



Barking &
Dagenham

LONDON BOROUGH OF BARKING & DAGENHAM
QUALITY REVIEW PANEL

Terms of reference 2024

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

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1. INTRODUCTION

Barking and Dagenham is committed to ambitious urban regeneration within the borough, with an objective of delivering 50,000 homes over a 20 year period. It is important that new development meets the highest standards of design, while retaining and promoting local distinctiveness and architectural character. This accords with National Planning Policy Framework requirement that: “Development that is not well designed should be refused, especially where it fails to reflect local design policies and government guidance on design, taking into account any local design guidance and supplementary planning documents such as design guides and codes” (Para. 139, NPPF, 2023).

The Barking and Dagenham Quality Review Panel has been established in recognition of the joint commitment made by council members and officers to achieve the highest possible quality of development.

The emerging Local Plan draws together policies that identify high quality design as a key facet of sustainable development, emphasising the importance of good urban design when designing new development, which should seek to reflect and build upon the existing physical, social and cultural assets of the borough.

These policies need to be understood within the particular, unique context of Barking and Dagenham. This will ensure that the ongoing and diverse process of development strengthens and enhances the existing sense of place.

Barking and Dagenham has a rich and diverse architectural heritage, and a proportion of the borough is designated for its historic importance through four conservation areas. forty five buildings and structures in Barking and Dagenham have been awarded statutory listed status for their special historical interest, while 123 buildings and structures are also recorded in a local list for their contribution and importance. In addition, there are 20 Archaeological Priority Areas identified by Historic England. In this context, it is important that new developments respond positively to the historic environment in Barking and Dagenham to reinforce local identity and contribute to its sense of place.

Securing high quality development requires rigorous, early and effective dialogue between all those involved in the development process. Following a dialogue between the council and design professionals and in line with the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), Barking and Dagenham aims to strengthen and expand the capacity for independent expert design review as part of this design process, through the Quality Review Panel.

The purpose of Barking and Dagenham’s Quality Review Panel is not to duplicate or replace existing mechanisms for securing high quality design, but to provide additional expert advice to inform the planning process, in line with Section 12 of the NPPF.

This states that: “Local planning authorities should ensure that they have access to... design advice and review arrangements... These are of most benefit if used as early as possible in the evolution of schemes, and are particularly important for significant projects such as large scale housing and mixed use developments.” (Para. 138, NPPF, 2023).



Anne Mews, Maccreeanor Lavington © Rob Parrish



2. PRINCIPLES OF QUALITY REVIEW

Independent – it is conducted by people who are unconnected with the scheme’s promoters and decision makers, and it ensures that conflicts of interest do not arise.

Expert – the advice is delivered by suitably trained people who are experienced in design, who know how to criticise constructively and whose standing and expertise is widely acknowledged.

Multidisciplinary – the advice combines the different perspectives of architects, urban designers, town planners, landscape architects, engineers and other specialist experts to provide a complete, rounded assessment.

Accountable – the design review panel and its advice must be clearly seen to work for the benefit of the public. This should be ingrained within the panel’s terms of reference.

Transparent – the panel’s remit, membership, governance processes and funding should always be in the public domain.

Proportionate – it is used on projects whose significance, either at local or national level, warrants the investment needed to provide the service.

Timely – it takes place as early as possible in the design process, because this can avoid a great deal of wasted time. It also costs less to make changes at an early stage.

Advisory – a design review panel does not make decisions, but it offers impartial advice for the people who do.

Objective – it appraises schemes according to reasoned, objective criteria rather than the stylistic tastes of individual panel members.

Accessible – its findings and advice are clearly expressed in terms that design teams, decision makers and clients can all understand and make use of.

Design Review: Principles and Practice
Design Council CABE / Landscape Institute / RTPI / RIBA (2013)



Gascoigne West Phase 1, White Arkitekter © Paul Riddle



3. LONDON QUALITY REVIEW CHARTER

The Barking and Dagenham Quality Review Panel process is run in accordance with the London Design Review Charter.

High quality – delivered in a manner that accords with the Design Council CABE / Landscape Institute / RTPI / RIBA guide, which calls for reviews to be independent, expert, multidisciplinary, accountable, transparent, proportionate, timely, advisory, objective and available.

Representative and inclusive – reflecting London’s diverse population and seeking to promote inclusive buildings and places.

Based on clear review objectives – which provide terms of reference available to all parties, making clear the outcomes, priorities, challenges and objectives of the review, applicable to the given place and project constraints.

Allied to the decision making process – with the outputs of the design review being made available to the appropriate decision makers, with commitments sought that review outcomes will be taken into account by decision makers as part of a wider design management process.

Even handed, independent – informed by an understanding of the reality of the project, the views of the client, local authority, community and other relevant stakeholders, but providing independent advice.

Proportionate – recognising the need for different review formats and costs for larger or smaller schemes.

Consistent – with the same standards of delivery. On occasions when other reviews have taken place (including by other panels), panellists should be made aware of the previous advice.

Collaborative – with other quality review users and providers to promote best practice London wide, to maintain consistent standards, and if appropriate share resources such as a pool of panellists.

Regularly evaluated – with the aim of building a consistent process to monitor and evaluate the success of design review across London.

About the charter

The charter has been developed by the Greater London Authority (GLA) with input from those running and using panels, as well as from reviewers. Signatories agree to the principles that the charter sets out, and to provide or use design review in a manner that is consistent with its contents.

