



KENSINGTON & CHELSEA QUALITY REVIEW PANEL

Terms of reference 2021

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH

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Cover image: Silchester Housing designed by Haworth Tompkins with LUC for Peabody © Philip Vile
Awards: 2018 Civic Trust Award National Winner; 2018 RIBA National Award; 2017 National Housing Awards



1. INTRODUCTION

The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea is committed to good growth in the borough where traditionally a strong emphasis has been on regulatory protection of the character and appearance of its outstanding townscape. The Kensington and Chelsea Quality Review Panel plays an important role in securing high quality design, complementing and enhancing both the borough's outstanding historic townscape and also its less historic areas to provide the conservation areas of tomorrow. The Quality Review Panel is integral to helping establish a new balance between the council's roles as regulator, custodian of the environment and protector of heritage, as well as provider of housing, employment and leisure for all RBKC's communities.

Kensington and Chelsea is a unique central London borough with diverse communities, places of great cultural significance, and attractive streets and squares. Seventy five per cent is within a conservation area, with over 4,000 listed buildings and monuments. The borough accommodates 15,000 businesses; and, although it has the smallest population of any London borough with around 160,000 residents, it also has some of the highest population densities in the country. There is a pressing need for significantly more homes, particularly affordable homes.

The 2019 Local Plan commits to 'upholding the residential quality of life through cherishing quality in the built environment, acting on

environmental issues and facilitating local living, including through strengthening neighbourhood centres and maintaining and updating social infrastructure'. All development needs to be understood within the borough's unique context in order to strengthen and enhance the existing sense of place, community and character.

Securing high quality development requires a rigorous and transparent approach, with early and effective dialogue between all those involved in the development process. In line with the National Planning Policy Framework, the council aims to strengthen and expand the capacity for independent expert design review as part of the design process by establishing the Quality Review Panel. In accordance with the Mayor's 'Good Growth by Design' agenda, it aims to enhance the design of neighbourhoods and buildings for Londoners. The Mayor has set out his intention of enabling more consistent and extensive use of quality review by independent professionals as one of the six pillars of the 'Good Growth' agenda. The challenge for the panel is to earn the confidence of myriad stakeholders, acquiring the weight it deserves as part of the planning process, and gaining the traction required for the good growth agenda to succeed.

The purpose of the 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. By offering advice to applicants during the pre-application process and by commenting on planning applications, the Quality Review Panel supports RBKC's planning officers and planning committee in securing high quality development. The panel provides a rigorous review process, encouraging high quality design in all areas of the borough and enhancing the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea for all those who live, work, and visit.



Holland Park © Catherine Johansson / Flickr



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)



Holland Park © Herry Lawford / Flickr



3. LONDON QUALITY REVIEW CHARTER

We confirm that the review process is run in accordance with the London Quality Review Charter.

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

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 quality 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 quality 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 quality review in a manner that is consistent with its contents.

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

https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/ggbd_london_quality_review_charter_web.pdf



Former Barkers Department Store, Kensington High Street
© Jim Linwood / Flickr



4. PANEL COMPOSITION

The Quality Review Panel brings together leading professionals working at the highest level in their fields. It is made up of 25 panel members, including the chair.

Quality Review Panel members are chosen to provide a broad range of expertise with particular relevance to Kensington and Chelsea, including:

- architecture
- urban design / town planning
- landscape architecture / public realm
- heritage / townscape
- sustainability
- inclusive design
- transport infrastructure / transport planning
- local resident experts

Many of those appointed to the Quality Review Panel will have expertise and experience in more than one of these areas. The composition of each panel meeting will be chosen as far as possible to suit the scheme being reviewed.

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

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



The Design Museum at the Grade II* Listed former Commonwealth Institute, by John Pawson
© Ardfern / Wikimedia Commons





Mixed use building, Sloane Square, Chelsea © AKT II

5. PANEL REMIT

The Quality Review Panel provides independent, objective, expert advice on development proposals across Kensington and Chelsea.

