

Welcome to the IPI E-Zine – August 2010 Edition

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IPI Matters

IPI Code of Ethics and Professional Conduct: Following the AGM, a revised Code will be issued in September.

IPI Articles of Association: Following the changes made at the AGM, the revised Articles of Association will be placed in the members area of the website by the end of August.

Upcoming IPI Autumn Events

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| 1 st Sept 2010 | Greater Dublin Area Branch: Visit to Terminal 2, Dublin Airport. To book one of the limited places, please email dublin@irishplanninginstitute.ie |
| 9 th Sept 2010 | Cork Branch: Annual Field Trip to Whitegate (Strategic Energy Provision). The Branch is also hosting a barbeque on the same date. Email john.knapman@corkcoco.ie to confirm your place for either event. |
| 14 th Oct 2010 | Autumn Conference: <i>Making Sense of the new Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2010</i> will be opened by Minister for Planning, Ciaran Cuffe. The conference will outline the key changes introduced by the Act, focussing on the new core strategies for development plans, the procedures for substitute consent and new rules for quarries. Speakers will include John Martin and Niall Cussen from the DoEHLG. Further details will issue in September. |

Planning and Development (Amendment) Act 2010

The amending Planning and Development Act 2010 was signed into law on the 26th July after a lengthy passage through the Oireachtas and numerous amendments. The Institute considered the Act to represent a missed opportunity for the development plan process, as it does not contain provision for an independent review of development plans to ensure consistency with the higher level RPGs and the NSS. However, on balance it welcomes the Act and the many amendments tabled by the Minister, including provisions to deal with quarries, Appropriate Assessment and the introduction of substitute consent procedures arising from the European Union Court of Justice ruling relating to retention permissions. The various sections of the Act will be activated through commencement orders in due course.

Submissions

NAMA Planning Advisory Committee: A submission was made in relation to the remit of the Planning Advisory Committee, which is advising the Board of NAMA. The Institute is concerned that pressure be resisted to develop land solely on the basis of economic return to the exclusion of the common good and the proper planning and sustainable development of the area. As a State Agency NAMA must promote public and social infrastructure in a timely and coherent manner. The full submission can be seen on the IPI website.

Review of the Retail Planning Guidelines: The Institute made a submission in relation to the review of the Guidelines and it can be viewed in full on the IPI website. In general, the Institute considers that the current Guidelines accord with best universal practice. The IPI supports the retention of the convenience and warehousing floorspace caps, as they have proved to be robust and reasonable. Clarifications are, however, required in relation to the sequential test, establishing retail capacity requirements in relevant strategies, the range of bulky goods sold in retail warehouses and the definition of district centres. The Institute also supports charging for edge-of-centre and out-of-town retail parking, in addition to a greater emphasis on store design and layout.

Spatial Planning and National Roads—Guidelines for Planning Authorities (Consultation Draft): The Institute is coordinating a submission on the Draft Guidelines. Any member who has comments in relation to the Guidelines should email them to Joanna Kelly (vpresident@irishplanninginstitute.ie), or send a hard copy to the IPI offices by the 30th August.

Graduate Representative

Amy Hastings has taken up the role of Graduate Representative. Economically these are some of the most challenging times for graduates. However, there are alternative opportunities in further education, community planning, volunteer schemes and sustainability initiatives. There can be no doubt that the current generation of graduate planners is amongst the most dedicated. You may contact Amy (graduate@irishplanninginstitute.ie) with suggestions or comments for an IPI graduate programme.



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