Full details of the London Charter for Design Review are available via the following link.

www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/ggbd_london_design_review_charter_jan22.pdf



Short Blue Place © Patel Taylor



4. PANEL COMPOSITION

The Quality Review Panel brings together professional experts from a variety of fields. It is made up of around 30 members, including the chair. Panel members are chosen to provide a broad range of expertise with particular relevance to Barking and Dagenham, including:

- architecture
- civil / structural engineering
- community engagement
- conservation / heritage townscape
- environmental sustainability
- industrial and warehouse development
- landscape architecture
- urban design / town planning

Many of those appointed to the Quality Review Panel have expertise and experience in more than one of these areas. The composition of each panel meeting is chosen as far as possible to suit the scheme being reviewed, as well as considering gender balance and diversity.

Membership of the Quality Review Panel is reviewed regularly (at least once a year), to ensure that it provides all the necessary expertise, experience and diversity to undertake its work effectively.

From time to time, it may be of benefit for specialist advice to be provided beyond the panel membership. In such cases, a professional with the relevant expertise may be invited to attend a meeting, with the status of an adviser to the panel.



Barking Riverside site visit © Frame Projects



A House for Artists, Apparata © Ståle Eriksen

5. PANEL REMIT

The Quality Review Panel provides independent, objective, expert advice on development proposals across Barking and Dagenham. It provides advice to scheme promoters and the planning authority as a 'critical friend' to support delivery of high quality development.

Generally, schemes are referred to the panel by planning officers at an early stage to identify and consider the key assumptions of the proposed design. The independent advice given by the panel is likely to be most effective when given before a scheme becomes too fixed. Early engagement with the Quality Review Panel should reduce the risk of delay at application stage, by ensuring that designs reach an acceptable standard.

The panel's advice may assist the planning authority in negotiating design improvements and may support decision making by the planning committee, including refusal of planning permission where design quality is not of a sufficiently high standard.

The panel considers significant development proposals in Barking and Dagenham. Significance may fall into the following categories.

Significance related to size or use, for example:

- large buildings or groups of buildings
- infrastructure projects such as bridges or transport hubs
- large public realm proposals
- masterplans, design codes or design guidance

Significance related to site, for example:

- proposals affecting sensitive views
- developments with a major impact on their context
- schemes involving significant public investment

Projects may also be referred to the panel by the planning authority at its discretion, for example where it requires advice on:

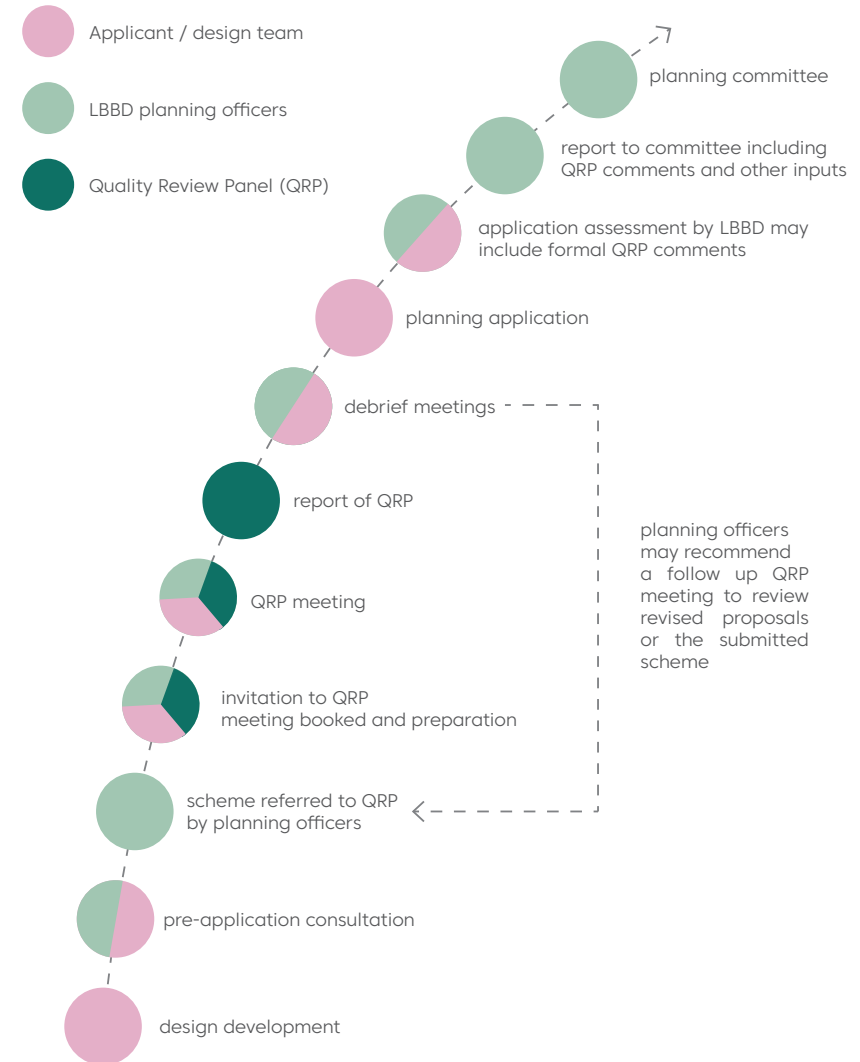
- building typologies, for example single aspect dwellings
- environmental sustainability
- design for climate change adaptation and mitigation
- proposals likely to establish a precedent for future development
- developments out of the ordinary in their context
- schemes with significant impacts on the quality of everyday life
- landscape / public space design

When a proposal is at a pre-application stage, the report is not made public and is only shared with the Council, the applicant and design team, and any other stakeholder bodies that the Council has consulted on the project.

If the proposal is reviewed at an application stage, the report will be a public document and published on the Council's website. Where the final review of a scheme takes place at a pre-application stage, the report of this meeting may also be made public once an application is submitted.

A diagram showing the role of the Quality Review Panel in the planning process is shown opposite.

