

**PLANNING AFTER DEVOLUTION - CONVERGENCE, DIVERGENCE AND POLICY TRANSFER**  
**Examining the role of the British-Irish Council and its influence on pan and sub UK**  
**planning policies and institutions**

This focus of this project is to develop understanding of the role of the spatial planning group of the British Irish Council (BIC) and the way in which it is supporting shared learning across the UK. The study is concerned with investigating the role of the BIC in relation to its priority areas of action which include spatial planning and through interviews and discussions identify and evaluate the ways in which it is promoting knowledge transfer. The study is also investigating the role and nature of the officer group which supports that priority and to determine whether it is a policy network or community, or takes on another working character. The study will also be considering what external and internal issues are driving this process of sharing. The Foundation is supporting the part of this project that will be focussed on a range of issues including identifying the ways in which policy experimentation has been developed and transferred and to examine the unexpected convergences that are occurring on other key policy areas. It will do this through discussion and interviews with key participants and observers.

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