and what opportunities and challenges do they bring?**  
Anthony's paper will provide an overview of development corporations and new towns and the context to the consensus that these bodies are an effective way to deliver homes and neighbourhoods at scale and at pace. Based upon his experience leading the town planning team at the London Legacy Development Corporation, his paper will then provide commentary on the successes of the development corporation model, including lessons learned and the key ingredients which have been necessary to support the delivery of award-winning new neighbourhoods in and around London's Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. The paper will conclude with observations on the opportunities that development corporations and new towns provide as well as a consideration of the on-going challenges for them.  
**Speaker: Anthony Hollingsworth, Director of Planning Policy and Decisions, Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park, London Legacy Development Corporation**
- 11:35 Questions and Discussion chaired by **Leonie Oliva, Gerald Eve**
- 11:55 **SIMPLER: Two Cheers for Design Codes: tempered optimism for the current trajectory**  
Allies and Morrison offer a design perspective on the Government's intention to 'simplify' the planning system through Design Codes. Almost 20 years on from their pioneering Kings Cross masterplan, the practice reflects on the pros and cons of design coding, and other design controls, in supporting the delivery of exemplary development.  
**Speaker: Rachel Mundell, Director, Allies and Morrison**
- 12:30 Questions and Discussion chaired by **Chris Thorby, former Planning Inspectorate**
- 12:50 Lunch and Networking
- 13:50 **SMARTER: Bits and Bricks - The Foundations of Digital Planning**  
The digital planning industry is at a turning point, and the sector's appetite to embrace new technological tools is growing at pace. To make lasting and impactful change, it's imperative that we examine the foundational principles guiding our operations and information dissemination in planning. Looking beyond the buzz words, this session will explore the building blocks of digital planning, what essential steps are necessary for the industry to foster greater efficiency and effectiveness, and offer insights into the possibilities of a digitally-enabled future.  
**Speaker: Nikki Webber, Digital Planning Team Lead, City of London Corporation**
- 14:25 Questions and Discussion chaired by **Mathew White, Herbert Smith Freehills LLP**

# Programme

## Saturday 21 September

### 14:45 **GREENER: Achieving Net Zero, the Role of Planning**

In order to meet our climate targets, the carbon emissions of buildings needs to radically reduce. This session will investigate the role of planning policy and planning law to support the whole life carbon reductions required to meet our legally binding climate targets, looking at new and existing buildings. It will explore the role of regulation, local policy, voluntary standards and other drivers have in driving down reductions, as well as debating whether a national or a local approach is needed.

**Speaker: Clara Bagenal-George, Etude and the UK Net Zero Carbon Building Standard**

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15:20 Questions and Discussion chaired by **Robert Evans, Quod**

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15:40 Tea and Networking - rest of the afternoon free

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16:00 Optional historical walking tour of Oxford: *'Oxford's Alumni Shaping the World: Following in the footsteps of the remarkable array of leaders, thinkers, and creators who have left an indelible mark on the world.'*

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18:30 Sweet & Maxwell champagne reception, New College

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19:30 Black tie JPLC **Gala Dinner** with guest speaker **to be announced shortly**, chaired by **Claire Dutch, Ashurst LLP**, in New College Dining Hall followed by late night entertainment

## Sunday 22 September

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07:30 Breakfast, New College (until 9am)

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08:00 Church service, New College Chapel

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09:30 Conference chair's introduction, **Rupert Warren KC**, Oxford Union

### 09:40 **BOLDER: A Zoning System for England**

Over the course of a single Parliament, politicians have shifted planning reform from the fringes of public debate to the centre of economic policymaking. For planning reform to provide a large boost to the economy, they must also be large. To meet the scale of the challenge, Centre for Cities has proposed replacing the discretionary planning system with a new flexible zoning system typical of the rest of the developed world. In this session, the case for root and branch reform and a sketch of what a new planning system might look like will be presented and discussed.

**Speaker: Ant Breach, Associate Director, Centre for Cities**

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10:15 Questions and Discussion chaired by **Tom Dobson, Quod**

### 10:35 **Legal Update**

Discussion of the key themes that emerge from case-law over the past year.

**Speaker: Rebecca Clutten, Francis Taylor Building**

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11:10 Questions and Discussion chaired by **Tora Hutton, 39 Essex Chambers**

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11:30 **Conference close**

## To book please use the online booking form and request an invoice

> [jplc.org](https://www.jplc.org)

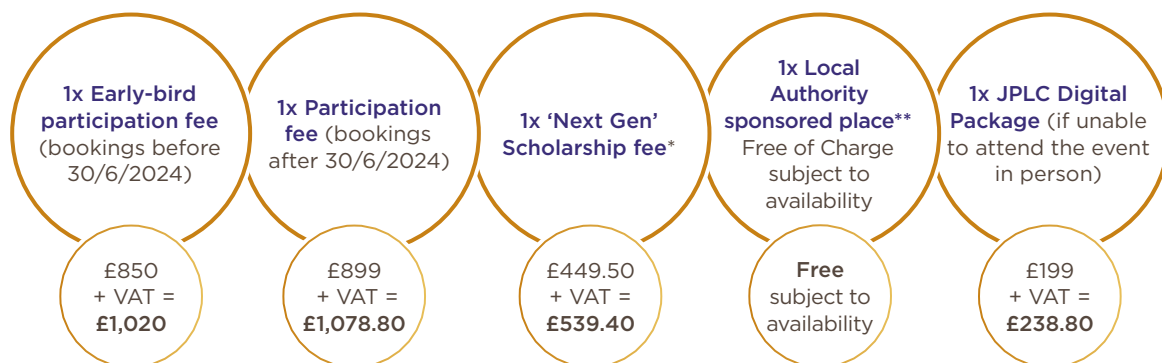
### Each individual requires their own place on the conference

All bookings will be confirmed immediately by automated email. You will also have the option to download an invoice/booking confirmation at the time of booking. Please check your inbox and junk folder for the email, if not received email [lucinda@jplc.org](mailto:lucinda@jplc.org) for a copy.

