CHAPTER SIXTEEN: PLANNING AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT PROFESSIONS

Information Gathering

1. Gather careers information about the main construction and built environment professions and try and update the membership data from the professional websites.

2. Gather information about voluntary, community and minority groups in your vicinity which are concerned with town planning issues. Try and find out what the state of play is regarding minority groups and initiatives within the built environment professions themselves, for example regarding women in architecture and planning, disability access groups, ethnic minority professionals organizations and so forth. Start with the CIC (Construction Industry Council) website for announcements of such initiatives from its Diversity Panel. Sometimes other industry initiatives such as Health and Safety, Sustainability, mentoring programmes, and careers advice contain equality dimensions too. Huairou is an international body concerned with equality and environment issues.

3. Find out more about equality mainstreaming in relation to a particular area of planning policy of interest to you. Check on the Internet for Equality Impact Assessments and other methodologies.

Conceptual and Discursive Tasks

4. Compare and contrast the roles of the town planner and the chartered surveyor, giving examples of their respective involvement in the development process.

5. Discuss the way in which the Gender mainstreaming methodology might be applied to a particular planning policy and whether it is also applicable for use in relation to other minority issues too.

Reflective Tasks

6. What do you see personally as the value (or not) of being a professional planner? How do you see the profession changing in the future?