

51<sup>st</sup>

Joint Planning  
Law Conference  
Oxford

[jplc.org](http://jplc.org)

15-17 September 2023  
New College Oxford

CPD  
Available

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

Joint  
Planning Law  
Conference

More Light  
than Heat



# 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, and developers, with an interest in planning law and environmental issues, the 51st JPLC promises vibrant multi-disciplinary discussion on the latest issues affecting the planning industry.

## Learn

The conference offers a full programme with presentations from the leading speakers in their fields, followed by opportunities for questions and discussions. Each speaker prepares an original, in-depth research paper. Distributed first to JPLC delegates, these papers will be valuable reference materials for your practice.

## Network

Known for its friendly atmosphere, the conference affords a rare opportunity for open and constructive debate amongst diverse groups of planning professionals at all stages in their careers. Expand your network, catch up with old friends and colleagues, and enjoy a genuine exchange of ideas.

## Enjoy

The JPLC is held in the beautiful surroundings of Oxford, with ensuite accommodation in the University's New College and conference activities in the Oxford Union Debating Chamber. The programme includes drinks receptions, two dinners including a Black Tie Gala Dinner, 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

“The JPLC is THE must-attend event for any practitioner who wants to keep up to date with legal developments as well as topical issues for the sector.”

Nigel Hewitson,  
Davitt Jones Bould

“A great opportunity to fully immerse yourself in planning law for the weekend but also hear eminent speakers on a range of wider but related topics.”

Caroline McDade, BNP Paribas  
Real Estate/Strutt & Parker



## Expert speakers for 2023



**The Rt Hon Chris Skidmore MP**



**Rageh Omaar**  
ITV



**Nicola Gooch**  
Irwin Mitchell LLP



**Thea Osmund-Smith**  
No5 Chambers



**Heather Sargent**  
Landmark Chambers



**Aidan Cosgrave**  
Delva Patman Redler



**Chris Goddard**  
DP9



**Emran Mian**  
DLUHC



**Zack Simons**  
Landmark Chambers



**Dr Laura B Alvarez**  
Nottingham City Council



**Keynote After Dinner Speaker  
Dame Helen Ghosh DCB**  
Master of Balliol College and previously Director-General of the National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty

## 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

Michael Humphries KC, FTB  
Rupert Warren KC, Landmark Chambers  
Victoria Hutton, 39 Essex Chambers  
Hashi Mohamed, No5 Chambers

### Law Society members

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

### RICS members

Rory Joyce, Brunel Planning  
Mary Power, PowerHaus Consultancy  
Robert Evans, Argent LLP

### RTPI members

Adrian Penfold OBE  
Tom Dobson, Quod  
Christine Thorby, former Director of Strategy, Planning Inspectorate

For further details, please visit our website

**JPLC.ORG**



# Programme

## Friday 15 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 **Dame Helen Ghosh DCB, Master of Balliol College and previously Director-General of the National Trust for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty, chaired by Adrian Penfold OBE, conference chair**

## Saturday 16 September

- 08:00 Breakfast, New College
- 09:30 Conference chair's introduction, **Adrian Penfold OBE, Oxford Union**
- 09:40 Opening address: **The Rt. Hon. Chris Skidmore OBE FRHistS FSA FRSA MP**  
The Rt Hon Chris Skidmore MP has been the MP for Kingswood since 2010. He has served in five government departments between 2015 and 2020 including as Minister of State for Universities, Science, Research and Innovation twice between 2018 and 2020. In 2019, he was also appointed Minister of State for Energy and Clean Growth, attending Cabinet, during which time he signed the UK's commitment to Net Zero by 2050 into law, and helped secure the UK Presidency of COP26. Most recently, he served as the Chair of the Government's Independent Net Zero Review, and published the 340 page 'Mission Zero' report in January 2023. He is currently Chair of the All Party Group on the Environment and is also a Senior Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government
- 10:15 Questions and Discussion chaired by **Tom Dobson, Quod**
- 10:35 Coffee and Networking
- 11:00 **Embodied Carbon-What's the big issue and why is it important in the planning process?**  
The SoS decision to call in the proposed redevelopment of Marks and Spencer's flagship Marble Arch Store, notwithstanding the strong support of the GLA and WCC as the LPA, was the result of a concerted campaign to retain the existing Orchard House which forms part of the existing M&S store. Unlisted, outside a conservation area, and following rejection of an application for listing, the objector's primary case was based on the embodied carbon within the existing structure, and the alleged failure to consider options for the retention and reuse of the existing structure based on London Plan policies and guidance. The Paper will consider the issues raised by this case, and the wider issues involved, including the relevance of- embodied vs operational carbon, the current and emerging policy requirements, and how they are likely to affect scheme development and decision making in the future  
**Speaker: Chris Goddard, Board Director, DP9**
- 11:35 Questions and Discussion chaired by **Matthew White, Herbert Smith Freehills LLP**
- 11:55 **Renewable Energy Development – A bright and breezy future?**  
The serious consequences of climate change are already being experienced in the UK and globally, from flooding, wildfires, and heatwaves, to changing weather patterns that threaten agriculture, biodiversity, and human life. In 2019, Parliament declared that the UK is facing a climate change emergency. The challenge of reaching net zero carbon emissions by 2050 is colossal, and delivery of renewable energy development is fundamental to realising that ambition. In her paper, Thea will examine the law and policy relating to renewable energy development and offer insights into recent NSIP and section 78 appeal decisions.  
**Speaker: Thea Osmund-Smith, Barrister, No5 Chambers**
- 12:30 Questions and Discussion chaired by **Claire Dutch, Ashurst LLP**
- 12:50 Lunch and Networking
- 14:00 **Daylight and Sunlight: A new dawn?**  
Aidan will cover the updated BRE guidelines (2022, 3rd edition), including the 'nuts and bolts' of the assessment exercise, the key issues involved and how they connect to wider themes in planning. He will also cite some key decisions by way of example.  
**Speaker: Aidan Cosgrave, Partner, Delva Patman Redler**



# Programme

## Saturday 16 September

14:35 Questions and Discussion chaired by **Rupert Warren KC, Landmark Chambers**

14:55 **Reform Tomorrow: What is the latest from government?**

The Levelling-up and Regeneration Bill has been much discussed, but it is yet to receive Royal Assent. The LURB Bill now sits with the House of Lords committee stage; carrying proposed reforms from CIL changes to local democracy, from regeneration and CPO to the governance of RICS to environmental outcome reports – how will these last stages play out? We have also been promised specific reforms on the NPPF before the autumn with a great deal trailed around housing targets no longer being ‘advisory’ and some clarification on what ‘building beautiful’ means today.

Beyond these two areas, the government’s agenda is full: from taking on housebuilders on the cladding issues, to radical changes around the management of social housing, the privately rented sector, new standards for landlords, and much more. And an election on the cards too.

We have three distinguished speakers reflecting from their own particular viewpoints: from the heart of government, in private practice as well as from the local authority context.

**Panel: Zack Simons**, Barrister, Landmark Chambers and Blogger, **Emran Mian**, Director General of Regeneration, Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities and **Dr Laura B. Alvarez**, Senior Principal Urban Design and Conservation Officer, Nottingham City Council

Questions and Discussion chaired by **Hashi Mohamed, No5 Chambers**

15:50 Pimms reception and Networking - rest of the afternoon free

16:00 Optional historical walking tour of Oxford: **“Ancient Traditions, Modern Visions”**

18:30 Sweet & Maxwell champagne reception, New College

19:30 Black tie JPLC **Gala Dinner** with guest speaker **ITV’s Rageh Omaar**, journalist and writer, chaired by **Michael Humphries KC, FTB**, in New College Dining Hall followed by late night entertainment

## Sunday 17 September

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

08:00 Church service, New College Chapel

09:30 Conference chair’s introduction, **Adrian Penfold OBE**, Oxford Union

09:40 **A View From Hillside: How The Supreme Court Decision Is Shaping Planning In Practice**

This paper examines how the Supreme Court’s decision in Hillside is affecting day-to-day planning practice and how the development sector is adjusting to it. We will review both the judgment itself and how its effects are being felt across the wider planning practice – including:

- How Hillside is being approached by the LPAs/Planning Inspectorate and Courts.
- Hillside and property transactions – the due diligence conundrum.
- How can you create an expressly severable phased development?
- Hillside and CIL – a terrible combination?
- The need for pragmatism and the case for reform.
- LURB/LURA and where we go from here.

**Speaker: Nicola Gooch, Partner, Planning & Environment, Irwin Mitchell LLP**

10:15 Questions and Discussion chaired by **Rory Joyce, Brunel Planning**

10:35 **Legal Update**

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

**Speaker: Heather Sargent, Barrister, Landmark Chambers**

11:10 Questions and Discussion chaired by **Michael Humphries QC, FTB**

11:30 **Conference close**

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

## [book.jplc.org](http://book.jplc.org)

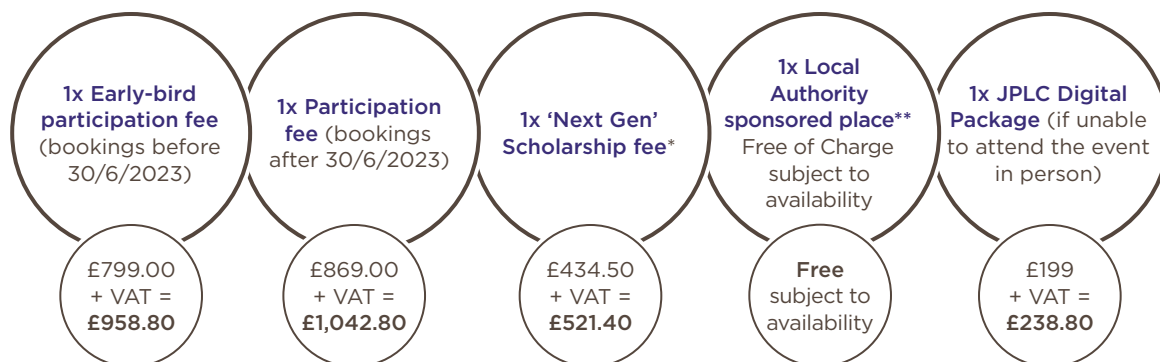
### Each individual requires their own place on the conference

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 for the invoice. Please see terms below.

#### The fee includes:

- Attendance at the conference
- Two nights' ensuite bed & breakfast at New College
- Saturday lunch at the Oxford Union
- 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 £35+VAT = £42 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. £15 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 3rd July 2023 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 and Kings Chambers

Apply for a place by emailing [lucinda@jplc.org](mailto:lucinda@jplc.org)

With (1) your name (2) job title (3) local authority you work for.

"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 2023 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 2023 less an administration charge of £80+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 2023

Artwork: **Turley**

Champagne Reception:  
**Sweet & Maxwell**

Conference App: **Herbert  
Smith Freehills**

### Next Gen Sponsors

The Planning Inspectorate  
FTB – Francis Taylor Building  
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### Local Authority Sponsors

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