



The Pipeline

A Newsletter from the Policy and International Relations Department

Volume 3, Issue 3
04 March 2005

RIBA celebrates Olympic architecture, past and future

The RIBA has been host to a number of recent events showcasing the role architecture has played in memorable Olympic years of the past, and demonstrating the crucial role great design is playing in the London bid for 2012.



A range of practices have played a leading role in building the London bid. Some headline projects will go ahead whether London is successful in its bid or not – the new Wembley, Zaha Hadid's stunning aquatics centre, and the world class velodrome. However, if the bid wins in Singapore in the summer, a vast range of projects will utterly change the face of east London.

New public spaces, sporting facilities, housing and transport will be evidence of regeneration at work. The legacy of the London bid, the lasting benefit to local and regional communities, and the future opportunities for the development of British sport all will play a part in the Committee's eventual decision. London looks best placed of all the city bids to ensure a lasting positive contribution from the Games.

In playing its part, the RIBA firstly launched *Capital Spaces: transforming London* with English heritage, receiving good exposure in the media. Capital Spaces celebrates recent examples of renewal of our public

spaces. It also sets out a shared vision for the future of public spaces, leading up to and including the proposals for the 2012 Olympics.

Building the Bid developed the Olympic theme by utilising the exhibition spaces at the RIBA. In Gallery one an exhibition of many of the project models, interactive media and the masterplan designs were presented, while upstairs a series of stunning photos, taken from our own archives, showed the rich history of architecture in the Olympics of the past. To celebrate the exhibitions and the great work being carried out by architects and their partners in the bid team, we also hosted a reception. Well over 100 representatives of the practices, local and regional government, urban professionals and RIBA staff created a real buzz and a fantastic evening.



The work being done by the RIBA and a range of other organisations to support the bid is vital. To be successful, the bid must have quality projects, but must also be shown to have popular support. By raising the profile of architecture in the bid, and by demonstrating the role architects have played in producing such an exciting proposal, we hope we will have played a small part in the future success of London 2012.

For further information please contact Ewan Willars at ewan.willars@inst.riba.org

CABE Bill nears Election deadline

cabe

The Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Bill - which seeks to put CABE on a statutory footing -

is at risk of running out of Parliamentary time as an expected General Election approaches. Although the Bill has completed its Commons stages, it has only just begun its passage through the House of Lords and may not make it in time if Parliament is dissolved in early April for a May poll.

The fate of the Bill currently lies with the Government Whips in the House of Lords who must negotiate the Bill's timetable with other parties. It may be that any uncompleted and uncontroversial business at the time of an election announcement will be rushed through its remaining stages.

Should the Bill fall, CABE will remain a non-statutory body and will continue to operate while waiting for a future legislative slot.

Jack takes procurement message to Labour

President-Elect Jack Pringle went to the Labour Party Spring Conference in Gateshead on 12 February to speak about the importance of design quality in school building procurement. Speaking at a fringe event organised by design enabling organisation School Works, he outlined the problems associated with procurement processes which often fail to take design into account and suggested ways to improve the process and thereby the long term prospects and outcomes for school buildings.

The conference was the Labour Party's last major event before an expected General Election, and was used by the party to launch its pre-election campaign messages.

RIBA talks Europe with House of Lords

The RIBA has been invited to give oral evidence to an influential House of Lords inquiry into the proposed EU Services in the Internal Market Directive on Monday 7 March. Vice-President Aaron Evans and Acting Executive Director of Professional Services Leonie Milliner will give evidence alongside RICS representatives, while at an earlier evidence session RIBA's position will also be put forward by Adrian Joyce from the Architects' Council of Europe.

For further information please contact Steven Harding at steven.harding@inst.riba.org

East meets West at Portland Place

The RIBA recently briefed three Korean journalists on a fact-finding visit to the UK.

Mr Kang-Myoung Chang, Mr Hun-Pyo Hong and Mr Seong-Tae Park arrived at the RIBA on the first day of a whistle-stop tour taking in major projects and RIBA award-winning buildings. The three, who had come with the help of the British Foreign and Commonwealth Office, were particularly interested in the question of urbanism and the UK's expertise in this area. RIBA members Alfred Munkenbeck and Andrew Hanson (from the RIBA's Urbanism Group) briefed them on issues such as mixed-use development and sustainable design, whilst Julyan Wickham gave them an overview of sustainability issues and relevant projects in other countries.

Head of RIBA Awards, Tony Chapman, and President George Ferguson also met the Korean visitors to welcome them to the RIBA and answer one or two tricky questions ('Why are UK architects so much in demand?' was one). The group insisted on having their photograph taken with George before rushing off to visit the British Museum and Norman Foster's Great Court. All agreed the visit had been interesting and worthwhile.

USA Construction Today

On 17 February UK Trade & Investment ran a seminar devoted to the USA construction market. New York-based RIBA member Jonathan Wimpenny was among those making presentations on how to tap into construction projects in the US. A number of architects' practices were represented at the seminar, which also included talks by Norbert Young of McGraw-Hill Construction and the American law firm Pavia and Harcourt on pitfalls to avoid when setting up in the States.

A comprehensive report entitled *USA Construction Today* has been produced for UKTI by David Howell. It contains a great deal of information on construction activity and the US business environment, focusing primarily on New York City and Miami, Florida. Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of the document should contact Sally Welbourn.