Quality review in the planning process



6. ROLE OF THE QUALITY REVIEW PANEL

The Barking and Dagenham Quality Review Panel provides independent and impartial advice on development proposals, at the request of planning officers, and plays an advisory role in the planning process.

Reviews can be arranged for schemes from RIBA Stage 2 (concept design) onwards, providing advice to the applicant and the planning authority.

It is for planning officers and the planning committee to decide what weight to place on the panel's comments, balanced with other planning considerations. Applicants should consult planning officers following a review to agree how to respond to the panel's advice.

If any points made by the panel require clarification, it is the responsibility of the applicant and their design team to draw this to the attention of the chair of the panel (if during the meeting) or the panel manager, Frame Projects, (if the report requires clarification).

7. INDEPENDENCE CONFIDENCE & PROBITY

The Quality Review Panel is an independent and impartial service provided by Frame Projects, an external consultancy, and is funded independently of the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham. Applicants are referred to the panel by the planning authority and fees are paid by the applicant to Frame Projects.

The processes for managing the Quality Review Panel, appointing members, including the selection of the chair, and the administration of meetings are agreed in partnership with Be First on behalf of the borough.

Panel members shall keep confidential all information acquired in the course of their role on the panel, with the exception of reports that are in the public domain.

Further details are provided in the confidentiality procedure included at Appendix A.

8. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Quality Review Panel is intended to provide a constructive forum for applicants, their project teams, and planning officers seeking advice and guidance on development proposals.

In order to ensure the Quality Review Panel's independence and professionalism, it is essential that members avoid any actual or perceived conflicts of interest that may arise in relation to schemes considered during the meetings that they attend. Minimising the potential for conflicts of interest will be important to the impartiality of the Quality Review Panel.

Members are asked to ensure that any possible conflicts of interest are identified at an early stage, and that appropriate action is taken to resolve them.

Meeting agendas provided in advance of reviews will include sufficient project information to allow any potential conflicts of interest to be identified and declared.

In cases where there is a conflict, a member may be asked to step down from a review. In other cases, a declaration of interest may be sufficient. If in doubt, members should contact Frame Projects to discuss this.

Further details on the process for managing conflicts of interest are provided at Appendix B.

9. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION

As a public authority, the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act). All requests made to the borough for information with regard to the Quality Review Panel will be handled according to the provisions of the Act. Legal advice may be required on a case by case basis to establish whether any exemptions apply under the Act.



Courtyard Housing for Be First, Patel Taylor, Sunday Times British Home Awards 2015

10. TYPES OF REVIEW

Four types of review are offered:

- a formal review - for schemes with greater impact
- a chair's review - for schemes with more localised impact, or for some previously reviewed schemes
- a workshop review - for schemes at a very early design stage
- surgery reviews - for very small schemes or discharge of planning conditions

FORMAL REVIEWS

The chair and four panel members attend a formal review.

In addition to planning officers, other relevant stakeholders, for example Historic England or Transport for London, may be invited to attend and asked to give their views after the scheme has been presented.

Formal reviews usually take place at a stage when an applicant and design team have decided their preferred option for development of a site, and have sufficient drawings and models to inform a comprehensive discussion.

In advance of the formal review, panel members attend a 15 minute briefing with planning officers on the policy context, and issues arising from pre-application discussions.

At the start of the formal review, planning officers will summarise their panel briefing. The scheme will then be presented by a member of the design team, normally the lead architect, following a brief introduction by the applicant.

Presentations may be made with drawings and / or pdf or PowerPoint and models, as appropriate. At least one printed copy of the presentation should be provided, for ease of reference during the panel discussion.

Time allocated for formal reviews will depend on the scale of the project but a typical formal review will last 90 minutes: 10 minutes introductions and briefing by planning officers; 25 minutes presentation; 55 minutes discussion and summing up by the chair.

Large projects, for example schemes with several development plots, may be split into smaller elements for the purposes of review, to ensure that each component receives adequate time for discussion.



The Granary, Pollard Thomas Edwards © Tim Crocker



WORKSHOP REVIEWS

Typically, the chair and two panel members will attend workshop reviews.

This review format is intended to provide support for development proposals at an early design stage, for example to provide advice on development strategy, design team procurement, and feasibility studies. The meeting will be more discursive in nature than a formal review and a report will be produced.

A panel site visit will be included on the first occasion a scheme is reviewed. In addition to Be First officers, other relevant stakeholders may attend the meeting, so that their views can inform the panel discussion.

In advance of the review, panel members attend a 15 minute briefing with planning officers on the policy context, and issues arising from pre-application discussions.

At the start of the workshop review, planning officers will summarise their panel briefing. The scheme will then be presented by a member of the design team, normally the lead architect, following a brief introduction by the applicant. Presentations may be made with drawings and / or pdf or PowerPoint and models, as appropriate.

Time allocated for a workshop review will depend on the specific project but a typical meeting will last 75 minutes: 10 minutes introductions and briefing by Be First officers; 20 minutes presentation; 45 minutes discussion and summing up by the chair.

CHAIR'S REVIEWS

The chair and one panel member will attend chair's reviews.

Chair's reviews may be arranged for smaller development proposals, or schemes previously presented at a formal review.

Planning officers will be invited, but other stakeholders will not normally attend. However, the planning case officer may brief the panel on any comments made by other stakeholders.

For schemes that are the subject of a current planning application, the presentation should be based on the submitted drawings and documents, either paper copies or as a pdf or PowerPoint. At least one paper copy of the presentation should be provided, for ease of reference during the panel discussion.

In advance of the review, panel members attend a 15 minute briefing with planning officers on the policy context, and issues arising from pre-application discussions.

