

## Policy Forum for Northern Ireland keynote seminar

### Next steps for planning policy in Northern Ireland

Timing: Morning, Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> June 2021

\*\*\*Taking Place Online\*\*\*



POLICY FORUM  
FOR NORTHERN  
IRELAND

*Draft agenda subject to change*

- 8.30 Registration
- 9.00 **Chair's opening remarks**  
Senior Member of the Legislative Assembly
- 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  
Senior representative, developer  
Questions and comments from the floor
- 10.35 **Chair's closing remarks**  
Senior Member of the Legislative Assembly
- 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  
Senior representative, local authority  
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