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Being part of the Cities@Manchester network, the Centre for Urban Policy Studies (CUPS) aims to produce urban policy research at the University of Manchester recognised as significant by peers and practitioners - both nationally and internationally.

The centre promotes interdisciplinary synergies for urban policy research in the School of Environment, Education and Development (SEED), across the wider University of Manchester, and in co-operation with other external research institutions.

• To these ends, academic staff, researchers and research students affiliated with CUPS pursue the following objectives:
  • To provide the locus for a range of urban policy research interests within the University of Manchester around which new research ideas can cohere and be supported;
  • To encourage the cross-fertilisation of ideas and the pooling of skills amongst academic staff and research students within a collegiate working environment;
  • To provide a supportive home for researchers at all career progression points and to offer peer support and assistance for all stages of the research process; and,
  • To actively develop links outside the University in order to encourage the reciprocal transfer of ideas with leading urban policy-makers and fellow academics.

The research centre principally draws upon expertise from within the disciplines of spatial planning and geography. However, many current and past projects have involved significant collaboration with other disciplines (such as architecture, education, engineering, public health, business, politics, sociology, and linguistics). CUPS has also developed a strong track-record of collaboration with leading researchers based in other institutions, both within the UK and internationally.

This annual report highlights the main achievements of CUPS between August 2014 and July 2015 by summarising the collective activity of staff members.

Cecilia Wong, Professor of Spatial Planning & Executive Director, Centre for Urban Policy Studies
Core academic staff members include Mark Baker, Adam Barker, Iain Deas, Stephen Hincks, Carys Jones, Richard Kingston and Nuno Pinto. Additionally, there are three research associates Andreas Schulze Baing, Moozhan Shakeri and Vasilis Vlastaras as well as several associated members, including Bob Barr, Michael Bradford, Rocco Bubbico, David Carter, Vincent Goodstadt, Graham Haughton, Hui Qian, Ying Ying Tian, David Rudlin and Kai Zhou. This year the Centre said goodbye to three of its members as Jenni Cauvain (nee Viitanen) took up a new position at the University of Nottingham, Brian Webb took up a Lectureship at Cardiff University and Paul Syms retired. All CUPS members wish Jenni, Brian and Paul well. The Centre additionally has a number of affiliated doctoral students: Roderick Allen, Talal Alshammari, Lee Dixon, Elnaz G. Khoosar, Len Gibbs, Nicole Greenidge, Sara Hassan, Charles Jarvis, Victoria Lawson, Michael Martin, Rachel Morrison, Nick Moule, Hisham Nadim, Angela Neilson, Miao Qiao, Moozhan Shakeri, Ishtiaque Shams, Andrew Snow, Taki Sonbli, Somayeh Taheri, Stephen Thomas and Vasilieos Vlastaras. In the past year the Centre has celebrated successful doctoral completions of Abbas Ziafeti Bafarasat, Abigail Gilbert and Karen Nolan.
Full details of achievements and activities are available in the appendix of the report.

**Major Grant Success**

- The project *Transportation and the socio-spatial dimensions of travel to work flows* starts in 2015. It's an 18 month project funded by the ESRC and it aims to understand the socio-spatial dimensions of travel-to-work flows for the 2001 and 2011 censuses that will inform transport policy and investment decision-making. The research team includes Richard Kingston, Stephen Hincks, Cecilia Wong and Brian Webb.

- The project *RESIN – Climate Resilient Cities and Infrastructures* starts in 2015. It is a 3.5 year project funded by the European Commission's Horizon 2020 Programme. It aims to develop standardised methodologies for vulnerability assessments, performance evaluations of adaptation measures, and decision support tools for climate change. The Manchester team includes Jeremy Carter, Angela Connelly, Stephen Hincks, Andy Karvonen and John Handley.

- A three year ESRC funded CASE studentship, with collaboration from IPPR North, was secured to examine alternative models and future scenarios of sustainable spatial rebalancing for Northern England. The struggle between growth efficiency and spatial equity forms the premise for this proposal to examine different models to achieve a 'sustainable' form of spatial rebalancing for the lagging Northern England. While transforming the interconnectivities among the northern cities is a vital component for spatial rebalancing, it has to be strategically related to the future spatial development and planning strategies of the North and the rest of the UK. The gravity and spatially diverse problems in many northern places remain an imperative for strategic thinking. This project aims to examine different spatial development models for Northern England to achieve spatial rebalancing and to assess sustainability and viability of these models via spatial simulation modelling and scenario building.

