

Inaugural lecture of
Prof. Hugh Ellis

Honorary Professor, School of Planning Architecture and Civil Engineering, QUB
Head of Policy, Town and Country Planning Association

**Space for hope? Does democratic planning have a future in the
21st century?**

5.00pm 4th November 2015
David Keir Building, Stranmillis Rd, Room LG.024.

In this lecture, Prof. Ellis will consider the importance of democracy in town and country planning and reflect on the current state of democratic planning across the UK, paying particular attention to the most recent reforms in England and Northern Ireland. He will argue that many recent reforms have been misguided and counter-productive, leading to the need to reinvent the practice and very idea of what planning should deliver for communities, regions and nations. He will explore what role key players should take in this and reflect on the specific opportunities there are for Northern Ireland now that planning responsibilities have been returned to local councils. Finally, Prof Ellis will speculate on the future directions of planning in the UK and make a case for ensuring an effective, fair and visionary planning system is a key part of safeguarding healthy and prosperous communities.

Prof. Hugh Ellis is Head of Policy at the TCPA and Honorary Professor at the School of Planning, Architecture and Civil Engineering, Queen's University Belfast. Prior to joining the TCPA he had been the senior planning advisor to Friends of the Earth and previously worked as a lecturer in the University of Sheffield planning school. Hugh has a BA in Town and Regional planning, a Diploma in Town Planning and a PhD.

Since joining TCPA Hugh has led the Planning and Climate Change Coalition which published a major policy document in April 2012. He has been involved in providing expert advice and analysis of the NPPF and Localism Act and the more recently the Growth and Infrastructure Act. In 2013 he co-wrote *Planning out Poverty*, a year-long research project with the Webb Memorial Trust which explored the overarching question 'how can we re-focus planning to be more effective in dealing with social exclusion?' He is co-author (with Kate Henderson) of *Rebuilding Britain: Planning for a better future*, which was published by the Policy press in 2014.

RSVP: by Friday 30 October by 4pm to;
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