E-SUPPLEMENT FIVE: USEFUL WEB PAGES RELATED TO PLANNING

Explanation

There is a mass of material on the web, and it is easy to search and find the websites for the organizations, policies and places mentioned in this book. Therefore this E-Supplement seeks to give some explanation and guidance providing a selection of the most useful websites, rather than giving a long list that might go out of date.

The order of the list follows broadly the sequence of their occurrence in the book.

International Planning

[www.unfoundation.org](http://www.unfoundation.org) and [www.unesco.co.uk](http://www.unesco.co.uk) for UN and UNESCO information.

UN Sustainable Development Goals <http://sustainabledevelopment.un.org>.

UN Millennium Development Goals <http://www.un.org/millenniumgoals>.

World Health Organisation at [www.who.int](http://www.who.int)

For policies on health and sustainability look at [www.infed.org](http://www.infed.org) and World Health Organisation material, for example [www.worldhealthdesign.com](http://www.worldhealthdesign.com)

[www.commonwealth-planners.org/papers/](http://www.commonwealth-planners.org/papers/) leads you to the Commonwealth Association of Planners, also try <http://www.huairou.org/library/general>

For international development issues from a more alternative, radical perspective see The Internationalist Magazine at [www.newint.org](http://www.newint.org)

*CIA World Fact Book* (a source of all sorts of interesting facts especially on cities*)*, online at <https://www.cia.gov/library/publications/the-world-factbook/>

For planning in North America look at [www.planetizen.com](http://www.planetizen.com) the open webpage of the American Planning Association.

European Union

<http://europa.eu.int> is gateway to European Union references and institutions and to planning documentation.

For example on ESPD European Spatial Development Perspective see <http://ec.europa.eu/regional_policy/sources/docoffic/official/reports/pdf/sum_en.pdf>

and check INTERREG at <http://www.interreg4c.eu/> on transnational planning policies and EU Structural Funding Initiatives

Main Government Web Sites: England

[www.planningportal.gov.uk](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk) – is the electronic gateway to information on all planning matters, applications and policies. It has a number of different sections, and information for both professionals and members of the public

For example recent National Planning Practice guidance is at <http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/>.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) document is available at the Government’s Publications site at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/>

For the NPPF enter the following:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

[www.communities.gov.uk](http://www.communities.gov.uk) is the site of the central government, Department of Communities and Local Government – look for the section on planning

You can also access the planning content of the DCLG website at <https://www.gov.uk/government/organisations/department-for-communities-and-local-government>

For example for pre-application consultation with communities see: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/1854024.pdf>

For information on the Community Infrastructure Levy see: <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/1897278.pdf>

[www.planning-inspectorate.gov.uk](http://www.planning-inspectorate.gov.uk) is the Planning Inspectorate’s website related to development control and planning decisions. There is all sorts of information, guidance and legal material on this site. You can also access this site through the Portal at <http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/planning/planninginspectorate>

The Planning Portal also gives access to the Building Regulations which [http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/buildingregulations/](http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/buildingregulations/m) and you may also need to look at the British Standards <http://www.bsigroup.com/en-GB/> which also shape aspects of building design

[www.ordnance.survey.co.uk](http://www.ordnance.survey.co.uk) is the main Ordnance Survey site for maps and GIS.

The Office of National Statistics (ONS) at http://www.ons.gov.uk provides data on everything you need, such as population, car ownership, retail spending, social change, house-building etc. Census data is found at shttp://www.ons.gov.uk/census/index.html

In addition to the DCLG there are many other government departments which have some influence over town and country planning (see Diagram 2.1 Chapter Two) including DCMS, DEFRA, DECC all with their own websites, for example [www.culture.gov.uk](http://www.culture.gov.uk) for DCMS.

Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland

For the Scottish planning system see <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/built-environment/planning> also for a Guide to Scottish planning see <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Resource/Doc/281542/0084999.pdf> guide.

For example see the new National Planning Framework 3 Document at <http://www.scotland.gov.uk/Topics/Built-Environment/planning/NPF3-SPP-Review/NPF3> .