At the start of the chair's review, planning officers will summarise their panel briefing. The scheme will then be presented by a member of the design team, normally the lead architect, following a brief introduction by the applicant.

A typical chair's review will last 60 minutes: 10 minutes introductions and briefing by planning officers; 15 minutes presentation; 35 minutes discussion and summing up by the chair.

SURGERY REVIEWS

The chair and one panel member will attend surgery reviews.

Very small schemes, or schemes where planning officers request the panel's advice on discharge of planning conditions, may be more suited to a surgery review. A flexible approach to presentation methods will allow for pin up of drawings / discussions around a table / PowerPoint presentations, as appropriate.

A typical surgery review will last 40 minutes: 10 minutes introductions and briefing by planning officers; 15 minutes presentation; 15 minutes discussion and summing up by the chair.

A surgery review will be summarised in a brief document no more than two sides of A4, rather than a full report.

RETURNING SCHEMES

On occasion, officers may determine that more than one review is required at pre-application stage. For example, a first review may take place at a strategic design stage, with a further review once more detailed designs are available.

Any subsequent reviews will be charged for at the applicable rate (detailed in Section 15).





The Wilds Ecology Centre, Jestico + Whiles © Frame Projects

11. SITE VISITS

Wherever possible, a site visit will be arranged for formal and chair's reviews (unless a site visit has already taken place before an earlier review of the scheme). All panel members participating in the review are required to attend. Unless informed otherwise, Frame Projects assumes consent for photographs taken on site or at review meetings to be used on its website and in other publications.

Panel members, representatives of the local planning authority and members of the applicant team should maintain care and awareness of potential hazards for themselves and other attendees during site visits. All those involved should take appropriate action to alert the party of potential risks so that the visit can be paused or terminated if necessary. It is the responsibility of applicant teams to notify Frame Projects in advance of a review meeting if PPE is required on site.

12. MEETING DATES

One Quality Review Panel meeting is provisionally arranged for each month. These may be used for either formal, chair's or surgery reviews as appropriate. Exceptionally, additional meetings may be required to accommodate the number of schemes requiring a review and / or to meet key dates for specific schemes.

The following dates are currently set for Quality Review Panel meetings during 2024:

- 25 January
- 29 February
- 28 March
- 25 April
- 30 May
- 27 June
- 25 July
- 29 August
- 26 September
- 31 October
- 28 November
- 19 December





Gascoigne East Phase 2 , White Arkitekter © Paul Riddle © Paul Riddle

13. REVIEW AGENDAS

Agendas will be issued to panel members in advance of each review.

For formal and chair's reviews, a detailed agenda will be provided that includes notes on the planning context, details of the scheme(s) to be considered, applicant and consultant team.

Information provided by the planning officer will include relevant planning history and planning policies that officers consider essential for assessing the scheme. Advice may be specifically sought on design quality assessed against these policies.

A scheme description provided by the design team will set out factual information about the project. Selected plans and images of the project will also be provided to help to give a sense of the scope and nature of the project under review.

For workshop and surgery reviews, the agenda will be briefer, providing details of the scheme(s) to be considered, applicant and consultant team.

Where a scheme returns for a second or subsequent review, the report of the previous review will be provided with the agenda.



14. PANEL REPORTS

During the Quality Review Panel meeting the panel manager will take notes of the discussion - these form the basis of panel reports. Reports will be drafted, agreed with the chair, and issued within 10 working days.

At pre-application stage, reports will provide clear, independent advice on ways in which the quality of development proposals could be improved, referring where appropriate to the borough's planning policies in relation to expectations of high quality design.

The Quality Review Panel has an advisory role in Barking and Dagenham's planning process, and the project team should consult planning officers following a review to agree how to respond to points raised in the report.

Once planning applications are submitted, the report may provide guidance to Barking and Dagenham's Planning Committee in determining the planning application. This may include suggesting planning conditions or refusal of planning permission if the design quality is not of an acceptably high standard.

Quality Review Panel reports may be included in committee reports on planning application schemes - in which case Barking and Dagenham's planning officers will place these in the context of other planning matters, which the panel's advice neither replaces nor overrules.

If the proposal is reviewed at an application stage the report will be a public document kept within the proposal's case file and published on Barking and Dagenham Council's website. Where the final review of a scheme takes place at a pre-application stage, the report of this meeting may also be made public once an application is submitted.

At the end of each year, the Quality Review Panel manager will draft an annual report to evaluate panel process and monitor adherence to the London Design Review Charter's principles. This will be a brief document describing and reflecting on the panel's activities over the past year - ensuring that, where possible, a full range of panel members is used over the course of the year, and that the panel as a whole remains representative of the diversity of London's population.

As part of this annual review process, a meeting will be held with the planning authority and the panel chair to discuss the report and consider any recommendations for the following year.



Barking Riverside © Sheppard Robson, photography by Simon Kennedy / Sunday Times British Homes Awards 2013 - Development of the Year



15. QUALITY REVIEW PANEL CHARGES

The charges for Quality Review Panel meetings are benchmarked against comparable panels providing quality review services in London, such as quality review panels in the London Boroughs of Haringey, Newham and Waltham Forest, and the London Legacy Development Corporation.

Current charges for Barking and Dagenham Quality Review Panel meetings are:

- £4,950 + VAT formal review
- £3,650 + VAT workshop review
- £2,750 + VAT chair's review
- £1,650 + VAT surgery review

Applicants are referred to the Quality Review Panel by the planning authority as an external service and fees are paid by the applicant to Frame Projects for delivering this service. The cost of venue hire, if required, would be in addition to the charges above.

Payment should be made in advance of the review, and the review may be cancelled if payment is not received five days before the meeting. Full details will be provided when an invitation to the Quality Review Panel is confirmed.

