

Member Bulletin - June 2025

Dear \$[UD:FIRST_NAME]\$,

Improving places everywhere, for everyone, is a truly global mission. That's why it's timely that we share this month's IPM Bulletin on *World Environment Day*

Whether you're new to IPM or a long-standing member, we wanted to take this opportunity to highlight the growing international recognition of the work being done by IPM - by default, all of you in our community. In 2024, the report *International Practices of Place Management through Multi-Sectoral Partnerships*, led by the Georgetown Global Cities Initiative (a designated global research partner of UN-Habitat), made it clear: *a place management approach is key to localising the Sustainable Development Goals*. You can read the report on our website [here](#).

At IPM, we believe the Sustainable Development Goals - or SDGs - offer a shared global language and framework that unites the international place management community. They help us exchange knowledge across borders, but more importantly, they enable local action to align with global priorities. Because while the SDGs are global in ambition, they are ultimately delivered - or too often, not delivered - in local places.

That's why skilled place managers and place leaders are essential – to turn ambition into action, strategy into delivery, and places into resilient, inclusive, and sustainable communities. With that in mind, we'd like to highlight a recent article in *The Conversation* by our colleague Dr Paul O'Hare: "**Five Ways to Make Cities More Resilient to Climate Change.**" It's a timely and practical piece that reinforces why place-based approaches matter more than ever.

So, if you are considering the next step in your place leadership journey and want to develop the skills to lead and manage the places of the future, you can now apply for the world's only postgraduate courses in *Place Management and Leadership*, starting in January 2026. Students are already enrolling, but if you would like to explore the course in more detail, we would be happy to arrange a one-to-one call with the course leader- or you can join our next online taster session on **9th July 2025**.

World Environment Day is a powerful reminder that global change begins with local leadership - and it is *place leadership* that turns ambition into action, vision into impact.

Let's continue improving places, together, for everyone, everywhere.

Ian Harvey
Head of Institute of Place Management

Up and coming events



IPM Research Seminar - Place Branding and Marketing

- **Date:** Thursday 12th June 2025
- **Time:** 15:00 - 17:00
- **In person** - 4.03, Manchester Met Business School
- Open to IPM members and non-members

[Register here](#)



Place Platform Symposium

- **Date:** Tuesday 17th June 2025
- **Time:** 09-30 - 16:15
- **In person** - The Antony Burgess Foundation, M1 5BY
- IPM members only

[Register here](#)

[Read more details about our events](#)

IPM showcased at the Houses of Parliament



On 15 May 2025, the Institute of Place Management was proud to represent our work at Manchester Metropolitan University's first-ever Parliamentary Showcase, held at the Houses of Parliament. The event brought together MPs, peers, and policymakers with senior academics, researchers, and professional staff to highlight the University's wide-ranging contributions to national priorities. We are thankful to the IPM members who visited us on the day to learn more about our work, and work from colleagues across the university. Prof Millington is pictured at the event. [Read more here about the event here.](#)

Ahead of the Parliamentary event we published the final findings on the impact of the High Streets Task Force. As Minister Alex Norris put it, "This task force has provided valuable insights into how high streets can adapt and thrive in a changing world."

A copy of the final report is being sent to every MP in England, and you can read the full version and technical data [here](#).

Rethinking Town Centres in the UK's Devolution Agenda

Following the local elections and renewed debate on devolution, the Institute of Place Management hosted a national online event exploring the role of town centres in shaping neighbourhood governance. Chaired by **Ian Harvey**, the session brought together experts from national bodies, councils, and civic organisations to discuss this subject and to consider the Independent Commission on Neighbourhoods Green Paper and recent reports from the House of Lords and High Streets Task Force.

Speakers called for long-term investment in social infrastructure, more local leadership, and governance that reflects community identity. Contributors warned against one-size-fits-all approaches and emphasised that real power must come with a local voice. From neighbourhood planning to civic alliances, the session highlighted how places can lead renewal if given the tools, trust, and flexibility to do so.

[Read more here.](#)

IPM support international placemaking training in London

The Institute of Place Management is proud to support the upcoming City at Eye Level & Placemaking Training, taking place in London from 25–27 June 2025.

Led by **STIPO**, this three-day in-person programme is designed for urban professionals seeking to transform public spaces through human-centred development and co-creation.