The Quality Review Panel 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 development management team 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 Kensington and Chelsea. 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

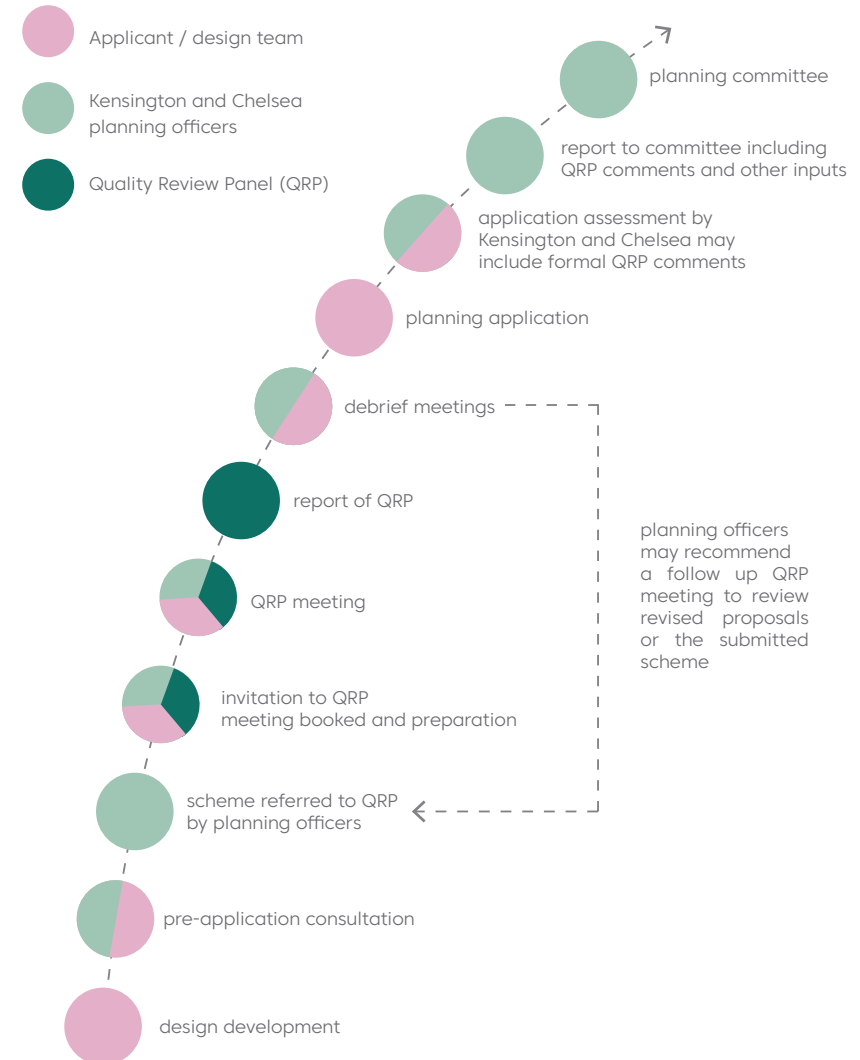
Projects may also be referred to the panel by the planning authority at its discretion, for example where it requires advice on:

- 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

As with normal pre-application procedure, advice given by the panel before an application is submitted remains confidential, seen only by the applicant and planning authority. This encourages applicants to share proposals openly and honestly with the panel – and ensures that they receive the most useful advice. Once an application has been submitted, the Quality Review Panel's comments on the submission are published on the Council's website.

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

Quality review in the planning process





6. ROLE OF THE QUALITY REVIEW PANEL

The 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.

It is for Kensington and Chelsea's 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 Kensington and Chelsea 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

Kensington and Chelsea's Quality Review Panel is an independent and impartial service provided to Kensington and Chelsea Council by Frame Projects, an external consultancy.

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 Kensington and Chelsea Council.

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 Kensington and Chelsea 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 Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea is subject to the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (the Act). All requests made to Kensington and Chelsea Council 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.

10. LOCAL EXPERTS

The Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea is keen to include local resident experts who have a considerable knowledge of the borough including particular areas where development will take place.

While individuals may be a member of a local amenity group, their participation on the Quality Review Panel will be strictly as an independent local resident expert.

Confidentiality - at all times panel members shall keep strictly confidential all information acquired during the course of their role on the panel, with the sole exception of reports that are in the public domain. Full details of procedures regarding confidentiality are provided in Appendix A.



11. TYPES OF REVIEW

Three types of review are offered:

- a formal review - for larger schemes
- a chair's review - for smaller schemes or planning applications
- surgery reviews - for very small schemes or discharge of planning conditions

FORMAL REVIEWS

Typically, the chair and four panel members attend formal reviews.

A formal review will be offered to all major development proposals. In some cases, minor schemes may warrant a formal review, for example where they may have a significant impact on a historic context.

Formal reviews take place for schemes from RIBA Stage 2 (concept design) onwards, providing advice to the applicant and to the planning authority - whether at pre-application or application stage.

In addition to planning officers, other relevant stakeholders 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. There will often be a second pre-application review, to provide advice on more detailed design matters, before a planning submission. The scheme will 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 paper 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; 35 minutes presentation; 45 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 each component receives adequate time for discussion.