Where a scheduled review is subsequently cancelled or postponed by the applicant, an administrative charge will be applied:

- 50% of full cost : less than two weeks before scheduled review
- £725 + VAT : between two and four weeks before scheduled review



Barking Central © AHMM, photography by Timothy Soar
RIBA Award for Architecture 2011 / New London Award Joint Overall Winner 2011
London Planning Awards - Best New Public Space 2010



16. QUALITY REVIEW PANEL MEMBERSHIP

The Barking and Dagenham Quality Review Panel brings together 32 professionals, covering a range of disciplines and expertise. For each review, members will be selected from among the people listed below, according to the requirements of the project being reviewed.



Neil Deely (chair)
Architect and urban designer
Founding Partner, Metropolitan Workshop

Neil Deely has expertise in the design of complex mixed-use projects for both public and private sector clients. Current key projects include Nationwide Building Society's first housing scheme in Swindon, the Somerleyton Road housing led mixed use scheme for Lambeth Council, and the regeneration of Lambeth's Westbury Estate. He has chaired the London Borough of Newham's Design Review Panel since 2012 and is also a member of the London Legacy Development Corporation Quality Review Panel.
www.network.co.uk



Jennifer Ross (vice chair)
Town planner and urban designer
Founding Director and Consultant, Tibbalds
Planning and Urban Design

Jennifer Ross has more than 30 years' experience advising both the public and private sectors on a wide range of building specific and large scale planning and masterplanning projects. She has completed complex regeneration projects and estate renewal projects, including the Elephant and Castle, Canada Water, Brentford Lock West and the Colville and Kings Crescent Estates in Hackney. She has won a number of awards throughout her career, the most recent being the William Sutton Prize for Social Housing and Placemaking in 2018.
www.tibbalds.co.uk



Nimi Attanayake
Architect and landscape designer
Founding Director, nimitim

Nimi Attanayake is director and co-founder of nimitim architects, starting the practice in 2014. A qualified garden and landscape designer, she leads nimitim landscapes and organises school engagement work across London. Nimi is a judge for the Architects' Journal and Surface Design Awards, a steering member for the RIBA Guerrilla Tactics conference programme, and an external examiner at Manchester University. She is also a member of the Camden Design Review Panel and was recognised as one of the Architects' Journal's '40 under 40' in 2020.
www.nimitim.co.uk





Tim Bell

Architect

Founding Director, Bell Phillips Architects

In 2004, Tim Bell founded Bell Phillips Architects with Hari Phillips after winning a competition to improve the Brooks Road estate in Plaistow, East London. It has become a multi award-winning practice focusing on housing in both the affordable and private sectors. Principal projects include: a 970-home estate regeneration in Hounslow, and De Gamla Kullagerfabrikerna comprising mixed-use regeneration of a factory complex in Gothenburg, Sweden.
www.bellphillips.com



Riccardo Bobisse

Urban designer

Director, AR Urbanism

Riccardo Bobisse is a director at AR Urbanism. He is an urbanist with a multi-disciplinary background in regeneration and design and over 20 years of experience in the UK and overseas. He specialises in complex brownfield masterplans and infrastructure-led projects. Riccardo has a strong interest in new mobility and disruptive technologies and their impact on the built environment.
www.ar-urbanism.com



Mitch Cooke

Sustainability expert

Director, Greengage Environmental

Mitch Cooke has a degree in ecology and masters in environmental management and assessment. He has been involved in corporate sustainability for over 30 years, providing advice and support in aligning business activities with responsible environmental management. He is a sustainability board member for British Property Federation, member of Enfield Council's Design Review Panel, mentor for the Urban Land Institute Young Leaders programme, and also a mentor at University of Westminster.
www.greengage-env.com





Irene Craik
Architect
Director, Levitt Bernstein

Irene Craik leads new housing and estate regeneration schemes for a variety of clients, ranging from infill sites to large masterplans. Her specialism is in older people's and intergenerational housing, and includes research in that field. Irene has contributed to performing arts buildings and community projects that often incorporate the creative re-use of historic buildings. Many of her projects involve significant engagement with local communities.
www.levittbernstein.co.uk



Nikolai Delvendahl
Architect
Partner, Delvendahl Martin Architects

Nikolai Delvendahl has substantial experience of designing high quality residential and mixed use developments in urban contexts. Recent projects include the design of creative workspaces at Royal Albert Wharf, and Ice House Court in Barking, a studio space for up to 25 artists. He is a member of the Hackney Design Review Panel, and teaches at the University of Cambridge.
www.dm-architects.co.uk



Jennette Emery-Wallis
Landscape architect
Director of Landscape Architecture, LUC

Jennette Emery-Wallis has over 20 years' experience in landscape design, including historic landscapes, masterplanning, housing, mixed use development, play design and education. She has worked on complex design projects, often within sensitive sites, requiring creative solutions. Her multiple-award-winning work includes the Diana, Princess of Wales memorial playground in Kensington Gardens and Tumbling Bay, the first 2012 Olympics legacy project.
www.landuse.co.uk





Jeff Field

Town planner and chartered surveyor
Planning Director, Lambert Smith Hampton

Jeff Field is a chartered town planner and surveyor, with more than 35 years' experience across London and the South East. His work combines urban planning skills with a strong understanding of urban design and commercial viability. He has worked across property sectors and on schemes that have won design or heritage awards, and often acts as an Expert Witness on planning or CPO related matters.
www.lsh.co.uk



Daisy Froud

Community engagement expert
Freelance Consultant

Daisy Froud is a community engagement and co-design strategist with more than 20 years' experience. She designs tools and processes to help ensure that the knowledge and creativity of communities and users has a fundamental influence on decision making within the built environment. Daisy is a lecturer at The Bartlett School of Architecture, a Mayor's Design Advocate for the Greater London Authority, and chair of London Borough of Ealing's Community Review Panel and London Borough of Camden's Euston Residents Advisory Group.



