

PEBA Annual conference

Friday 8 May 2026

Planning: The Future isn't what it used to be

Planning and environmental law has never stood still, but today it feels as though it is shifting faster, and in more unexpected ways, than ever before. Against this backdrop, PEBA's 2026 Annual Conference invites you to step back and look ahead.

Join leading practitioners for a forward-looking programme, kindly hosted by Addleshaw Goddard in their new offices, exploring how planning law and practice are adapting to a world where certainty is increasingly elusive.

What does "good planning" and "good practice" mean in an era of legislative reform, environmental urgency and technological development? How should decision-makers, advocates and advisors respond when yesterday's solutions no longer fit today's problems? And what do we need in order to navigate what lies ahead?

Keynote speaker

Lord Justice Dove

Speakers and panellists

Harriet Townsend KC, Hereward Phillpot KC, Ruth Stockley KC, Lord Banner KC, Rupert Warren KC, Claire Searson (PINS), Hannah Quarterman (Addleshaw Goddard), Francis Tyrrell (Addleshaw Goddard), Nikki Webber (City of London), Matthew Henderson, Leanne Buckley-Thomson, Robert Williams, Mark Beard, Vivienne Sedgley, Margherita Cornaglia, Armin Solimani

Conference Chair

Tom Cosgrove KC (PEBA Chair)

To purchase a ticket, please visit the PEBA website:
<https://peba.org.uk/events/annual-conference-2026/>

Early bird price

(by 16 March 2026)

Normal price

PEBA Members:

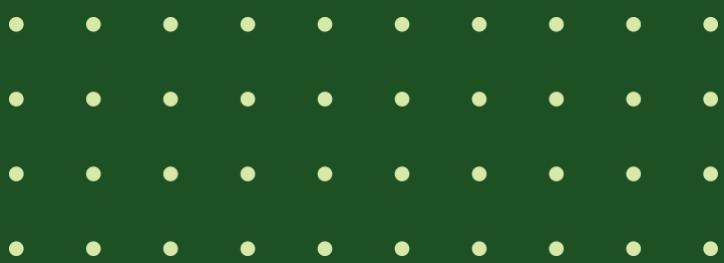
£160

£175

Non-PEBA members:

£175

£195



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The PEBA organising committee, Tom Cosgrove KC, Melissa Murphy KC, Freddie Humphreys and Vivienne Sedgley, are delighted to present the following programme:

Friday 8 May 2026

9.15am – Registration and refreshments

9:45am Welcome and Introduction – Hannah Quarterman (Addleshaw Goddard) and Tom Cosgrove KC (PEBA Chair, Cornerstone Barristers)

10:00am Keynote Address – Lord Justice Dove

10:30am Putting the Planning and Infrastructure Act 2025 into practice – Lord Banner KC (Keating Chambers) and Matthew Henderson (Landmark Chambers)

11:00am – Refreshments

11:30am From Refusal to Approval: Overcoming Obstacles to Consent in 2026 – Harriet Townsend KC and Robert Williams (Cornerstone Barristers)

12:00pm Artificial Intelligence: Developing practice – Ruth Stockley KC (Chair, Kings Chambers), with panellists including Claire Searson (PINS), Nikki Webber (City of London), Francis Tyrrell (Addleshaw Goddard) and Mark Beard (6 Pump Court)

1:00pm – Lunch

2:00pm The NPPF and wider reform – Rupert Warren KC and Margherita Cornaglia (Landmark Chambers)

2:40pm Devolution and Planning – Leanne Buckley-Thomson (No.5 Chambers) and Vivienne Sedgley (4-5 Gray's Inn Square)

3:10pm Case law update – Hereward Phillipot KC and Armin Solimani (Francis Taylor Building)

3:40pm Concluding remarks – Tom Cosgrove KC (PEBA Chair, Cornerstone Barristers)

4:00pm – Conference close