Notting Hill street © S Pakharin / Wikimedia Commons



CHAIR'S REVIEWS

The chair and one panel member will attend a chair's review.

In the case of smaller development proposals, or schemes previously presented at a formal review, a chair's review may be arranged to provide advice on the quality of proposals. Chair's reviews may take place for schemes from RIBA Stage 2 (concept design) onwards.

Kensington and Chelsea officers will be invited, but other stakeholders will not normally attend. However, Kensington and Chelsea officers 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.

A typical chair's review will last 60 minutes: 10 minutes introductions and briefing by planning officers; 20 minutes presentation; 30 minutes discussion and summing up by the chair.

SURGERY REVIEWS

The chair and one panel member will attend a surgery review.

Very small schemes, or schemes where Kensington and Chelsea 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.



V & A from Thurloe Square © VJ Fox / Wikimedia Commons



12. 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.

13. 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 2021:

- 21 January
- 18 February
- 18 March
- 1 April
- 6 May
- 17 June
- 1 July
- 19 August
- 9 September
- 7 October
- 4 November
- 16 December



Albert Bridge, the Illuminated River project, conceived by artist Leo Villareal and Lifschutz Davidson Sandilands, delivered by a team including Icen Projects © Leo Villareal Studio

14. 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 Kensington and Chelsea officers 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 give a sense of the scope and nature of the project under review.

For 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.



Middle Row Housing, by Penoyre & Prasad for RBKC © Greg Penoyre
Housing Design Awards 2013, 'Projects Award' Winner



15. 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, panel reports will provide clear, independent advice on ways in which the quality of development proposals could be improved, referring where appropriate to Kensington and Chelsea's planning policies in relation to expectations of high quality design.

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

With prior agreement by the applicant, pre-application reports may also be shared by Kensington and Chelsea officers with the planning committee to aid their understanding of the pre-application design process.

Once planning applications are submitted, the report may provide guidance to Kensington and Chelsea'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 Kensington and Chelsea planning officers will place these in the context of other planning matters, which the panel's advice neither replaces nor overrules.

Panel reports are only made public at the planning application stage, at which point the report will be a public document kept within the proposal's case file and published on the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea's website once the final report is made public.

At the end of each year, the Quality Review Panel manager will draft an annual report. This will be a brief document describing and reflecting on the panel's activities over the past year. 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.



Trellick Tower from Golborne Road © Jim Linwood / Flickr



16. QUALITY REVIEW PANEL CHARGES

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

Charges are reviewed every two years and the charges until 1 April 2022 are:

- £4,500 + VAT formal review
- £2,500 + VAT chair's review
- £1,500 + VAT surgery review

Applicants are referred to the Quality Review Panel by the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea as an external service and fees are paid by the applicant to Frame Projects for delivering this service.

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 the scheduled review
- £600 + VAT : between two and four weeks before the review



Exhibition Road looking north toward the Victoria & Albert Museum © Gary J Wood / Flickr

17. QUALITY REVIEW PANEL MEMBERSHIP

The Kensington and Chelsea Quality Review Panel brings together 25 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.



Catherine Burd (chair)
Architect
Director, Burd Haward Architects

Catherine Burd has particular expertise in housing, arts and heritage projects, and is on the RIBA Conservation Register. Her practice is renowned both for their new buildings in sensitive settings and for their conservation and adaptation of historically significant buildings. She has taught and lectured widely, chairs Camden's Design Review Panel and is also a member of the London Legacy Development Corporation Quality Review Panel.

www.burdhaward.com



Jay Gort (vice chair)
Architect
Director, Gort Scott

Jay Gort, founder of Gort Scott, has extensive experience in leading the practice's work. Recent projects include housing; a new civic centre in Harrow; co-working office spaces; a masterplan for the London Legacy Development Corporation; a public realm strategy for Southwark; and several high profile heritage based projects in London, Oxford and Cambridge. Gort Scott are currently working on a GLA research project for adapting and intensifying high streets.

www.gortscott.com





Carrie Behar
Sustainability Consultant
Associate, Expedition Engineering

Carrie Behar is a highly experienced sustainability professional with expertise in the design and delivery of healthy buildings and a sustainable built environment. With a background in architectural design and building performance, she completed a PhD in energy demand reduction in the built environment at University College London. Her expertise spans energy, materials, social value, green infrastructure, the circular economy, health and wellbeing and community engagement.
www.expedition.uk.com



