

Policy Forum for Northern Ireland keynote seminar

Next steps for planning policy in Northern Ireland

Timing: Morning, Wednesday, 16th June 2021

Taking Place Online



Draft agenda subject to change

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**
Dolores Kelly MLA, Member, Committee for Infrastructure
- 9.05 **Assessing the current effectiveness of the planning system in Northern Ireland**
Kieran Donnelly, Comptroller and Auditor General, Northern Ireland Audit Office
Questions and comments from the floor
- 9.30 Break
- 9.35 **The transfer of planning powers to local authorities and Local Development Plans - challenges faced by local authorities and next steps for improving the operation of the planning system**
Paul Duffy, Head of Planning, Mid and East Antrim Borough Council
Professor Geraint Ellis, School of Natural and Built Environment, Queens University Belfast
Cllr Alistair Cathcart, Member, Planning Committee, Ards and North Down Borough Council
Maria O'Loan, Consultant, Environment and Planning Team, Tughans
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.35 **Chair's closing remarks**
Dolores Kelly MLA, Member, Committee for Infrastructure
- 10.40 Break
- 10.50 **Chair's opening remarks**
Andrew Muir MLA, Member, Committee for Infrastructure
- 10.55 **Planning policy and renewable energy - how the planning system can support meeting NI's future energy needs and climate change targets**
Steven Agnew, Head, RenewableNI
Questions and comments from the floor
- 11.20 **Charting the future role of the planning system - regeneration, economic recovery and development in the wake of COVID-19**
Glyn Roberts, Chief Executive, Retail NI
Dr Roisin Willmott, Director, Wales and Northern Ireland, and Planning Aid England, Royal Town Planning Institute
Lynda Addison, Chair, Sustainable Transport Panel, Chartered Institution of Highways and Transportation
Christopher McCracken, Managing Director, Linen Quarter BID
Justin Cartwright, National Director, Northern Ireland, Chartered Institute of Housing
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.20 Break
- 12.25 **The planning system in Northern Ireland - next steps**
Alistair Beggs, Director of Strategic Planning, Department for Infrastructure
Questions and comments from the floor
- 12.55 **Chair's and Policy Forum for Northern Ireland closing remarks**
Andrew Muir MLA, Member, Committee for Infrastructure
Sean Cudmore, Deputy Editor, Policy Forum for Northern Ireland