As part of our commitment to global learning and professional development, IPM is collaborating alongside a strong partnership that includes Placemaking Europe, Placemaking X, Opportunity Kensington BID, Association of Town & City Management, and PlaceCollective UK. You can read more, and register via: <https://lnkd.in/eU2WFXej>

Dr Jenny Kanellopoulou visits Chicago Loop Alliance

Earlier this month, **Dr Jenny Kanellopoulou**, Senior Lecturer in Law at Manchester Metropolitan University and the Institute of Place Management, visited Chicago as part of IPM's ongoing internationalisation work to build a global community of place managers and leaders.

While in Chicago, Jenny also took the opportunity to meet with representatives from the Chicago Loop Alliance - the business improvement district organisation responsible for promoting and managing Chicago's central business district through placemaking, events, and economic development. She was welcomed by Christian Boyer, Ariella Gibson, and Daisy Ruiz for an engaging discussion centred on shared urban challenges.

[Read more here.](#)

JPMD Spotlight: Who Gets to Decide the Future of Our Places?

This month, we spotlight an article by Dr Patrick Collins (University of Galway), who explores one of Ireland's most ambitious community planning efforts: the Maigh Cuilinn Village Plan. Titled "*Who Thought That Was a Good Idea?*", the piece examines how power, planning, and participation come together in delivering affordable, inclusive, and sustainable housing.

Offering important lessons for community-led planning, the article aligns closely with IPM's commitment to tackling place inequalities and advancing UN Sustainable Development Goal 11. At its heart is a critical question: *Who gets to decide the future of our places?*

Read the summary: <https://lnkd.in/epfwK5EU> and register to attend our online conference in October looking at the global impact of housing through the lens of place management. [Register here.](#)

IPM team meet with Brand Slovakia's Zuzana Mikulášová

We were pleased to welcome [Zuzana Mikulášová](#) to the Institute of Place Management and Manchester Metropolitan University on her recent visit to learn more about our work and connect with our team. Zuzana is currently undertaking a PhD and, after considering where to base her research, chose Manchester Metropolitan University - recognising our world-leading position in the field of place.



During her visit, Zuzana shared insights from her role as [Executive Director of the Brand Slovakia 2.1 project](#), which is redefining Slovakia's national brand identity 30 years after gaining independence. Since the dissolution of Czechoslovakia in 1993, Slovakia has experienced a series of fundamental social, political, and economic changes. In this period of transformation, compounded by global challenges such as the pandemic, conversations around the country's future vision, international reputation, and competitiveness are more important than ever.

Zuzana in the orange jacket is pictured with IPM and Manchester Metropolitan University colleagues.

[Read more here.](#)

From research to action on Privately Owned Public Spaces

We're delighted to see IPM research making real-world impact as [CityCo](#) and Manchester City Centre BID launch a new Privately Owned Public Spaces (POPS) Forum - directly inspired by an IPM-led workshop in 2023.

POPS play a key role in high street regeneration but require careful stewardship to balance public access, safety, inclusivity, and commercial needs. With support from IPM Member Emma James, the forum enables landowners, businesses, and place managers to share best practice and benchmark quality across Manchester.

Emma James will be sharing her experience at the [IPM Place Symposium](#) this June. We will also be having a dedicated session on POPs later in the year so keep an eye out!

For more information on POPs *and our research*, please [click here](#).



Your thoughts on current place management and leadership issues as an IPM member

We love showcasing the expertise and insights of our valued members. If you have a story, research, or a project that might interest the wider IPM network, we'd love to hear from you! Whether it's a discussion topic, a LinkedIn feature to highlight your profile, or an update that deserves attention, we're keen to share your contributions.

Additionally, as an IPM member, you gain exclusive access to our members' area—a hub filled with valuable resources, networking opportunities, and industry insights. If you're not yet a member and would like to explore the benefits, feel free to get in touch to discuss membership options.

Let's continue to build connections and celebrate the fantastic work happening across the sector!



We're always keen to know your thoughts on current issues directly via [email](#) and in comments on our LinkedIn social media posts. Thank you for taking the time to read this bulletin, our next issue will be issued in June.

The IPM Team



© 2025 Institute of Place Management. All rights reserved.

IPM is owned and operated by Manchester Metropolitan University, with its own constitution as a professional body and learned society to support people who serve places for the benefit of society.

Want to change how you receive these emails?
you can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

From research to action on Privately Owned Public Spaces