Dr Julie Futcher

Sustainability expert
Co-founder, Urban Generation

Julie Futcher is an architect and urbanist. She is an independent consultant on climate responsive urbanism to promote healthy environments that encourage more sustainable urban practice, with a focus on the impacts of tall buildings in cities. She has developed novel approaches to linking urban design with the experience of pedestrians. She has also participated on scientific teams concerned with various aspects of urban refurbishment and regeneration, including developing tools essential for the successful integration of low energy technologies at the urban scale.





Richard Harvey
Architect
Partner, PRP

Richard Harvey has particular expertise in design conception and project development. He has over 20 years' experience in the housing sector and has worked on many award-winning schemes ranging in scale and tenure from four to 5,000 homes, estate regeneration, urban regeneration, affordable housing, developer housing and build to rent. He has a thorough understanding and experience of the issues and aspirations of residents, clients and the community at all stages in the design and delivery process.
www.prp-co.uk



Sabine Hogenhout
Sustainability expert and architect
Design Director, KLH Sustainability

Sabine Hogenhout has worked internationally as an architect and combines a broad sustainability knowledge with a deep understanding of architecture, heritage and master planning. In 2019 she joined KLH Sustainability, directing her focus entirely towards steering the construction industry towards a more sustainable future. Sabine is also a member of the Tower Hamlets Quality Review Panel and, teaches sustainable design as a visiting associate lecturer at the School of Architecture at the University of Reading.
www.klhsustainability.com



Shaun Ihejeto
Architect
Founding Director, West Port Architects

Shaun Ihejeto founded West Port in 2016, a growing practice whose dual focus is the design of contextual, considerate architecture and opening the profession to all. Shaun has a breadth of range in the architectural industry from small-scale housing schemes to major infrastructure projects. His architectural knowledge covers all aspects of history, concept, design and delivery. West Port Architects was recognised as one of the Architects' Journal's "40 under 40" in 2020.
www.westportarchitects.co.uk





Dushyant Karnik

Sustainability and building physics expert
Principal Sustainability Consultant, QODA Consulting

With a background in architecture, renewable building services and building physics, Dushyant Karnik has worked on several low energy and Passivhaus schemes across the UK, advocating for the fabric first approach to deliver net zero developments while maintaining a balance between energy reduction, occupant comfort and wellbeing. Dushyant specialises in decarbonisation of historic listed buildings, and sustainability and net zero strategies for new builds. He is a certified Passivhaus designer and is part of the 'Cost of EnerPHit' technical working group at the UK Passivhaus Trust.
www.qodaconsulting.com



Jonathan Kendall

Urban designer and architect
Partner, Fletcher Priest Architects

Jonathan Kendall has substantial experience of designing high profile, large scale urban projects. For more than a decade he led the design of the Stratford City masterplan, one of Europe's largest regeneration projects, which now sits at the heart of the Queen Elizabeth Olympic Park. He is also a senior teaching fellow and professional examiner at the Bartlett School of Architecture, University College London.
www.fletcherpriest.com



Lucas Lawrence

Architect with expertise in industrial land
Director, Studio Egret West

Lucas Lawrence has 17 years' experience working at a variety of scales and building uses, from mixed-use masterplanning to the individual building design and, more recently, leading schemes that explore the future of multi-level industrial spaces. He led academic work looking at the future of industry and workplace in the city ([RE]-Working London and Well-Worked), collaborating with academics, engineers and other designers to create exhibitions, talks and research. Lucas is also a member of the Havering Quality Review Panel.
www.studioegretwest.com





Jonas Lencer
Architect
Director, dRMM

Jonas Lencer manages the strategic development of the practice and oversees the design, construction and delivery of a portfolio of high-profile projects. These include Eddington Hotel, WorkStack, Faraday House at Battersea Power Station and the Aylesham Centre. His speciality is combining design concepts with innovative construction techniques including Design for Manufacture and Assembly (DfMA), prefabrication and engineered timber. In 2017 the practice won the RIBA Stirling Prize for Hastings Pier..
www.drmm.co.uk



Louise Mansfield
Urban designer and town planner
Director, Allies and Morrison

Louise Mansfield leads the preparation of multi-disciplinary urban design strategies, masterplans, planning and design guidance, and character studies at a range of scales from site to sub-region. Much of her work focuses on the relationships between the social and spatial, and the implications of these for neighbourhood design, and on character and the importance of built and social heritage in informing future development. Community and stakeholder engagement are central to all her projects.
www.alliesandmorrison.com



Robin Nicholson
Architect
Fellow, Cullinan Studio

Robin Nicholson RIBA is Fellow of Cullinan Studio with a special interest in design for the climate emergency. He is convenor of The Edge, chair of the Cambridgeshire Quality Panel, and a member of NHBC Foundation Expert Panel. He has been Vice-President of the RIBA, and was a founder member of the Movement for Innovation Board. He was awarded a CBE in 1999, an Honorary Fellowship of the Institution of Structural Engineers in 2002, and an Honorary Fellowship of Chartered Institute of Building Services in 2013.
www.cullinanstudio.com





John O'Mara

Architect

Projects Director, Herzog & de Meuron

As UK Projects Director for Herzog & de Meuron John O'Mara has been responsible for the design and delivery of the Tate Modern extension, the Blavatnik School of Government, Oxford, and the Canary Wharf One Park Drive residential building. Current projects include the new Royal College of Art studio and research facility in Battersea. He is also a member of the London Legacy Development Corporation Quality Review Panel, and is a visiting critic at the University of Cambridge.

