

CIC Climate Action Plan - Signatory Organisation Name: Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI) - February 2022 update

ACTIONS	Is this relevant to signatory? (Yes/No)	What activity is signatory doing?	What is the plan for implementation?	What is the timescale for implementation?
<b>Recommended timeframes</b>				
short term: commence immediately				
medium term: achieved within the next 2-3 years				
long term: established within next 5 years				
<b>WS1: EDUCATION AND QUALIFICATION (UCEM)</b>				
a) Each PI will determine their respective member roles, scope and responsibilities for carbon reduction	Yes	Agreed: as part of the Institute's engagement in the working group for this workstream. We adopted our RTPI Climate Action Plan in 2020, and already in its implementation phase.		
b) Each PI will review learning outcomes and the accreditation requirements of relevant degree and training courses	Yes	<a href="#">As part of our Corporate Strategy actions and objectives, we are conducting an education policy review during 2022-23 to ensure degree accreditation criteria and procedures are fit for purpose. Town planning degrees already are required to consider sustainable development and climate change learning outcomes.</a>		
c) Individual PIs to adopt and update discipline appropriate CPD requirements for net zero skills and competences for their members	Yes	Agreed: the Institute has, and continues to provide, CPD masterclasses and e-Academy short courses and webinars on these issues to its members. We have a Core CPD Framework in place for planners to follow including sustainability.		
d) The PIs will work together (and with other relevant bodies) to share and implement their educational proposals	Yes	<a href="#">Agreed: as part of the Institute's engagement in the working group for this workstream. We adopted our RTPI Climate Action Plan in 2020, and already in its implementation phase.</a>		
e) The PIs will work towards making ongoing CPD on climate issues obligatory for all chartered PI members alongside the introduction of statutory mandatory CPD under the new Building Safety Regime	Yes	The Institute is committed to exploring options during future review periods on membership requirements and CPD competencies, and subject to resources and digital investment, projected on a 3-5 year timescale. We must, where necessary, involve and consult our members and education partners and providers. A series of Corporate Strategy projects are underway to develop a member value offer and seamless CPD journey for professional planners. Proposals for significant changes to formal qualifications would also precipitate engagement with government QAA subject benchmark reviews, and consideration of monitoring costs.		
f) PI entrance requirements and professional membership assessments will be reviewed and revised, if required, to include a threshold carbon literacy/competence test	Yes			
g) A cross-industry climate framework curriculum to be agreed and adopted	Yes			
h) A shared CPD curriculum, based on the framework and including specialist submodules, to be established	Yes			
i) All institute and registration body agreement to be brokered for professional education to ensure climate change & biodiversity competence is achieved as a default requirement	Yes			
j) Training materials to be developed and shared, supported by the PI	Yes			
<b>WS2: STANDARDS AND REGULATIONS (CABE)</b>				
a) PIs to establish and recognise an advanced cross-disciplinary practitioner + research group		The Institute fully acknowledges the important objectives around this workstream, and how the working group might best support the construction and development industry and its systems to achieve these climate outcomes. We will take up opportunities to promote the outcomes and relevant products to our members.		
b) Stretch and voluntary standards/regulations to be developed for willing practitioners and their clients to adopt, trial and provide feedback on (for 2025/2030/2035 etc.)				
c) PIs to convene a cross-industry working group to provide input to Building Regulations, the Building Safety Regulator and other relevant bodies on future standards and regulations				
d) The working group to publish recommendations for upgrading standards and regulations on a minimum annual basis				
e) Digital building passports, dealing with build quality standards and embodied and operational carbon, to be agreed with financial institutions with the intention that they become mandatory across the industry and set a series of progressive expected performance requirements				
<b>WS3: OPERATIONAL ENERGY AND WHOLE LIFE CARBON (RIBA)</b>				
a) The PIs to lead on an agreement for operational performance targets and a net-zero whole life pathway		The Institute fully acknowledges the important objectives around this workstream, and how the working group might best support the construction and development industry and its systems to achieve these climate outcomes. We will take up opportunities to promote the outcomes and relevant products to our members.		
