

Copeland's Charlotte gains top planning accolade

A COPELAND officer has attained the ultimate qualification in their profession of town planning.

Charlotte Brown, a senior planning policy officer with Copeland Borough Council, has become a Chartered Town Planner, an accolade awarded by the Royal Town Planning Institute (RTPI).

Charlotte, who joined Copeland Borough Council in 2013, graduated from Leeds Metropolitan University with a degree in Town and Regional Planning. After graduating she worked on major regeneration projects in Calderdale and housing market assessments in Leeds. With Copeland she has been involved in a range of projects including securing £80,000 of funding to establish an environmental lengthsman scheme for Whitehaven, determining planning applications with Development Management and supporting the revision of the Local Plan with Strategic Planning.

Charlotte had to complete the RTPI's Licentiate Assessment of Professional Competence to become an RTPI Chartered Town Planner.

Charlotte said: "I feel very honoured to become a Chartered Town Planner, an accolade I have had in my sights for some time now. I look forward to continuing to promote the planning professional through my work and would like to thank Copeland Borough Council, re'new regeneration charity Leeds, Calderdale Metropolitan Borough Council and Leeds City Council for giving me some fantastic opportunities to develop my planning career."

Copeland's managing director, Pat Graham, said: "It's wonderful to see Charlotte progress and attain this highly-sought-after accolade - I congratulate her on all her success and hard work. That, together with her enthusiasm and real talent in this profession, means she is a highly-valued employee, and that Copeland residents are getting exceptional service through her skills."

The RTPI is Europe's largest professional body for planners, with 25,000 members worldwide working in public, private, charitable and education sectors. As well as promoting spatial planning, the Institute sets high standards for planning education and is the only body in the UK that accredits Chartered Town Planners.

Martine Koch, RTPI Head of Membership, said: "I congratulate Charlotte for successfully making this important step in her career. Chartered Membership is the most highly sought after professional status for planners. It demonstrates to clients, peers, the public and employers around the world that the individual works to the highest professional and ethical standards."



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