

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE LONDON

University of London

EXAMINATION FOR INTERNAL STUDENTS

For The Following Qualification:–

M.Sc.

Planning Institutions and Practices in Europe

COURSE CODE : **BENVEP01**

DATE : **20-MAR-06**

TIME : **14.00**

TIME ALLOWED : **3 Hours**

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The Bartlett
MSc Development and Planning:
European Property Development and Planning

Title of paper:
BENVEP01 Planning Institutions and Practices in Europe

20 March 2006 1400h-1700h

Time allowed: 3 hours

Answer any **three** questions
All questions carry equal marks.

1. Mixed-use developments have often been cited as essential for the creation of lively and attractive urban environments. Yet, in some countries the development industry seems reluctant to produce them. Why do you think this is so? Illustrate your answer with examples.
2. Public-private partnerships are now a common occurrence in initiating and funding development across Europe. Discuss the positive and negative outcomes of such partnerships, using examples wherever possible.
3. Government support for large development schemes is normally linked to urban regeneration objectives. Drawing on examples, discuss a) how these schemes can help to achieve regeneration objectives and b) in what circumstances they can best do so.
4. Forms of tenure of land and buildings vary a great deal between countries. Give examples of some of the important differences, indicating the strengths and weaknesses of each. (You may answer this question in theoretical terms or in relation to a specific sector like housing or retailing, or in terms of individual development projects.)
5. The way a development is financed will ultimately determine its timing, mix of uses and even its appearance. Discuss this proposition critically, using examples wherever necessary.
6. Some planning systems in Europe rely on a detailed prescription of what can and cannot be developed at any particular site, whereas others allow for a considerable degree of discretion. In respect of any two countries, outline the advantages and disadvantages of both approaches.
7. Is there any evidence that approaches to metropolitan planning in Europe are influenced by the policies, practices or funding regimes of the European Institutions? What influences from the EU would you expect or hope to observe in the next few years?

turn over

8. To what extent would it be (a) feasible and (b) desirable to harmonise urban planning procedures across the European Union in the face of the deep-rooted variations we have in legal and political systems and in patterns of property ownership?

9. What do cities have to gain by trying to compete with each other? What are they competing for if, indeed, they do compete? Would they do better to co-operate instead? Illustrate your answer by referring to one or more cities.

10. **Answer both parts (a) and (b) - half the marks are obtainable from each part.**

(a) Is it possible to envisage "a sustainable city"? What might it be like?

and

(b) Can existing cities, inherited from the past, be adapted to become more "sustainable"?

Illustrate your answer by referring to examples of plans or developments where possible.

11. In what ways, if at all, does the planning and development of cities in formerly-communist countries pose problems different from those confronted in Western countries?

12. Planning systems and policies vary a great deal between countries (and sometimes between regions within countries). What purpose is served by trying to classify either systems or policies?

End of question paper