**Influence the influentials**

*Cecilia Wong* was one of the commissioners to work on the independent review of housing for the Labour Party under the leadership of Sir Michael Lyons. The Lyons report sets out a comprehensive plan to tackle the deep and underlying causes of the housing crisis. The key barriers identified in the report are that we don't release enough land for new homes; that communities don't have sufficient tools to provide the homes they need; that new homes need to come with the roads, schools and services to make for successful communities; and that we need to get a bigger and wider range of organisations commissioning and building homes.

Cecilia was also invited to give a presentation on 'Housing needs and demand in England: spatial dynamics and policy challenges' to the House of Lords Select Committee on National Policy for the Built Environment on 2nd July in Millbank House. Cecilia also contributed to the policy debate and knowledge exchange between the UK and China by making a presentation at the 2014 Chinese for Labour's Party Fringe Event on 'One Nation Economy: Lessons and Opportunities from China' along with Liam Byrne MP and Paul Nowak of the TUC on 22nd September 2014 in Manchester. She was also invited to make short presentation on 'Urbanization, regional development and sustainable growth', hosted by Chatham House in London with China's Counsellors' Office of the State Council in May 2015.

*David Rudlin* commenced his role as an Honorary Professor of Knowledge Exchange in August 2014. David is Director of the well-known urban planning and design consultancy, URBED. He was the winner of the 2014 Wolfson Economics prize.
competition on new garden cities. David argues for the near-doubling of existing large towns with garden city principles to provide 86,000 new homes over 30-35 years.

Richard Kingston contributed to the 2015 RTPI Planning Convention “The New Politics for Planning” held on 7 July 2015 in London. The session on “The future for neighbourhood planning - getting real about localism” covered the current state of neighbourhood planning, the neighbourhood planning forum, and the benefits of engaging communities in the planning process through new technologies.

Richard gave a presentation on ‘putting communities in control of their neighbourhood plan using ‘new’ technologies’, based on his extensive experience with PPGIS systems and the current work on digital neighbourhood planning for Bootle/Cumbria.

Vincent Goodstadt served as Chair of the Policy, Practice and Research Committee (PPRC) of the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI). This committee has developed a series of national policy statement. Mark Baker was also appointed to the PPRC starting in 2015.

International practice and collaboration
Centre staff continued to engage with colleagues around the world as they work to advise and disseminate knowledge within academia and practice.

Cecilia Wong attended the Green City International Forum, Kaohsiung City Government, Taiwan with RTPI President Janet Askew and other international scholars in May 2015.

In April 2015 Cecilia contributed to an event in National Cheng Kung University on Climate Change sharing experiences from the UK (with Professor Karen Seto from Yale University giving a presentation).

In June 2015 Cecilia visited the Urban Development Institute of Fudan University, Shanghai.

In 2014/15 CUPS hosted a number of academic visitors. In July 2015 Cecilia Wong discussed future collaboration with Professor Bin Lu (Director of Department of Urban and Regional Planning and
CENTRE ACHIEVEMENTS

Director of Centre for Urban Planning and Design) and Professor Pengjun Zhao (Department of Urban and Regional Planning and Director of Centre for Urban Planning and Transport Studies) of Peking University.

In July 2015 CUPS welcomed Dr. Jörg Plöger as a visiting research fellow. Dr Plöger is a senior researcher based at the ILS (Research Institute for Regional and Urban Development) in Dortmund/Germany and used his research stay in Manchester for his research on complex place attachments. He will return for the second stay in CUPS in October 2015.

In June 2015 Andreas Schulze Baing was invited to present on the conference ‘Polycentric City Regions in Transformation – The Ruhr Agglomeration in International Perspective’. Andreas presented with Sebastian Dembski and Olivier Sykes from the University of Liverpool on the theme ‘Urban renaissance – What is the prospect of places in the periphery? Manchester-Liverpool and the spatial in-between’.

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From August 2014 to January 2015 CUPS hosted Professor Weidong Cao as visiting research fellow. He is based in the College of Territorial Resources and Tourism, Anhui Normal University, China.

