

Practitioner Editor for the Journal of Place Management and Development

Term: 3 years on a voluntary basis

Start Date: June 2026

Reports to: Editor-in-Chief Dr Nikos Ntounis

Works closely with: Editorial Board, Associate Editors, IPM Team, IPM Members, and Emerald Publishing

1. Role Purpose

As the Institute of Place Management approaches its 20th anniversary, strengthening the link between research and practice is central to our mission. The Practitioner Editor will play a pivotal role in supporting this ambition.

The role exists to ensure that JPMD continues to bridge academic insight with real-world practice, reflecting the lived experiences, challenges, and innovations of practitioners working in towns, cities, neighbourhoods, regions, and communities across the world.

You will help ensure that each issue of the journal includes high-quality practitioner-led contributions and sector insights, reinforcing JPMD's position as the international go-to publication for place management knowledge, leadership, and impact.

2. Core Responsibilities

A. Practitioner Content Development

- Identify emerging trends, and practice-based insights across sectors
- Cultivate a diverse and international pipeline of practitioner contributors, including those from BIDs, local authorities, community organisations, development trusts, consultancies, and other place-based networks.
- Support practitioner voices to contribute confidently and effectively to the journal.

B. Editorial Duties

- Work with the Editorial Board to support practitioner submissions through the review and development process, ensuring clarity, rigour, and relevance.
- Write or co-write introductory commentary for practitioner sections
- Ensure that all practitioner articles offer practical, evidence-based insights consistent with the journal's standards.
- Promote calls for papers, special issues, and opportunities for practitioner involvement through IPM networks and wider sector channels.

C. Liaison & Governance

- Act as the link to the IPM Advisory Group, providing updates on practitioner themes, sector insights, and emerging issues.
- Act as a conduit between the Advisory Group and the JPMD Editorial Board, ensuring two-way communication and alignment between IPM members and journal direction.
- Help ensure that practitioner content supports IPM's professionalisation agenda, CPD framework, and broader commitment to advancing place management.

D. Editorial Strategy & Planning

- Participate in Editorial Board meetings (virtual).

- Contribute to the shaping and refinement of JPMD's long-term practitioner voice and thematic direction.
- Support the planning of special issues with strong practice dimensions, such as:

3. Experience & Person Specification

Essential

- Significant professional experience in place management, urban regeneration, high street or town centre management, economic development, placemaking, planning, or a closely related field.
- Strong networks across the place sector, nationally and/or internationally.
- Confidence in supporting practitioners who may be new to publishing.
- Strong commitment to evidence-based practice, place leadership, and knowledge exchange.
- Excellent written communication skills and sound editorial judgement.

Desirable

- Experience writing articles, reports, blogs, or commentary for professional audiences.
- Experience mentoring or coaching practitioners in reflective writing.
- Familiarity with academic-practitioner collaboration, research partnerships, or co-production.
- Engagement with IPM, Regional Studies Association, or similar networks.

4. Time Commitment

- Approximately 1 days per month, varying with submission cycles.
- Attendance at Editorial Board meetings and occasional events or webinars.
- Flexibility to respond to publication timelines.

5. Benefits of the Role

- Shape the future of the place management profession at an influential moment in IPM's 20-year journey.
- Build a public profile as a sector thought-leader.
- Deepen connections with academics, practitioners, policy-makers, and international networks.
- Gain editorial experience and opportunities for published commentary.
- Contribution recognised within the IPM potential progression to Senior Fellowship.

6. How to Apply

Interested applicants should submit:

- A short CV or professional profile
- A one-page statement outlining:
 - Why they are interested in the role
 - Their experience within the place sector
 - How they would strengthen practitioner contributions to JPMD
- Applications should be submitted by 1st February 2026 with the successful candidate appointed in time to begin the role in June 2026.