

Doses of irony must be clearly labelled

Cliff Hague's views on how to promote the car culture (*Planning*, 5 September, p18) is helpfully labelled "ironic".

Just as well, since the scenario he paints is remarkably close to the reality of planning practice in the UK and many might take it as being straight.

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If only I had similarly labelled my contribution to the annual British Parking Association conference in March. There, with tongue in cheek, I advocated developer-led parking standards, lower-density development and more town centre car parking to match out-of-town attractions.

My attempted irony was missed not only by the delegates but also by the reporters who wrote notes on the conference in the journals.

John Lockwood's piece (*Planning*, 5 September, p14) prompts the thought that there is a very wide gap between the aspirations of current guidance for more sustainable development solutions and the views of planners and others who would have to deliver them.

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