Knowledge exchange with Taiwan also continued in Manchester as Andreas Schulze Baing, Bob Phillips and Cecilia Wong hosted Chung Yuan Christian University students by providing talks, tours of Manchester and an urban design workshop in collaboration with Neil Swanson from the consultancy landscape projects.

In July Andreas was invited as an external expert to the evaluation workshop of the international research project REURBAN held at the ILS (Research Institute for Regional and Urban Development) in Dortmund/Germany. The project REURBAN led by Prof. Stefan Siedentop and Prof. Johann Jessen investigated processes of reurbanisation in the United States and Germany. On the workshop Andreas provided his expertise and comments on the project based on his experience working on spatial analyses of population change in UK cities. The meeting also provided opportunities to discuss possible future research collaboration with the ILS and the Technical University of Dortmund.

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North) and Centre for Local Economic Strategies (CLES), has organised events with cities@manchester and policy@manchester including various sessions in the Manchester Policy Week 2014 on poverty in Manchester, housing inequality (with Professor Danny Dorling as the keynote speaker), and a panel discussion on “London vs the rest: can our northern cities compete?”.

A one day conference was organised by CUPS in May 2015 on "Urban Policies, Spatial Re-balancing and City-Regions", supported by cities@manchester, University Strategic Investment Fund and the Regional Studies Association. This conference, chaired by Brian Robson, attracted 47 participants, including academics and policy makers. The morning session of the conference focussed on the national dimension of spatial inequality and re-balancing with presentations by Andy Pike, Vincent Goodstadt and Diane Coyle. The afternoon session focussed on the situation in Greater Manchester and the wider North-West region, with contributions by Iain Deas, Richard Kingston and Andreas Schulze Baing.

CUPS also collaborates with Professors Yaron Matras (SALC; lead), Erica Burman (Education), James Nazroo (SOSS), in collaboration with Aneez Esmail and Suzanne Skevington (Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences) to develop a major research proposal on Superdiversity.

CUPS members are also currently working on the project Just Greater Manchester (Just GM 2014-15) funded by the Faculty Strategic Investment Fund of the University of Manchester. This project is conducted in collaboration with Ruth Lupton in Education and Damian Grimshaw in MBS.

CUPS also collaborates with Professors Yaron Matras (SALC; lead), Erica Burman (Education), James Nazroo (SOSS), in collaboration with Aneez Esmail and Suzanne Skevington (Faculty of Medical and Human Sciences) to develop a major research proposal on Superdiversity.
CUPS staff members continue to undertake a range of external duties. **Mark Baker** has been appointed by the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) to the UK National Policy, Practice and Research Committee in 2015. Since 2012 he has served as RTPI-appointed chair of Oxford Brookes University RTPI Partnership board. Mark has also served as an external examiner for the University of Ulster since 2015 and the University of Brighton since 2013. **Iain Deas** has been appointed as an expert advisor to the Assembly of European Regions. **Vincent Goodstadt** is executive member of the European Council of Spatial Planners ECTP, member of the London Studio of University of Pennsylvania and the international advisory group on the 4th tri-state regional plan for New York, New Jersey and Connecticut. Furthermore Vincent is a member of the N8 ESRC Pilot Programme and the TCPA Urban Policy Working Party. **Cecilia Wong** is the chair of the research approvals committee and advisory group member of the ESRC Urban Big Data Centre. She also served as a member of the UK 2014 Research Excellence Framework (REF) Sub-Panel C16: Architecture, Built Environment and Planning. Furthermore Cecilia became the Chair of the Regional Studies Association North West Branch in 2015, is currently member of the ESRC Grant Assessment Panel C and became a steering group member of the Transport and Infrastructure Group of Pro-Manchester. Cecilia also served as a member of the UK Labour Party's Independent Housing Review led by Sir Michael Lyon and was member of the Infrastructure North Project Advisory Group of IPPR North. She is also a member of the EU-China Smart City Project's technical expert group since 2013.