Once bookings have been made payment is due within 14 days of issue. Please note once you have made the online booking your booking is confirmed and you are liable to pay the invoice. Please see terms below.

The fee includes:

- Attendance at the conference
- Two nights' ensuite bed & breakfast at New College
- Saturday lunch at Rhodes House
- Pre-dinner reception
- Informal dinner with wine
- Champagne reception
- Gala dinner
- Refreshments
- Conference materials and access to the post event digital package (as set out below).



### DIGITAL PACKAGE ONLY

This package is for delegates who are unable to attend the event in person. The speakers presenting the main papers will be recorded on the day – these recordings will be made available post-event for up to three months together with access to the speaker's written papers. The cost for this package only is £199+VAT per person.

#### Enquiries:

If you have any questions or haven't received your confirmation of booking please contact:

**Lucinda Howe**

Email: [lucinda@jplc.org](mailto:lucinda@jplc.org)

Tel: **07879 228775**

"The conference provides a forum in which people engaged in the planning process engage with each other in a relaxed atmosphere whilst focussing on topical issues of planning and planning law."

Grahame Kean,  
The Planning Inspectorate

## Car Parking

We can offer a limited amount of parking at New College Sports Ground, approximately a 10mins walk from New College. The cost will be £45 + VAT = £54 for a permit.

We recommend that delegates arrive by train or other public transport where possible. Otherwise there are also park and ride sites around the outskirts of Oxford which are open 24 hours. You can park for up to 72 hours for approx. £12.50 including bus ticket. [oxford.gov.uk/parkandridesites](https://www.oxford.gov.uk/parkandridesites)

## \* 'Next Gen' Scholarships

Limited scholarship places are available supported by our "Next Gen" supporters' scheme, for individuals qualified for less than 5 years and barristers below 5 years' call.

If you are interested in a place email [lucinda@jplc.org](mailto:lucinda@jplc.org) to check availability before booking.

## \*\* Local Authority FREE Places

We have a limited number of sponsored local authority places this year (including accommodation at New College for 2 nights/ meals but excluding travel).

### Criteria

- Subject to availability
- If you are unable to get funding/part funding from your authority.
- One per local authority in the first instance with a potential of a second place if available.
- Geographical spread taken into consideration.
- First time attendance at the conference.

### Criteria

- Qualified for 5 years' or less
- Your firm/organisation will not fund the full cost.
- Only one person per organisation/set of chambers will be accepted in the first instance.
- Priority will be given to those who have not received a place before.

Applications will be reviewed 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024 and allocated shortly after this date.

Once the place is offered you will be asked to complete your registration within 7 days, if your confirmation is not received the place will be reallocated.

This offering is kindly sponsored by Landmark Chambers, 39 Essex Chambers, Cornerstone Barristers, Kings Chambers, Quod and Imperial College.

Completing the application form on the website [jplc.org](https://www.jplc.org) or email [lucinda@jplc.org](mailto:lucinda@jplc.org) for further details.

"I love this conference as it makes me feel a part of the planning profession and reminds me what it is all about and why I love it."

Anne Harrison,  
DAC Beachcroft LLP

"The Joint Planning Law Conference is inspiring, with a very high level of interactions and quality questions from an authoritative and engaging audience. It is very well organised, with a great program of speakers, plenty of opportunity to network and the venue is ideal."

John Walker, CT Group

## SPONSORS

We are extremely grateful to all this year's sponsors who support the 'Next Gen Scheme', 'Local Authority Places' and also who support the cost of the conference as a whole.

We will be adding to the list on the website in the lead up to the conference.

If you/your organisation are interested in supporting please email [lucinda@jplc.org](mailto:lucinda@jplc.org) for the package details.

### Conditions of booking

1. Delegates are members of the RICS, RTPI, the Law Society, the Bar or another professional body.
2. Registration is considered binding immediately. Payment is required within 14 days of booking or as soon after as possible. Early bird fee must be paid by end of June 2024 otherwise full participation fee will be due.
3. Numbers are limited and bookings will be taken on a first come, first served basis.
4. Refunds will be given for cancellations made in writing before 7 August 2024 less an administration charge of £100+VAT. No refunds will be given after this date and unpaid invoices for the full fee of any person cancelling after this date will still be due before the event date. Substitute delegates will be accepted.
5. VAT will be charged at the prevailing UK rate.
6. The organisers reserve the right to vary the speakers and content within the overall objectives of the conference.
7. The organisers accept no responsibility for views expressed or contained in the conference documentation.

## Confirmed Conference Sponsors 2024

Artwork: **Turley**

Champagne Reception: **Sweet & Maxwell**

Conference App: **Herbert Smith Freehills**

Refreshments: **Dentons**

### Next Gen Sponsors

The Planning Inspectorate  
FTB – Francis Taylor Building  
No5 Chambers  
Ashurst LLP  
Town Legal LLP

### Local Authority Sponsors

Landmark Chambers  
39 Essex Chambers  
Cornerstone Barristers  
Kings Chambers  
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