There is a combined Planning Portal for Northern Ireland and Scotland at

<http://www.planningportal.gov.uk/general/glossaryandlinks/links/scotlandnireland>

and also a separate Northern Ireland website on all planning matters at

<https://www.planningni.gov.uk/>

For information on Wales see <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/planning/?lang=en>

All information available in English and Welsh. For example see the City Regions Report at <http://wales.gov.uk/topics/businessandeconomy/publications/120711cityregions/?lang=en>

Local Authority Planning

Every local authority will have its own planning website showing maps, plans, policies, design guidance and so forth for the area in question, as well as guidance on submission of planning applications.

[www.local.gov.uk](http://www.local.gov.uk) – Local Government Association which has many policies and publications related to planning.

[www.planningofficers.org.uk](http://www.planningofficers.org.uk) provides up to date information on current issues and debates regarding the practicalities of running the planning system

You can follow the extent of progress of Local Plans on twitter at #neighbourhoodplanning

and at the web site [www.localismnetwork.org.uk](http://www.localismnetwork.org.uk)

One example of a good local plan is that of Backwell, a village in Somerset, see [www.backwell-pc.gov.uk/backwell-draft-neighbourhood-plan](http://www.backwell-pc.gov.uk/backwell-draft-neighbourhood-plan)

Professional Bodies

[www.rtpi.org.uk](http://www.rtpi.org.uk) – the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) – has a very good section that contains briefings and responses to all the latest government policy initiatives. Useful to gain a planning based view of government policy.

The Town and Country Planning Association is a voluntary group not a professional body see [www.tcpa.org.uk](http://www.tcpa.org.uk)

[www.mapforengland.co.uk](http://www.mapforengland.co.uk) This is the RTPI’s national map site to enable local planning authorities to co-operate and co-ordinate their core strategies and cross- border land-use planning proposals with neighbouring authorities.

[www.rtpiconsultants.co.uk](http://www.rtpiconsultants.co.uk) provides a list of planning consultants, and each planning consultancy will have its own website for example <http://tetlow-king.co.uk/>

Chartered Institute of Housing (CIH) at [www.cioh.org](http://www.cioh.org)

Also see the website of the national housing charity Shelter [www.shelter.org.uk/](http://www.shelter.org.uk/)

Look at the Construction Industry Council website and newsletter for information on the other construction, built environment and property professions at [www.**cic**.org.uk](http://www.cic.org.uk)

Find the websites of the other professional bodies such as RIBA (surveyors) [www.rics.org/uk/](http://www.rics.org/uk/) ; RIBA (architects) [www.architecture.com](http://www.architecture.com/) and CIOB(Construction Managers) [www.ciob.org/](http://www.ciob.org/)‎ who all have a planning input.

The RICS surveyor-planners mainly work in the private supporting developers. For a commercial view of the property housing market look at [www.savills.co.uk](http://www.savills.co.uk)

Urban Conservation

[www.english-heritage.org.uk](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk) - English Heritage is the government body responsible for advising on protection and Conservation of the historic environment in England. Similar bodies exist in Wales (CADW), Scotland and Northern Ireland. The English Heritage website is a great resource; as well as details of all its sites and buildings including information on listed buildings and urban conservation areas. There is even a section called Professional User which is useful for planning students

For the cultural aspects of conservation see <http://www.culture.gov.uk/publications/7263.aspx>

For example for listed buildings see <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/caring/listing/listed-buildings/> For funding available for listed and historical buildings see <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/professional/funding/grants/>.

For Permitted Development rights and Crown Land see: Crown Application of the Planning Acts <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/150982.pdf>

[www.**helm**.org.uk](http://www.helm.org.uk)HELM (Historical Environment Local Management) is a website providing a Heritage Gateway to national and local records of historic sites and buildings, **HELM** includes useful case studies and publications and **Images of England** for a photographic library of nearly all of England’s listed buildings covering most local authorities. There is also information on VAT and funding of listed buildings.