**Regional Studies Association**

**Themes/projects**

**Infrastructure and planning**

- ESRC *Transportation and the socio-spatial dimensions of travel to work flows* (£193) Developing an online toolkit for better planning of transport infrastructure.
- **COST Action 1408 ATARD Air Transport and Regional Development**, European network exploring different aspects of the impacts of airports in regional development, Nuno Pinto is leading the work on the impacts on urban and infrastructure growth

**Smart cities + planning support systems**

- **The Greater Manchester Poverty Index**

The Poverty Mapping Portal shows the geography...
of poverty across Greater Manchester in maps. Its purpose is to offer a greater understanding of poverty across the city region.

- Joseph Rowntree Foundation’s ClimateJust (£12k)
  Climate Just is an information tool designed to help with the delivery of equitable responses to climate change at the local level.
- Innovate UK and NERC funded Adaptation Planning Service (£25k)
  The Adaptation Planning Service Mapping Tools assists your organisation in adapting its buildings and infrastructure to climate change.
- EPSRC Impact Acceleration Account (£30k)
  Working with a rural community in Cumbria and The TCPA.

**Housing, the economy and sustainable communities**

- Work for the Manchester University and Manchester Poverty Commission involved Cecilia Wong, Richard Kingston, Brian Webb and Moozhan Shakeri, who worked with colleagues Ruth Lupton from the Manchester Institute of Education and Liz Richardson from Politics on poverty indicators for Greater Manchester funded through the University of Manchester Faculty Strategic Investment Fund.
- A Just Greater Manchester (Just GM) is a project involving Cecilia Wong, Andreas Schulze Baing, Moozhan Shakeri, Iain Deas, Seyedehsomayeh Taheri Moosavi, and Jonathan Smith.

**Urban modelling and complexity theory in planning**

- SEED RISF Fund has supported the project “Understanding the 'Northern Powerhouse' polycentric urban system using urban simulation models” (£3.8K).
  In this project Nuno Pinto is analysing the use of modelling approaches to policy and planning support in the Liverpool-Manchester-Leeds polycentric urban system.
- In the project “Complexity theory in the mind of planning academics: perceptions and potential of new theoretical approaches in research and teaching” Nuno Pinto is exploring the way planning academics in the UK perceive complexity theory and its potential as a theoretical framework to approach complex urban systems.

**TellUs Toolkit Ltd.**

Finally the TellUs Toolkit project has now been successfully 'spun-out' by UMIP to create a limited commercial company called TellUs Toolkit Ltd (http://www.tellus-toolkit.com). UoM own 27% and Richard Kingston owns 63%. The remaining 10% is owned by Buckley Burnett, a multi-disciplinary development organisation with in depth expertise of both private and public sector development.
RESEARCH DISSEMINATION

CUPS researchers continue to publish and lecture on a range of research themes.

**Conferences and invited presentations**

Academics and researchers associated with CUPS have attended and contributed to a wide range of national and international conferences, seminars and workshops over the past year. This has included presentations at the AESOP Congress in Prague, the RTPI Planning Convention, the Conference on Computers in Urban Planning and Urban Management in Cambridge, Massachusetts and a conference on Polycentric City Regions in Transformation in Essen/Germany.

Cecilia Wong gave a range of invited presentations both in the UK and during her research visit in China and Taiwan, including a keynote presentation on 'Brownfield regeneration, infrastructure planning and spatial rebalancing in England' for the 2014 joint conference of the Academic Committee of Foreign Studies in Urban Planning, the Journal of Urban Planning International and the NJU-UEPC Sino-French Centre for Urban, Regional and Planning Studies on 'County Territory Development and Planning: under the new urbanization perspective', 28-30 November, Nanjing, China.

The Centre supports conference attendance and participation in proceedings at all stages of individuals' careers, particularly early career researchers and doctoral students. In particular, current and recently graduated PhD students have attended several of the above meetings.

**Publications**

Centre members have authored or co-authored 34 publications, including policy reports, books, book chapters and peer reviewed articles in internationally respected journals in the past year. Several of these were published after collaboration with colleagues from other institutions, whilst others have been derived from cross-centre co-operation. These publications have policy relevance and implications for practice and professionals, as particularly represented by articles for professional and trade journals.