b) The RIBA 2030 Challenge to be reviewed and expanded for consideration and potential adoption across the industry				
c) PIs to publish distilled guidance on design strategies, specifications, standards and methods for achieving net-zero whole life carbon, with simple to use formats to encourage use by all professionals				
d) PIs to identify and support the development of central construction industry databases for whole life carbon and other environmental impacts (eg. RICS Buildings Database and CIBSE operational energy benchmarking)				
e) PIs to identify and provide guidance on use of low/zero carbon energy supplies and decarbonised heat sources				
f) PIs to encourage the professional service firms they recognise or accredit and those firms employing their members to publish annual energy and whole life carbon performance data for their operations				
g) PIs to encourage and, if possible, place an obligation on their members to ensure that all design teams offer, regardless of whether clients have requested the service, proposals for progressing projects towards net-zero whole life carbon design				
h) PIs to support the routine use of Building Passports (see WS2) for operational energy and whole life carbon				
i) Cross industry expert group/s to be formed to advise practitioners and policy makers: • On achieving energy efficiency standards • On achieving a consistent whole life carbon approach • And to monitor and produce advice and guidance on social impacts and behaviour change in relation to energy reduction		The Institute is open to participating in future working groups, where appropriate, to support the delivery of these climate action objectives, where possible, within the planning system.		
j) Definitions to be agreed across industry to ensure common purpose and consistency				
k) The relationship between existing environmental performance metrics and whole life carbon to be clearly and authoritatively set out				
<b>WS4: RESOURCE USE AND EMBODIED CARBON (IStructE)</b>				

a) Pls to support use of embodied carbon (upfront and lifetime) and other environmental impacts as design criteria and facilitate use of databases to drive design decisions			The Institute fully acknowledges the important objectives around this workstream, and how the working group might best support the construction and development industry and its systems to achieve these climate outcomes. We will take up opportunities to promote the outcomes and relevant products to our members.
b) Pls to support and enable effective decisionmaking on the specification of responsibly sourced materials and processing methods			
c) Pls to identify and support the development of databases to provide whole life environmental impacts across all Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) indicators – with a focus on carbon emissions – for: i. materials and resources ii. Projects			
d) Pls to support innovation and development of new solutions in response to embodied carbon and environmental impact design criteria			
e) Pls to support the routine use of Building Passports (see WS2) for resource usage, waste and embodied carbon			
f) Work to establish databases providing relevant and accessible information on environmental impacts across all Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) indicators starting with carbon emissions			
g) Adopt and promulgate standard metrics for monitoring and reporting embodied carbon, e.g. BS EN15804			
h) Support research on development of effective means for, and advice on, resource substitution			
i) Establish methods and a requirement for responsible sourcing of building materials			
j) Establish a requirement for use of EPD Co-ordinated by IStructE databases in the design process			
<b>WS5: LAND USE AND TRANSPORT (RTP/CIHT)</b>			
a) Pls to update guidance on the role of planning, land use and design in reducing carbon emissions from transport	Yes	<p>Actioned: <a href="#">as workstream co-lead the Institute updated and published in 2021 (with the TCPA) "The Climate Crisis: A Guide for Local Authorities on Planning for Climate Change"</a>.</p> <p><a href="#">We recently published a third phase of findings, advice and guidance from our Location of Development research programme.</a></p>	Complete
b) Pls to publish guidance on how design codes and standards can align with net zero	Yes	Actioned: We have commissioned research from LDA on this specific issue and engaged in broad stakeholder engagement. The project is due for completion shortly and will include publication of findings and practical advice for planners and aligned professions.	Mar-22
c) Pls to identify and introduce new professional responsibilities and support to ensure decision making in relation to land-use, transport and infrastructure is consistent with Net Zero obligations	Yes	We are committed to explore options with support of, and where necessary consultation with, our members. We are a signatory to the International Ethics Standards Coalition, and as outlined in WS10, competency requirements exist for sustainable development and climate change within accredited university degrees and through professional membership submissions. Opportunities may arise during future review of our Code of Conduct and professional ethics guidance and CPD for planners.	
d) Identify, prioritise and shape professional and industry practices in planning, transport and land-use needed to deliver a just transition to net zero	Yes	Actioned: we are supporting our workstream co-lead, CIHT, as they design and develop a carbon literacy tool for transport planners.	
e) Identify weaknesses in the policy framework that prevent the planning system aligning with the UK's Net Zero Obligations and the changes that are required to remedy this	Yes	<p>Jointly with partners, and individually as a learned society and chartered body, we continue to design and develop policy solutions and research outputs to issues within the land use and transport planning sector including:</p> <p><a href="#">A Guide for LPAs on Climate Change,</a></p> <p><a href="#">Strategic Planning for Climate Resilience,</a></p> <p><a href="#">Green Growth Boards,</a></p> <p><a href="#">Location of Development phases 1-3,</a></p> <p><a href="#">Plan the World We Need,</a></p> <p><a href="#">Urbanisation, Displacement and Urban Planning Report,</a></p> <p><a href="#">A Smarter Approach to Infrastructure Planning.</a></p>	
<b>WS6: FINANCE AND RISK</b>			
a) Establish a lead on pan-industry statement that lays out, and keeps up to date, climate related risks to physical, regulatory, reputational and future value and methods for taking these risks into account in valuation and professional advice		The Institute fully acknowledges the important objectives around this workstream, and how the working group might best support the construction and development industry and its systems to achieve these climate outcomes. We will take up opportunities to promote the outcomes and relevant products to our members.	
b) Pls to develop and promulgate a common standard on providing professional advice on projects that is transparent, properly evidenced and able to be widely shared			
c) Develop a common industry approach to valuation that takes into account whole life carbon, energy performance, building safety, wider social value and anticipated changes to market/regulatory/ environmental systems and potential for stranded assets			
d) Identify or develop tools to provide industrywide assistance to practitioners on categorising, quantifying, avoiding and mitigating climate risk			
<b>WS7: IN-USE PERFORMANCE (CIBSE)</b>			
a) Pls to work to agree a coherent approach on actual in-use performance, supported by monitoring and evidence, from the professions, their clients and the wider industry. This will be supported by training and accreditation schemes where required (in liaison with WS1)			
b) Pls to work together (and with organisations outside of CIC) to remove barriers to evaluating and reporting on performance			
c) Pls to work together and with organisations outside of CIC to provide a coherent advocacy voice for policy on operational performance			
d) Pls to introduce incentives for their members to carry out in-use monitoring, evaluation and reporting as well as reviewing further options, including professional requirements for organisations or projects over a certain size and collective requirements set out in the Plan of Work and Plan for Use			

e) Pls to collectively review the possibility of introducing formal professional obligations for monitoring and disclosure of in-use performance		The Institute fully acknowledges the important objectives around this workstream, and how the working group might best support the construction and development industry and its systems to achieve these climate outcomes. We will take up opportunities to promote the outcomes and relevant products to our members.
f) Develop and adopt agreed metrics for monitoring and reporting in-use performance, starting with energy and carbon and gradually encompassing other aspects of in-use performance		
g) Develop and adopt agreed approaches and methods for in-use performance evaluation		
h) From the collected data, develop benchmarks and case studies to support the development of guidance and targets under Workstream 3		
i) Review and continuously improve performance modelling tools through testing against real life data, in turn improving their usefulness for in-use performance evaluation		
j) Real-world modelling validation techniques to be continuously improved in relation to inuse performance evaluation approaches and methods		
k) Build the evidence base to inform other workstreams and to track progress		
l) Develop a performance and disclosure culture across professional service firms, their clients and supply chains for monitoring and reporting against the agreed metrics, using agreed processes		
m) Develop and adopt shared agreements, processes, tools and formats for data collection, reporting, and access, with open source, inter-operability and transparency as core principles		
<b>WK8: ADAPTATION AND RESILIENCE</b>		
a) Pls to develop forward plans for dealing with global heating, pandemics, rising flood levels, desertification and other global trends in order to advise policy makers and enhance preparedness	Yes	Jointly with partners, and individually as a learned society and chartered body, we continue to design and develop policy solutions and research outputs in 2020-21 to issues within the land use and transport sector including: A Guide for LPAs on Climate Change, Strategic Planning for Climate Resilience, Green Growth Boards, Location of Development, Plan the World We Need, and Urbanisation, Displacement and Urban Planning Report, A Smarter Approach to Infrastructure Planning.
b) Pls to develop and publish advice for issued to practitioners for dealing with longer-term climate-related risks and trends including those noted above	Yes	
c) Form a standing cross-industry group to recommend measures for increasing resilience in building and infrastructure projects	Yes	
d) Identify or develop resilience metrics for standard use on all major projects	Yes	
<b>WK9: EMERGENCY RESPONSE</b>		
a) Pls to identify agencies to work with at a macro level, but also at sector and project level	Yes	The Institute is open to participating in future working groups, where appropriate, to support the delivery of these climate action objectives, where possible, within the planning system.
b) Work with those agencies (including major utility and infrastructure companies) to ensure plans are in place for developing preparedness and providing rapid recovery response and advice on the impact of extreme climate events	Yes	
c) Develop a programme to mitigate, so far as is possible, the worst aspects of extreme events and prepare for them	Yes	
<b>WK10: COMPETENCE/ETHICS/ADVOCACY</b>		
a) Pls to remain aware of and responsive to their wider and international obligations to the environment, society and users and to pass these obligations on, where appropriate, to their members	Yes	<a href="#">Complete: we are a signatory to the International Ethics Standards Coalition.</a>
b) Pls to argue collectively and individually for the importance of delivering bio-diverse and net zero carbon projects and to establish an information and knowledge base able to support and engage with research and provide effective and evidence-informed advice	Yes	Agreed: as part of our commitments and leadership of WS5 and engagement in WS1. We are also open to participating in future working groups, where appropriate, to support the delivery of objectives of this workstream, where possible, within the planning system.
c) Pls to communicate to their members the importance of biodiversity and moving rapidly towards net zero design and provide them with adequate tools and training obligations for achieving and monitoring it	Yes	
d) Pls to continue to make the case for policy levers and resources to deliver change	Yes	<a href="#">Complete: we regularly press the case strongly, and commit to continue to do so on behalf of our members, to Ministers and government agencies for improved resourcing for the planning system and built environment, and changes to policy - alongside collaborations with professional institutes on joint campaigns.</a>
e) Pls to continue to create impact through campaigns where planning and design can have direct influence; transport, energy, housing and patterns of development	Yes	Agreed: as part of the Institute's adopted Corporate Strategy commitments, action plans and campaigns including Plan The World We Need. We offer Associate membership to all built and environment professionals to be recognised within the planning system. The Institute has, and continues to provide, CPD masterclasses and e-Academy short courses and webinars on these issues to its members.
f) Pls to support, train and monitor their members with regard to their net zero obligations	Yes	
g) Pls to make planning and design for net zero carbon emissions more relevant and attractive to a broader group of potential members and recognise emerging specialisms related to climate change, proactively promoting future opportunities in the industry for climate action	Yes	
h) All Pls to take increased (and co-ordinated) measures to ensure competence in low-energy design and management amongst their membership, both on entry and at regular intervals throughout their careers	Yes	These actions are underway with support of, and where necessary consultation with, our members. This work includes: existing competency requirements on sustainable development and climate change within accredited university degrees and through professional membership submissions, existing professional ethics guidance and CPD, a review of our Code of Conduct by 2023, recent adoption of new disciplinary procedures, and an existing annual 'Excellence in Planning for the Natural Environment' Award, and RTP1 Research Awards.
i) Pls to provide ethical training and support, including whistleblowing services, to their members and others	Yes	
j) Pls to update codes of professional conduct, as necessary, to ensure that enhancing biodiversity, maintaining low energy design ability and making deliverable proposals for achieving, as far as possible, net zero carbon emissions are matters of professional ethics and obligation	Yes	
k) Pls to ensure that award and other promotional schemes appropriately consider biodiversity and net-zero requirements and that relevant and consistent data is collected and published on such schemes	Yes	