www.herzogdemeuron.com



Tricia Patel

Architect

Partner, Pollard Thomas Edwards

Tricia Patel is a partner and design team leader at Pollard Thomas Edwards, with more than 30 years' experience in housing, mixed use and regeneration projects. Tricia has led and delivered a number of award-winning, residential projects across London and the south of England. In recent years she has worked extensively on outer London borough projects at concept, planning and delivery stages. Tricia has also taken a leading role in PTE's approach to social value and community /stakeholder engagement. Tricia is member of the Bromley Design Review Panel.

www.pollardthomasedwards.co.uk



Sanaa Shaikh

Architect

Founder, Native Studio

Sanaa Shaikh is an architect with experience leading large-scale commercial and residential projects. Born and raised in London, she has worked on schemes to encourage community engagement in the built environment, aiming to holistically integrate buildings, places and landscape with the urban grain. Sanaa is a Design Council Expert, a trustee at Beam – a Public Arts Commissioning group, and co-lead at research collective DECOSM. She also lectures at a number of universities, and is a member of the Brent and Newham Quality Review Panels.

www.nativestudio.space





Neha Tayal

Urban designer and masterplanner
Director of Places, Local Government, Arcadis

Neha Tayal is a trained architect, with 17 years' delivery experience of mixed-use masterplans, garden communities, urban extensions, town centre strategies, design codes and guidelines. At Arcadis, she steers a number of complex regeneration projects through the statutory development management process, delivering high-quality outcomes for local authorities. Neha is a guest tutor at the Bartlett School of Planning, and a contributing member of several design review panels, including the Haringey Quality Review Panel.
www.arcadis.com



Robert Townshend

Landscape architect
Founder, Townshend Landscape Architects

Townshend Landscape Architects was founded by Robert Townshend in 1988 and has established a reputation for delivering high quality public realm schemes across a wide range of scales, both in the UK and internationally. The practice is responsible for several notable projects such as Granary Square at King's Cross, London, and Brindley Place in Birmingham.
www.townshendla.com



Susanne Tutsch

Architect and child-friendly design expert
Director, Erect Architecture

Susanne Tutsch is a founding director of Erect Architecture, an architecture, public realm and play design practice with a strong commitment to social value, health and wellbeing. She has experience designing for the education, community, leisure and landscape sectors and has developed an expertise in child-friendly cities, which led her to co-author the GLA's Good Growth publication 'Making London Child-Friendly'. Susanne has taught at various architecture schools and is a critic and juror for RIBA Awards and Hackney Design Awards.
www.erectarchitecture.co.uk





David Ubaka
Urban designer
Director, David Ubaka Placemakers

David Ubaka is an architect and urban designer, with 25 years' experience working in both the private and public sectors. He has been the managing director of his practice since 2012, and has architectural, public realm and street design, policy document creation and urban regeneration expertise. He previously worked for Transport for London as Head of Design. He is a member of both the Haringey and Havering Quality Review Panels.
www.davidubakaplacemakers.co.uk



Tatiana von Preussen
Architect
Co-founder and Director, vPPR Architects

Tatiana von Preussen co-founded vPPR Architects in 2009, a women-led architecture practice built on original and equitable design. vPPR focuses on designing for cultural, residential, office, public realm and education clients, and has won several awards including Emerging Woman Architect of the Year in 2015. Tatiana has taught studios at Columbia University and the Architectural Association, and is also a member of the Tower Hamlets Quality Review Panel.
www.vppr.co.uk



Rob Wells
Landscape architect
Senior Landscape Architect, Arup

Rob Wells is a landscape architect with experience encompassing a range of projects at varying scales including large-scale infrastructure, public realm, residential and mixed-used developments. In practice he promotes a collaborative and integrated approach and his work is underpinned by sustainable landscape principles. He is a passionate advocate for the long-term benefits of landscape architecture and its potential to address the complex environmental and social issues that our communities face.
www.arup.com





Julia Xu

Architect, heritage and transport expert
Associate, Skidmore Owings & Merrill

Julia Xu has extensive experience in complex major developments in both private and public sectors. She has been involved in a number of high profile projects, including HS2 Euston, Heathrow, Crossrail Bond Street Station, and 72 and 36 Whitehall. She is a member of the Construction History Society and a visiting critic at the École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne. Julia also sits on the Barking and Dagenham Quality Review Panel.
www.som.com



Gus Zogolovitch

Community engagement / custom build expert
Managing Director, Unboxed Homes

With more than 25 years' experience in design-led property development, Gus Zogolovitch runs the multi award-winning custom build developer, Unboxed Homes, which gives people a say and a role in the design of their own homes. He chairs the custom build developer group, sits on the NaCSBA Executive Committee, and is a special adviser to the Right to Build Task force. He has also co-written a book, 'how to be an architect developer', which was published by the RIBA in 2023.
www.unboxedhomes.com



17 KEY REFERENCES

Relevant Barking and Dagenham council documents

Core Strategy 2010

www.lbbd.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2022-08/Adopted-Core-Strategy_0.pdf

Proposed Site Allocations 2021

yourcall.befirst.london/13753/widgets/39553/documents/21410

Borough Wide Development Policies Development Plan Document 2011

www.lbbd.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2022-09/Borough-Wide-Development-Policies-DPD.pdf

Barking Town Centre Regeneration Strategy 2020-2030

yourcall.befirst.london/13753/widgets/39553/documents/21209

Draft Proposals Map 2021

yourcall.befirst.london/13753/widgets/39553/documents/21411

Barking and Dagenham Draft Local Plan 2037 Regulation 19 Consultation version, September 2020

www.lbbd.gov.uk/local-plan-review

Further planning documents including Conservation Area Appraisals and SPD's can be accessed via the planning guidance and policies web page:

www.lbbd.gov.uk/planning-building-control-and-local-land-charges/planning-guidance-and-policies