- Several books and book chapters were also published, including:
  - 'Web-GIS tools for climate change adaptation planning in cities.' In *Handbook of Climate Change Adaptation*
  - 'Boosterism, brokerage and uneasy bedfellows: Networked urban governance and the emergence of post-political orthodoxy' in: Cities and Economic Change
  - A good geography is whatever it needs to be: evolving spatial imaginaries in North West England' in *Soft Spaces: Re-negotiating Governance, Boundaries and Borders*
  - 'Public Participation in Geocomputation.' In *Geocomputation*, ed. Chris Brunsdon and Alex Singleton
  - 'Implementing green infrastructure through residential development in the UK'. In *Handbook on Green Infrastructure: Planning, Design and Implementation*
  - Indicators and Spatial Planning: methods and applications', *The Routledge Handbook of Planning Research Methods*
  - Entries on 'Indicator methodology', 'Indicator selection criteria', 'Economic and social indicators', 'Sustainable development indicators', 'Neighbourhood Change' and 'Spatial Analysis' in *Encyclopedia of Quality of Life and Well-Being Research*
  - Entry on 'Regional Planning (South)', *International Encyclopedia of Social and Behavioral Sciences*
  - 'Spatial synergies and conflicts: monitoring government policies and programmes'. In: *Evaluation in Integrated Land-Use Management*
  - Book 'Designing accessibility instruments. Lessons on their usability for integrated land use and transport planning practices', co-edited by Nuno Pinto, Routledge (Forthcoming)
  - Chapter on a manual of urban form (in Portuguese) 'Modelos de autómatos celulares para a simulação da evolução das estruturas urbanas' in *Estudo da Forma Urbana em Portugal*, Porto University Press
Esteem Indicators and Appointments

Cecilia Wong:
- Chair of the Research Approvals Committee and Advisory Group Member of the ESRC Urban Big Data Centre, from 2015
- Chair of the Regional Studies Association North West Branch, from 2015
- Member of Economic and Social Research Council's Grant Assessment Panel C, 2014-2016
- Steering Group Member of the Transport and Infrastructure Group of pro-Manchester, from 2015
- Expert Panel Member of the UK Labour Party's Independent Housing Review, led by Sir Michael Lyon, completed in September 2014
- A member of the EU-China Smart City Project’s Technical Expert Group, since 2013

Iain Deas:
- Appointed as an expert advisor to the Association of European Regions.

Vincent Goodstadt:
- Chair of the RTPI Policy, Practice and Research Committee (PPRC), which has developed a series of national policy statements
- Executive member of ECTP (European Council of Spatial Planners) leading the implementation of the Charter of European Planning and as member of working party of participatory democracy
- Speaking and advising Catalanian and Hungarian planners on collaborative strategic planning and the role of planning in promoting economic development
- Member of London Studio of University of Pennsylvania (on Crossrail proposals for NY) and of the international advisory group on the 4th Tri-state regional plan for NY, NJ and Connecticut
- Reviewing the approach to metropolitan planning in the Sheffield City Region, Reviewing the implementations of the recommendations for Oxford City planning & advising on neighbourhood planning to local fora in London
- Member of the N8 ESRC Pilot Programme for inter-university cooperation and the TCPA Urban Policy Working Party

Mark Baker:
- Appointed by the RTPI to the Institute’s UK National Policy, Practice and Research Committee starting in 2015
- Continued as RTPI-appointed Chair of Oxford Brookes University Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) Partnership Board since 2012
- External examiner for the University of Ulster, starting in 2015 and the University of Brighton since 2013.

Nuno Pinto:

Andreas Schulze Baing:
- Elected committee member of the Salzburg Congress for Urban Planning and Development SCUPAD
- Associate Editor of the journal Regional Studies, Regional Science
- Invited as external expert to the evaluation workshop of the international research project REURBAN held on July 1st 2015 at the ILS (Research Institute for Regional and Urban Development) in Dortmund/Germany.

