

RTPI COMMENTS

The RTPI has published their responses to the proposed reforms which can be found here:

<https://www.rtpi.org.uk/policy-and-research/planning-reform-national-planning-policy/>

In summary the RTPI confirm the following:

Our members agree with Government that change is needed to strengthen our plan-led system, but we've shared a number of concerns because RTPI members believe these changes risk paying lip service to what communities need but give councils fewer policy tools to see them delivered.

In summary, the RTPI has suggested that:

- The amount of homes and infrastructure delivered across England will be reduced because the checks and balances that underpin our planning system will have been upset. If implemented, residents in too few areas will feel supported by a plan-led system that is backed by evidence.
- Planners will find themselves in an impossible position balancing increasingly incompatible policy goals. In addition to their resource constraints, local planning authorities now face a such a high bar to enable development that levelling up and place-making activity looks increasingly unlikely.
- Net Zero, the climate emergency and our environment have been an afterthought in current proposals for planning reform, falling short of the urgent action we need. Further measures to improve policy will be critical, not just to protect nature but also to create green jobs and sustainable economic growth.
- National Development Management Policies are acceptable in principle, but we need assurances this new policy framework will be limited in scope. It is important to protect development viability and encourage innovation, offering a floor - rather than a ceiling - to standards on climate change and other national priorities.

The proposed [planning fees increase](#) is welcome but we encourage the Government to address the fundamental questions that remain around how our planning system performs.