Meet the PIR Team!

Director of Policy & International Affairs	Ian Pritchard
Head of Policy	Ewan Willars
Head of Public Affairs	Steven Harding
Client Forums Co-ordinator	David Noel
Policy & Future Studies Co-ordinator	Tamsie Thomson
Council + Board Secretary/International Relations Co-ordinator	Sally Welbourn
Policy & International Relations Administrator	Chloe Sadler
Secretary for Constitutional Affairs	Jane Muir

NHS Estates support workshop on PFI

The RIBA Health Client Forum, in association with NHS Estates, held its second one-day conference on PFI health building design.



Using Cherry Knowle Hospital and The Great Western Hospital Swindon as case studies, the conference examined the briefing process and development of two very different hospitals. Chaired by Bill Murray OBE of NHS Estates, speakers included Chris Farrah of NHS Estates, RIBA Past President Paul Hyett, and Jason Syers of the Prince's Foundation.

Fifty percent of the workshop delegates were non-architects and over a third worked for non-architectural organisations. A majority of the invited trusts are working on new PFI projects.

Delegates questioned the flexibility of hospital design and raised concerns over the importance given to community care and use of technology. The presentations provoked discussion on patient-community involvement in the design process and the need to improve consultation with GPs and nurses with special interests.

Professor Roger Ulrich of Texas A&M University championed the inclusion of evidence-based research in the design costs of future programmes. Several studies have concluded that hospital design has a significant impact on patient recovery, infection rates, work satisfaction and staff turnover. Studies have also concluded that the use of natural daylight and open space has a dramatic effect in alleviating depression. The professor added that several US health journals and organisations have recognised the therapeutic and financial benefits of using evidence based design in the initial briefing process.

For further information please contact David Noel at david.noel@inst.riba.org

School Client Forum visit acclaimed



Chair Bill Murray OBE answers questions from delegates



Chloe and Tamsie welcome delegates during registration

East London Academy

The school client forum convened this month to discuss its objectives for 2005. Following last year's conference on inclusive school design and workshops on specialist teaching spaces, the forum intends to host regional masterclasses and a major conference exploring the following areas:

- Partnership for Schools and the development of LEPs
- Lessons to be learnt from the business academies
- Environment issues- artificial lighting, acoustics and ventilation
- How changes in the curriculum effect school building design



Forum on guided tour of Mossbourne Academy



The committee will continue to meet at new or recently built schools and where possible, the day's programme will include a tour of the building. The last meeting took place at the Mossbourne Academy in London.

Second Client Forum DVD is launched

The Future of Educational Inclusion, a RIBA Client Forum event in association with the DfES and Sport England is now available from the PIR at £25 plus VAT. The event explored accessibility planning, video conferencing and standardised public sports facilities on school grounds. Speakers include Dominic Cullinan of Cullinan & Buck Architects, Nick Peacey of the Institute of Education and Paul Gibbons from Sport England.

For further information please contact David Noel at david.noel@inst.riba.org

Building Futures Reception

Building Futures will be holding a reception, at the RIBA on the 31 March, to celebrate the groundbreaking work already achieved by the project, and to launch the latest project.

John Worthington, the current Chair, will be presenting the latest piece of research, *Implementable Futures*. This research argues for a step-change in strategic thinking, and draws together various strands of 'futures thinking', underlining its potential value to today's planning and policy making.

The event will be an opportunity to meet the team that will propel Building Futures into new areas, fresh ideas, and a promising new round of challenging and thought provoking research. We will be looking for future partners to enable us to deliver the RIBA's exciting set of proposals for the next round of projects. It will also be an opportunity to meet and pay tribute to many of those who have contributed so much over the last few years.

Just in case you missed them, the last three projects undertaken by Building Futures were;

Riding the rapids: urban life in an age of complexity

This, the most recent study, identifies the drivers of change that will shape British cities over the next 20 years. Its goal is to provide a way of thinking about the future and a conceptual framework that helps assess the complexities of overlapping changes.

Housing Futures 2024

This report opens the debate about possible futures; six papers were commissioned to look at the future of housing from different perspectives. Four of the papers are presented as future scenarios set out as stories from a particular perspective. The other two papers point to potential outcomes.



21st Century Schools



+ Drawn from work specially commissioned from Ultralab, this report seeks to provoke debate about the future of school provision, using provocative scenarios to illustrate issues. It explores the changes occurring within education for the 11-18 age range, and the impact that these may have on the built environment.

For further information please contact Tamsie Thomson at tamsie.thomson@inst.riba.org

Policy and International Diary

16 March	Budget
16 March	Council Meeting
17 March	International Committee
21 March	RIBA/LSC Client Forum Conference
22 March	Launch of <i>A Manifesto for Architecture</i> , House of Commons
22 March	Clean Neighbourhood + Environment Bill - House of Lords 2nd Reading
24 March	Parliament rises for Easter recess
31 March	Building Futures Reception

CONTACT US!

Steven Harding	ext. 3728
Chloe Sadler	ext. 3799
David Noel	ext. 3612
Ewan Willars	ext. 3741
Ian Pritchard	ext. 3683
Tamsie Thomson	ext. 3620
Sally Welbourn	ext. 3667