The Countryside and Environment

The Department of Food and Rural Affairs DEFRA <http://www.defra.gov.uk/> is the main central government department responsible for the countryside, farming and rural affairs (previously known as the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries and Food (MAFF)

The Environment Agency is a governmental body concerned with flooding and other nation-wide land-use and environment issues see [www.environment-agency.gov.uk](http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk)

Other rural government bodies include Natural England (previously the Countryside Commission) at <http://www.naturalengland.org.uk/>. Information on National Parks may be found at [www.nationalparks.gov.uk](http://www.nationalparks.gov.uk)

The National Trust is a voluntary body at [www.nationaltrust.org.uk](http://www.nationaltrust.org.uk)

Likewise the Council to Protect Rural England ( CPRE) at [www.cpre.org.uk](http://www.cpre.org.uk) is a pressure group for the countryside

Friends of the Earth at [www.foe.co.uk/](http://www.foe.co.uk/) is concerned with a wide range of environmental issues

Transport Planning

Department for Transport at <http://www.dft.gov.uk/news/press-releases/> and for statistics see

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<http://www.dft.gov.uk/statistics/releases/>

[www.statistics.gov.uk/hub/travel-transport/roads/vehicles](http://www.statistics.gov.uk/hub/travel-transport/roads/vehicles) the ONS site contains a great deal of information regarding transport statistics for example on car ownership

Network Rail at <http://www.networkrail.co.uk/>

Passenger Transport Executive at <http://www.pteg.net/Aboutpteg>

Transport for London at [www.tfl.gov.uk](http://www.tfl.gov.uk) also see [www.london.gov.uk](http://www.london.gov.uk) , the Greater London Authority website.

The Highways Agency at <http://www.highways.gov.uk/>

[www.shared-space.org](http://www.shared-space.org) shared Space on transport, street calming, place making.

See Sustrans the national cycling group at [www.sustrans.org.uk](http://www.sustrans.org.uk) For example see

[www.sustrans.org.uk/assets/files/liveable%20neighbourhoods/A%20simple%20guide.pdf](http://www.sustrans.org.uk/assets/files/liveable%20neighbourhoods/A%20simple%20guide.pdf)) for their design guidance on ‘DIY Streets’.

Urban Design

[www.cabe.org.uk](http://www.cabe.org.uk) – CABE is the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment. They have a very useful website with lots of information, publications and case studies which are easily accessible. Look in particular at the sections on planning, housing and place making, and there’s even a special section just for students! CABE is now combined with the Design Council so also check <http://www.designcouncil.org.uk/our-work/cabe/>

[www.rudi.net](http://www.rudi.net) (urban design website) and [www.udg.org.uk](http://www.udg.org.uk) urban design group website and look at [www.the-edi.co.uk](http://www.the-edi.co.uk) for Essex Design Guide online interactive version.

Check the online version of the *Essex Design Guide* which has achieved cult status found at [www.the-edi.co.uk/downloads/19715\_essexdesignguide.pdf](http://www.the-edi.co.uk/downloads/19715_essexdesignguide.pdf))

Equality and Diversity

EHRC (Equality and Human Rights Commission at [www.equalityhumanrights.com](http://www.equalityhumanrights.com)

This covers all the main diversity and minority categories including, gender, race, disability age and so forth.

<http://www.gendersite.org/> is a searchable web resource site on all aspects of women in the built environment professions including planning

Athena-Swan <http://www.athenaswan.org.uk/> is a subsidiary of the Equality Challenge Unit set up by the government in association with equalities and higher educational bodies including the UKRC (UK Resource Centre). It is particularly concerned with equalities in construction, engineering and science.

Look for web links to Architects for Change (RIBA), SOBA (Society of Black Architects) and other such sites within the different built environment professions.

[www.cae.org.uk](http://www.cae.org.uk) is the Centre for Accessible Environment’s website for everything regarding disability and accessibility issues.

You can find samples of Design and Access Statements (which are required with many planning applications) at CAE, CABE, and at many local planning authority websites

Conclusion

There are hundreds of other useful planning websites, but part of the studying process is for you to be selective, inquisitive and find what you want for yourselves on the internet. But the above selection is intended to give you a flavor of what is available.