

Priya Chakrabarti

Graduate Planner



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Town Planning MA graduate from University College London with an RTPI accredited degree and a 6 month placement at a district council. Assessed 42 householder applications, contributed to a Local Plan examination, and produced a dissertation on green belt boundary reviews. Seeking a graduate planner role to begin the APC pathway toward chartered membership.

■ EXPERIENCE

Planning Placement Officer, South Oxfordshire District Council, Didcot

Jan 2025 – Jun 2025

Assessed planning applications and supported policy work during a 6 month university placement within the Development Management team.

- Assessed **42 householder applications** including extensions, outbuildings, and changes of use, writing officer reports and drafting conditions for each
- Presented **1 minor application** (10 dwelling infill scheme) to the planning committee, responding to 3 councillor questions on design and access
- Updated the council's **five year housing land supply** calculation by auditing completions data from 14 parish areas
- Attended **3 planning committee meetings** and took notes on 18 agenda items across residential, commercial, and heritage categories

Research Assistant (Part Time), UCL Bartlett School of Planning, London

Jun 2024 – Dec 2024

Supported an ESRC funded research project on housing delivery and planning performance across English local authorities.

- Compiled and cleaned planning decision data from **48 local authorities** using Freedom of Information responses
- Produced **6 data tables** and 3 GIS maps using QGIS that were included in the final research report

■ EDUCATION

MA in Town Planning (RTPI Accredited), University College London (Bartlett School of Planning), London

Sep 2024 – Sep 2025

Distinction (predicted). RTPI fully accredited programme qualifying for the APC route to chartered membership.

- Dissertation: "**Green Belt Boundary Reviews in English Local Plans: Spatial Outcomes and Policy Justifications**" — analysed 8 adopted Local Plans and mapped 2,400 hectares of de-designated green belt land
- Modules: Development Management, Planning Law, Spatial Strategy, Urban Design, Transport Planning

BA (Hons) in Geography, University of Leeds, Leeds

Sep 2021 – Jun 2024

Upper Second Class Honours (2:1). Dissertation on brownfield land registers and housing delivery in West Yorkshire.

■ SKILLS

Development Management & Casework • NPPF & Local Plan Policy Interpretation • Planning Application Assessment • Officer Report Writing • QGIS & ArcGIS Mapping • Planning Portal & Uniform Systems • Section 106 & CIL Awareness • Heritage & Conservation Area Assessment • Public Consultation & Stakeholder Engagement • Microsoft Office & Data Analysis

■ CERTIFICATIONS

Student Member, Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI)

Sep 2024

■ LANGUAGES

English (native) • Bengali (conversational)

■ PROJECTS

Group Design Project – Neighbourhood Plan for Thame, Oxfordshire

Jan 2025 – Apr 2025

Worked in a team of 4 to produce a draft neighbourhood plan for a market town in South Oxfordshire.

- Conducted a **character appraisal** of 5 distinct areas within the parish, identifying design principles for infill development
- Ran a public consultation exercise with **68 residents** using an online survey and 2 in-person drop-in sessions at the town hall

■ EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITY

UCL Planning Society – Events Coordinator

Oct 2024

Organised 5 professional talks with speakers from Savills Planning, Lichfields, and the Planning Inspectorate. Average attendance of 35 students per event.