CHAPTER EIGHT: THE HISTORY OF THE THEORIES BEHIND PLANNING

Information Gathering Tasks

1. Take any one decade and list the following characteristics of planning at that time as to:

- the scope and nature of planning, how did planning manifest itself?

- the type of planners, who were the planners?

- the nature of planning theory, what paradigm reigned?

- the nature of the planning process, organisational and procedural structures?

- the political and economic context, relationship with national and local politics

- social forces and cultural trends, role of minorities and isms, compared with majority national trends?

Conceptual Tasks

2. Was post-war planning just spatial or aspatial too? (1945-1960)

3. Write an essay of 2000 words on the following, ‘Define and discuss the scope and nature of British town planning in relation to any one decade in the second half of the twentieth century’.

4. Write two pages of summary notes as a basis for answering the following examination question. ‘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. To what extent do you consider a collaborative approach planning to be a valid tool in policy making and implementation?

6. What do you consider to be the main planning theories, political ideologies and underlying philosophy affecting the current governments approach to planning?

7. What do you consider to be the next new fashion in planning that is emerging?