CHAPTER ONE: INTRODUCTION

Information Gathering Tasks

1. Go out and find out what the main town planning issues and problems are in your area. Visit your local library, read the local newspapers, and find out whether any local plans affect where you live. Write yourself a short essay on what you find out, and start a file on your area. (Give yourself two weeks to achieve this task.)

2. Find one issue in particular that embodies the conflicts within local government politics. Use your local authority website and the Planning Portal

3. Go on the web, and find the Encyclopaedia of Planning Law and see what you make of it, or if you can find an actual printed copy go through it and check the different topics. Look at the journals section and find 'Planning', the journal of the Royal Town Planning Institute which is published weekly. Look at some of the other property journals, such as Estates Gazette, Property Week, and RICS publications and check for the planning items. Choose one topic, look through this month's journals and write a short essay on what you find, and the differing emphasis of the above journals.

Conceptual Tasks

4. Write an essay of 2000 words on either of the following:

a. Define and discuss the scope and nature of British town planning.

b. The planning process has been identified as being inevitably political and never neutral. Do you agree with this? Discuss giving reasons for your views.

Reflective Tasks

5. What do you personally think about town planning? Why did you study planning? Have you had any experience of planners/planning?