



FOLKESTONE &
HYTHE PLACE
PANEL

YEAR TO
31 MARCH 2023

ANNUAL
REPORT

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

Frame Projects
Unit 15 Waterside
44-48 Wharf Road
London N1 7UX
020 8164 9980
office@frame-projects.co.uk
frame-projects.co.uk



INTRODUCTION

The Folkestone & Hythe Place Panel was set up in 2021 by Frame Projects on behalf of the Folkestone & Hythe District Council. It is chaired by Joanne Cave and includes 24 professional experts selected through an open recruitment process in collaboration with Folkestone & Hythe officers.

Terms of reference, available on the Folkestone & Hythe District Council website, set out the role and remit of the panel, and the way in which it supports the planning process. Schemes requiring design advice are identified by planning officers and referred to the panel for a review. Officers provide a briefing on planning context and key issues, both in writing for the meeting agendas, and in person at the panel meeting. Advice given by the panel is recorded in a report to assist with continuing pre-application negotiations, or to advise the planning committee on submitted schemes.

The Folkestone & Hythe Place Panel held a total of 11 review meetings in the year from April 2022 to March 2023, and advised on eight different schemes. Three of these schemes were reviewed on more than one occasion. First reviews usually take place at a stage when a client and design team have decided their preferred option for development of a site, and have sufficient drawings, models, etc. for a comprehensive discussion. There will often be a second pre-application review to provide advice on more detailed design matters, before planning submission.

Cover image: Quarterhouse Folkestone © Alison Brooks Architects
Image: Ancient Party Barn © Liddicoat & Goldhill



Quantitative data was gathered from reviews that took place between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023.

PANEL

Authority

Folkestone & Hythe District Council

Review Panel name

Folkestone & Hythe Place Panel

Panel management

Externally managed, Frame Projects

Contact name for panel

Kirsty McMullan, Frame Projects

Contact email address

Kirsty@frame-projects.co.uk

Report produced by

Tasnima Ahmed, Frame Projects

Image: Leas Pavilion © Guy Hollaway



REVIEW TOTALS

Number of first reviews

8

Number of follow up reviews

3

Full reviews
(chair plus four panel members)

8

Small scheme reviews

2

Chairs reviews
(chair plus one panel member)

1

Number of site visits
(virtual)

4

Number of site visits
(in person)

7

PANEL COMPOSITION

PANEL MEMBERS USED THIS YEAR

No. of different panel members used

14

Male panel members

50%

Female panel members

50%

PANEL EXPERTISE USED

Architecture

11

Urban design / town planning

11

Landscape / public realm

2

Social infrastructure

1

Heritage / townscape

3

Sustainability

3

PROPOSALS REVIEWED

APPLICANT TYPE

Private developer

10

Local authority

1

Public private partnership

0

STAGE OF PROPOSAL

Pre application

10

Planning application
submitted

1

Amendment to
approved application

0

TYPE OF PROPOSAL

Transport

1

Mixed use

5

Residential (1-50 units)

2

Residential (50+ units)

2

Policy or strategic document

1

EMERGING ISSUES AND NEXT STEPS

Panel members were invited to review meetings on the basis of their availability, expertise and the requirements of individual schemes. We will continue to make every effort to include the widest possible range of disciplines in the composition of review panels.

The increased number of returning schemes indicates that applicants are making constructive use of the Folkestone & Hythe Place Panel's advice, engaging meaningfully in the review process. It is also positive that the full range of review formats has been utilised. This allows schemes of various scales and complexities to benefit from the panel's expert, multidisciplinary input.

Out of the 11 schemes reviewed in the reporting period between April 2022 and March 2023, four of the site visits were conducted virtually. Frame Projects values the unique insight of physical site visits, and will endeavour to use them where possible. However, virtual site visits can be more efficient when reviewing smaller schemes or policy documents.

Image: Three Hills © Guy Hollaway