Relevant Greater London Authority documents

Good Growth by Design

www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/good_growth_web.pdf

Delivering Quality Homes Handbook

www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/mol_delivering_quality_homes_handbook_draftnovember2021.pdf

Principles of design review

Design Review: Principles and Practice, Design Council

www.designcouncil.org.uk/fileadmin/uploads/dc/Documents/Design%20Review_Principles%20and%20Practice_May2019.pdf



APPENDIX A

Procedure regarding confidentiality

The Barking and Dagenham Quality Review Panel provides a constructive and reliable forum for applicants and their design teams to seek guidance at an early stage, where the panel's advice can have the most impact. It is therefore essential that appropriate levels of confidentiality are maintained. The following procedure shall apply.

1. Panel meetings are only to be attended by panel members, Be First officers, and officers from stakeholder organisations involved in the project, for example statutory consultees, as well as the applicant and their design team. If any additional individual is to attend, this should be approved by the Quality Review Panel manager.
2. At all times panel members shall keep strictly confidential all information acquired during the course of their role on the panel and shall not use that information for their own benefit, nor disclose it to any third party (with the exception of reports that are in the public domain – see points 5 and 6).
3. The panel's advice is provided in the form of a report written by the Quality Review Panel manager, containing key points arrived at in discussion by the panel. If any applicant, architect or agent approaches a panel member for advice on a scheme subject to review (before, during or after), then they should decline to comment and refer the inquiry to the panel manager.
4. Following the meeting, the Quality Review Panel manager will write a draft report, circulate it to the chair for comments and then make any amendments. The final report will then be distributed to all relevant stakeholders.
5. If the proposal is at a pre-application stage, the report is not made public and is only shared with Be First, the applicant and design team, and any other stakeholder bodies that Be First has consulted on the project.
6. If the proposal is reviewed at an application stage, the report will be a public document kept within the proposal's case file and published on Barking and Dagenham Council's website. Where the final review of a scheme takes place at a pre-application stage, the report of this meeting may also be made public once an application is submitted.
7. If a panel member wishes to share any Quality Review Panel report with a third party, they must seek approval from the Quality Review Panel manager, who will confirm whether or not the report is public.



APPENDIX B

Procedure regarding conflicts of interest

To ensure the integrity and impartiality of advice given by the Quality Review Panel, potential conflicts of interest will be checked before each review meeting. The following process will apply.

1. All panel members will be required to declare any conflicts of interest.
2. Panel members are notified of the schemes coming before the panel at least a week before the review. It is expected that at this time panel members should declare any possible interest in a project to the Quality Review Panel manager.
3. The Quality Review Panel manager, in collaboration with the panel chair and Barking and Dagenham staff will determine if the conflict of interest requires the panel member to step down from the meeting, or if a declaration of interest would be sufficient.
4. In general, a panel member should not attend a review meeting if they have:
 - a financial, commercial or professional interest in a project that will be reviewed, its client and / or its site;
 - a financial, commercial or professional interest in a project, its client and / or a site that is adjacent to the project that will be reviewed or upon which the project being reviewed will have a material impact;
 - a personal relationship with an individual or group involved in the project, or a related project, where that relationship prevents the panel member from being objective.
5. Specific examples include: current work with the client for the project being reviewed; current design work on a neighbouring site; previous involvement in a procurement process to appoint a design team for the project.
6. Personal interests that should be declared, but which would not normally prevent a panel member participating in a review, might include current work with a member of the consultant team for a project that will be reviewed. In this situation, the interest will be noted at the beginning of the review, discussed with the presenting design teams and formally recorded in the review report.
7. If, subsequent to a review of a scheme in which a panel member has participated, they are approached by any applicant, architect or agent to ascertain a potential interest in contributing to the project team for that scheme, they must decline. Professional work in a scheme previously reviewed by a panel member is not permitted.
8. Panel members are not restricted from professionally working on projects within the area. However, if such a scheme comes up for review, that panel member should not be involved and must declare a conflict of interest.
9. Councillors and council employees are not eligible to be members of their own authority's panel..

The table on the following page provides a guide to assessing whether or not a Quality Review Panel member has a conflict of interest.



Current commercial situation

If the panel member is currently working...

for the client on a different project	●
through a direct appointment to a member of the presenting team	●
with a member of the presenting team, but not appointed by them	●
on the site in a competing bid, or has a business connection to the site	●
on a neighbouring site where the two projects have a bearing on each other	●
in the near vicinity if the projects have a bearing on each other	●
for the local authority on another project	●

Past commercial situation

If the panel member has had previous involvement...

with the project (same client and brief)	●
with the site (different client and brief)	●
on a neighbouring site where the two projects have a bearing on each other	●
with the client	●
with a consultant on the project	●

Future commercial situation

If the panel member is...

involved in a procurement process for the client or the site	●
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Familial situation

If the panel member...

has a familial relationship with the client, consultants or site owners	●
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Informal situation

If the panel member...

is a friend of a member of the applicant team	●
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Formal situation

If the panel member...

presents their own scheme to other panel members	●
previously worked for a company that is part of the presenting team, more than one year ago	●
holds an elected position, or is a member of a society, that is impacted by the project – whether paid or unpaid.	●
has a home or business directly affected by a project	●

Key

Conflict of interest - meaning the panel member must be stood down from the review.	●
Declaration of interest - there is the potential for others to incorrectly perceive that a conflict exists. A declaration should be made at the start of the review meeting, and included in the meeting report.	●
No conflict of interest - either real or perceived, and the panel member is free to take part in the review.	●