On-going and recently completed projects
- Stephen Hincks, Richard Kingston, Cecilia Wong and Andreas Schulze Baing started working on an ESRC funded project on Transportation and the socio-spatial equity dimensions of travel to work flows, 2015-2016 (£155,145).
- Stephen Hincks collaborates with Jeremy Carter, Andy Karvonen and Angela Connelly on the project Climate Resilient Cities and Infrastructure (RESIN) funded by Horizon 2020 (£641,285).
- Cecilia Wong (PI), Stephen Hincks and Nuno Pinto won an ESRC Collaborative PhD Studentship with Institute of Public Policy Research North (2015-18) on ‘Sustainable spatial rebalancing for Northern England: alternative models and future scenarios’, (£6,000 and full studentship)
- Stephen Hincks and Nuno Pinto will supervise the PhD student Luis Neto who won a Research Impact Scholarship (2015-18) on Energy and Sustainability, awarded by the University of Manchester Division of Development and Alumni Relations, with the title ‘Big Data and the Modelling of Complex Urban Change: Towards a Multi-Scalar...
APPENDIX

Approach', (£18,000, full studentship)

Cecilia Wong and Kevin Ward supervise an ESRC Collaborative PhD Studentship with Manchester City Council (2014-17) 'Sustainable Transport and Socio-Spatial Change in Neighbourhoods: the Impact of Greater Manchester's Metrolink', (£5,400 and full studentship)

Cecilia Wong and Iain Deas work with Ruth Lupton and Damian Grimshaw on 'A Just Greater Manchester (Just GM)' funded by Faculty Strategic Investment Fund, University of Manchester, 2013-2015 (£47,371)

Stephen Hincks is co-investigator in a research funding bid for the British Academy Newton Foundation Fund on "Urban dialogues: Creating inclusive urban spaces in uncertain global times". This is in collaboration with colleagues in the University of Bristol, Loughborough University and colleagues in Brazil (£36,000).

Cecilia Wong, Mark Baker, Richard Kingston, Nuno Pinto, Adam Barker, Andreas Schulze Baing and Miao Qiao contributed to a major bid for the ESRC Newton Fund in collaboration with a research team from China on "Eco-Urbanisation: promoting sustainable development in metropolitan regions of China".

Grant applications in the pipeline

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Deas, I., Haughton, G. and Hincks, S. (2014) 'It all comes together in ... Hebden Bridge?', Cities@Manchester blog post, http://citiesmcr.wordpress.com/2014/03/31/it-all-comes-together-in-hebden-bridge/


Publications


Deas, I. (2015) 'Cooperation vs competition', Policy@Manchester blog post, http://blog.policy.manchester.ac.uk/posts/2015/03/cooperation-v-competition/


Pinto, N., A. Antunes, J. Roca (2015) 'Modelos de autómatos celulares para a simulação da evolução das estruturas urbanas' In Oliveira, Marat-Mendes, Pinho (Eds) Estudo da Forma Urbana em Portugal, Porto University Press


Silva, C., L. Bertolini, N. Pinto (Eds) (Forthcoming), Designing accessibility instruments. Lessons on their usability for integrated land use and transport planning practices, Routledge


Wong, C. (2014) Mobilising across the nation to build the homes our children need, the Lyons Housing Review (an independent review for the Labour Party), Sir Michael Lyons (as one of the 12 commissioners), Digital Creative Services, London.


Conferences and public engagements

Cecilia Wong:
- (2014) Invited presentation 'Manchester: a brief history of the city', to the Department of Urban and Rural Planning, College of Architecture, Hunan University, 1st December, Changsha, China.
- (2014) Invited presentation 'Brownfield regeneration and river basin redevelopment in England', Department of Urban and Regional Planning, School of Geography and Planning, Sun Yat-Sen University, 3rd December, Guangzhou, China.
- (2014) Invited presentation of 'Urban research visions', Scottish Cities Research Network's 3rd Annual Conference on 'Does autonomy matter? City and regional recovery outside the Greater Southeast', 7th November, the Lighthouse, Glasgow.
- (2014) Invited presentation at the Chinese for Labour's Party Fringe Event on 'One Nation
Economy: Lessons and Opportunities from China’ along with Liam Byrne MP and Paul Nowak of the TUC on 22nd September, Manchester.


Mark Baker:

• (2015) Provided an invited presentations on 'Planning education and professional planning practice' at the National Cheng Kung University (NCKU), Tainan and 'The English planning experiment: from strategic regional planning to localism' at the National Taipei University (NTPU), Taipei, Taiwan, April 2015.


Richard Kingston:

• (2015) RTPI Planning Convention – 'Putting communities in control of their neighbourhood plan using 'new' technologies'.

Andreas Schulze Baing:

