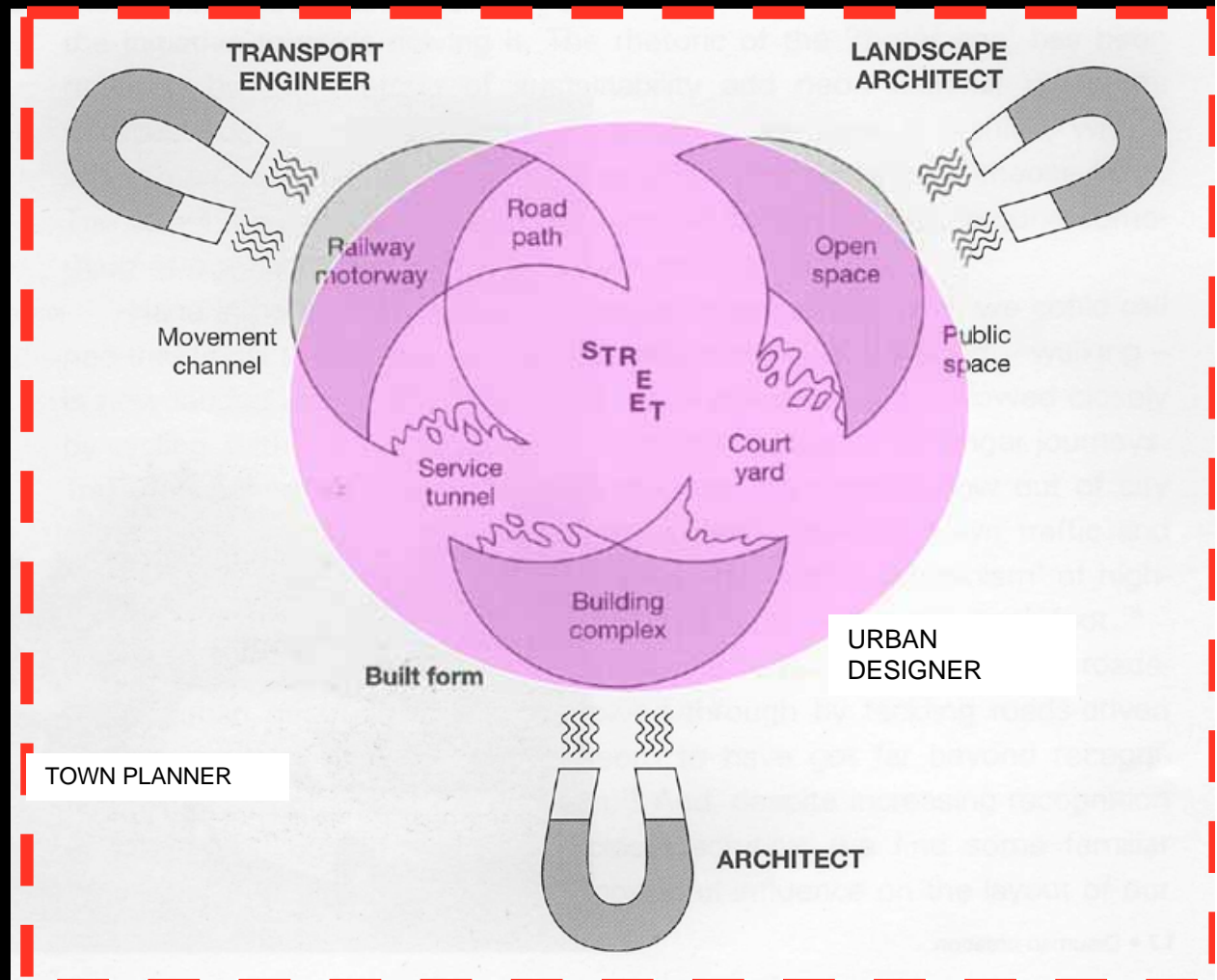# Town Planning and the Night-time City:still at the margins

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Public Space at the Margins between Professions

