



Edge Debate 70

10th November 2015

Does built environment
policy work?

And how should
professionals engage?

BUILDING RESEARCH & INFORMATION

International Research, Development, Demonstration & Innovation

SPECIAL ISSUE

**Closing the policy gaps:
from formulation to outcomes**



Guest editors: Simon Foxell and Ian Cooper

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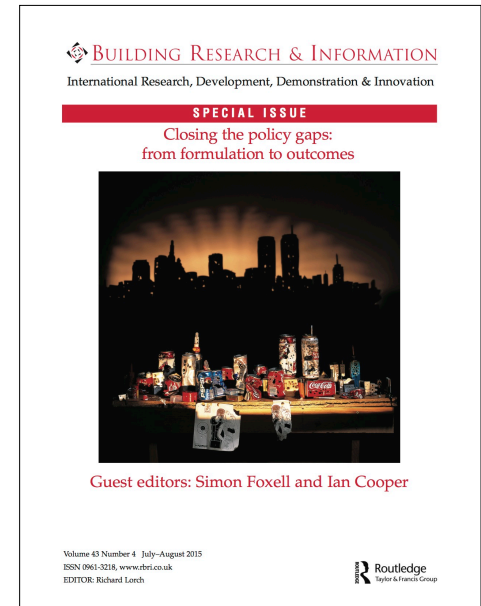
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Closing the policy gaps: from formulation to outcomes
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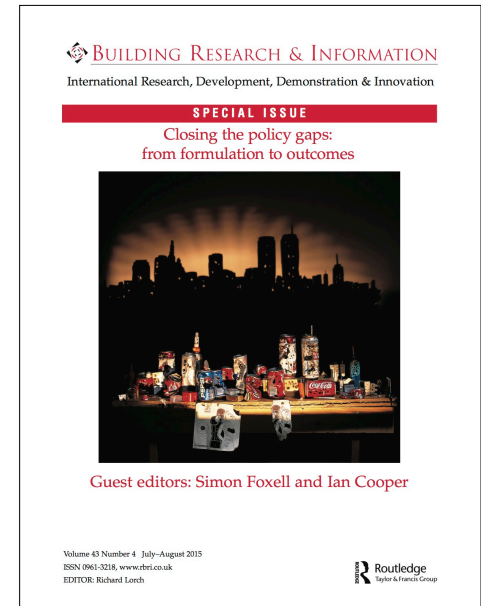
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Whitehall, we have a problem ...

... with:

- Overcalling
- Impatience
- Changes of government, personnel and direction
- Neglect and decay
- Distraction and noise
- Temporal misalignment
- Multiple jurisdictions
- Events

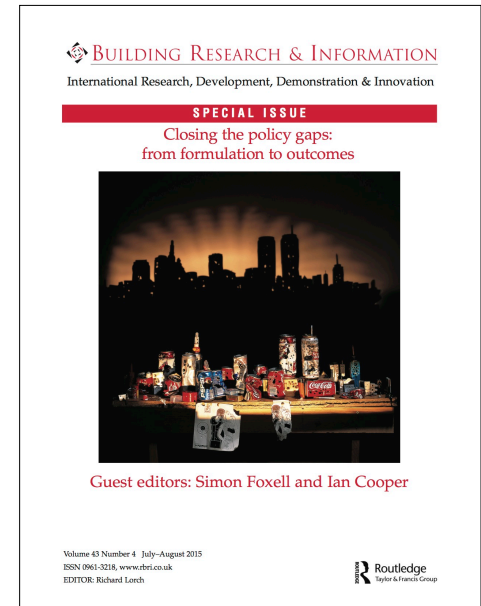


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Propositions:

- Clarity over policy objectives, instruments and timescales.
- A willingness to both produce and cope with more honest policy prediction.
- Increased policy literacy and understanding of policy instruments by professionals and their representative organisations.
- A culture and a collectively agreed means of reporting back on policy and project outcomes by all parties from government to companies and individual professionals. A regular reporting system on policy effectiveness.
- An understanding that policy is a live activity requiring continuous monitoring and course correction as a precondition of implementation.

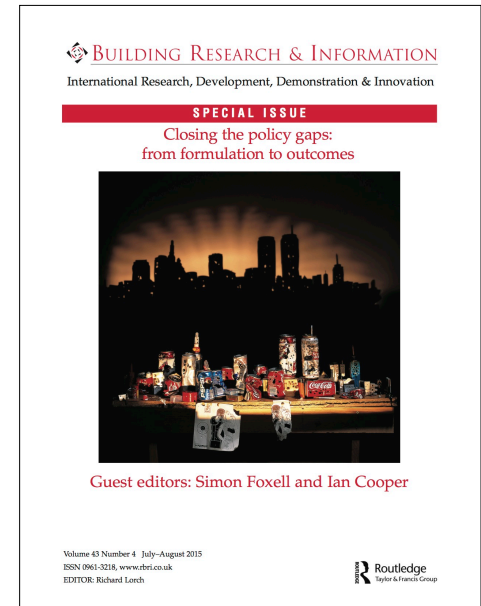


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Measures to make policy more effective:

- Consciously learning lessons from the past
- Building in resilience capable of accommodating change to both political circumstances and the external environment
- Understanding the probability of and extent of success
- Open and inclusive ideas generation
- Transparent and accessible policy appraisal
- Policy trialling and testing as part of the design process
- Policy championing throughout the delivery stages
- The collection and evaluation of data on both process and outcomes for feeding back into future policy-making and assessment.



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Until the end of November



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