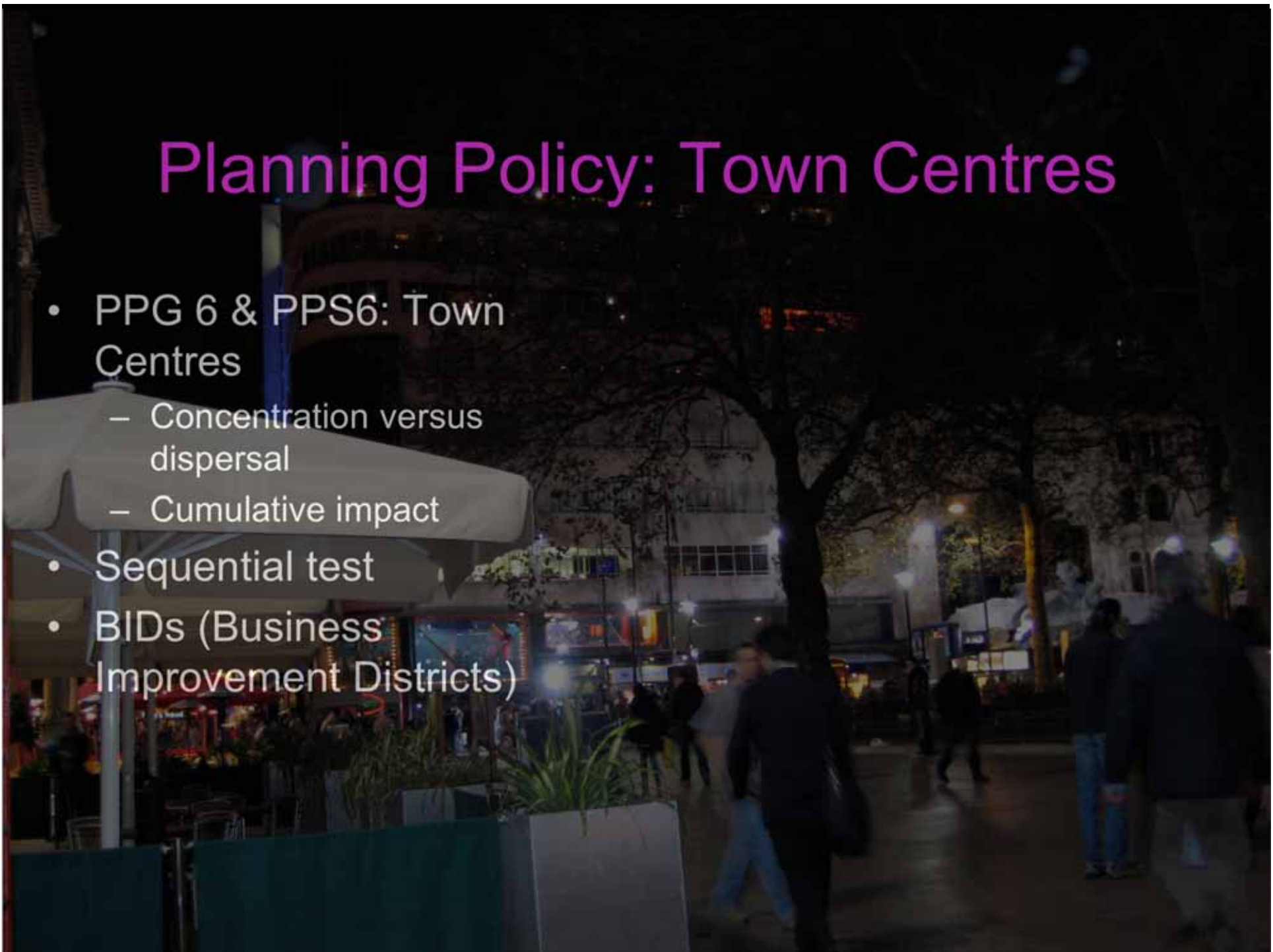Adapted from Marshall, S. (2005) *Streets and Patterns* London: Spon Press:7

Planning in Context

- Thatcherism 'bonfire'
- Urban Design Campaign
- PPG 1
- Urban Task Force Report
- Spatial Planning

Planning Policy: Town Centres

- PPG 6 & PPS6: Town Centres
  - Concentration versus dispersal
  - Cumulative impact
- Sequential test
- BIDs (Business Improvement Districts)

Attributes of 'Safer Places'
Safer Places: The Planning System & Crime Prevention **Home Office & ODPM 2004**

- **Access & movement**
- **Structure**
- **Surveillance**
- **Ownership**
- **Physical protection**
- **Activity**
- **Management & maintenance**

Safer Places: Advice

- 'Strategies to get most from evening economy'
    - Spreading versus concentration
    - Diversifying the evening economy
    - Getting the transport links right
    - Promoting an 'area management approach', integrating planning and licensing

Critique

- Diversification
  - No evidence
  - Lack of consumer demand
  - Diversification within food and drink offer
- Transport
  - PHV's - lack of powers
  - Viability of bus services

Changes to Planning in response to the Licensing Act 2003

- **Changes in Use Class Orders**

- Nightclubs 'sui generis'

- A3 Restaurants and cafés - For the sale of food and drink for consumption on the premises - restaurants, snack bars and cafes.

- A4 Drinking establishments - Public houses, wine bars or other drinking establishments (but not a night clubs).

- A5 Hot food takeaways - For the sale of hot food for consumption off the premises.
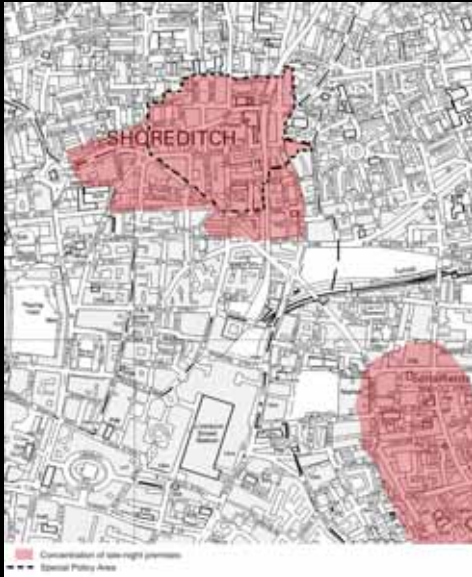
Licensing & Planning

- Separate systems

- Licensing pro-market

- No concept of 'need' in either

- Special policy areas (Licensing Act)

- Planning permission

  - Cannot be revoked

  - Planning conditions

Shoreditch: Integration & Control

- South Shoreditch Special Policy Area
- Conservation
- Independents
- Integrated licensing and planning

Tower Hamlets: Separation

- City Fringe
- Recent expansion licensed premises
- New residential conversions
- Noise, disturbance
- Late hours
- 'Blurring of activity'

Opportunities for Planning

- Re-consideration of 'need'
- Closer integration with licensing
- Controls over licensed premises
  - Implementation in Local Development Framework
    - Application of Use Class Orders
    - Area Action Plans
    - Restriction on frontages

Why is anti-social behaviour in the NTE a marginal issue for planners?

- Problem with 'culture'
- Aspirations for a 'good city'
- Responsibility elsewhere
- Lack of resources