Sasha Bhavan
Architect
Partner, Knox Bhavan Architects

During a 30 year career, previously at Cullinan Studio, Sasha Bhavan has been responsible for many acclaimed and award winning projects. She is committed to promoting a culture of zero carbon construction – applied in a practical and thoughtful way – seeing embodied carbon footprints as integral to good design. She regularly lectures, is a teaching fellow at the University of Bath, external examiner at Falmouth University and the University of Portsmouth, and visiting critic at several other universities.
www.knoxbhavan.com



Teresa Borsuk
Architect
Senior Advisor, Pollard Thomas Edwards

With over 35 years' experience in the housing, mixed use and regeneration sectors, Teresa Borsuk has designed and delivered a series of award winning projects, ranging from major developments to infill sites and refurbishments. In 2015 Teresa Borsuk was named AJ Woman Architect of the Year.
www.pollardthomasedwards.co.uk





Nairita Chakraborty
Heritage expert
Associate, Icen Projects

Nairita Chakraborty is a heritage consultant, with experience ranging from adaptation and conversion of listed buildings to heritage led regeneration schemes and strategic housing and infrastructure projects. With 12 years' experience in various local authorities, she has a strong public sector background. She is also a member of the Historic England Advisory Committee and the Havering Quality Review Panel.
www.icenprojects.com



Giles Charlton
Landscape architect
Director, Spacehub

Giles Charlton founded Spacehub in 2010, consolidating more than 18 years' experience as a landscape architect. He has led the successful delivery of complex and varied landscape and public realm projects for both public and private sector clients. Projects with significant heritage assets include London Wall Place, Bishopsgate Goodsynd, St Alphage Gardens and Royal Mint Court. He is a member of the London Borough of Tower Hamlets Conservation and Design Advisory Panel.
www.spacehubdesign.com



Irene Djao-Rakotine
Landscape architect
Director, Djao-Rakotine

Irene Djao-Rakotine's work has focused in creating high quality environments in cultural, residential and commercial context, in London and internationally. She has worked in historic contexts as well as contemporary settings. Projects include the public realm for the Tate Modern extension and the 2012 Olympics Athletes Village (for Vogt); the garden of the Musée du Quai Branly in Paris (for Jean Nouvel); and the award winning Khokhlovskaya Square in Moscow. She is a Mayor's Design Advocate.
www.djaorakotine.com





Biba Dow
Architect
Director, Dow Jones Architects

With Dow Jones Architects, Biba Dow has led a range of arts, heritage and community projects. Recent projects include Grand Junction at St Mary Magdalene, Bevis Marks Synagogue and Maggie's Cardiff. In 2018 she was shortlisted for the AJ Woman Architect of the Year award. She is also a member of the Old Oak and Park Royal Development Corporation Place Review Group. www.dowjonesarchitects.com



Melissa Dowler
Architect
Director, Bell Phillips Architects

Bell Phillips Architects specialise in housing, in particular designing high quality affordable housing for local authority clients. Melissa Dowler has over a decade of experience of housing and regeneration, and also significant experience in public realm design, most notably the award winning Gasholder Park at King's Cross Central in London. She is also a member of the Otterpool Park Place Panel. www.bellphillips.com



Chris Dyson
Architect
Principal Partner, Chris Dyson Architects

Chris Dyson Architects is based in London's Spitalfields, the location of many of its early projects, requiring particular skills designing in historic contexts. The practice has forged a reputation for working on complex projects of all scales – for both public and private sector clients – including a masterplan for Earl's Court, the RAF Museum at Hendon, Crystal Palace Park Café and work for Royal Parks. He is a design adviser to the London Borough of Tower Hamlets, and the Conservation Area Advisory Committee in the City of London. www.chrisdyson.co.uk





Tara Gbolade

Architect

Director, Gbolade Design Studio

Gbolade Design Studio specialises in residential and mixed use developments for both public and private sector clients. The practice creates high-quality buildings and places to drive the economy, enhance the environment and transform quality of life. Tara Gbolade leads on developing the sustainability strategy for Harlow and Gilston Garden Town, which will provide 23,000 new homes and strengthen the existing community. She is also a member of the London Borough of Lambeth Design Review Panel.
www.gd-studio.co.uk



Edward Jarvis

Urban designer

Urban Design Manager, Camden Council

Edward Jarvis leads a team of eight providing design and strategic conservation advice on development across the London Borough of Camden. This includes work to support the development management team, as well as advice on Camden's own Community Investment Projects. He has also been responsible for advising on the design of major developments by institutions in the borough, including the Bartlett School of Architecture, cancer facilities for University College London Hospital, and a new home for the Ear Nose and Throat Hospital.



Hanif Kara

Structural engineer

Design Director and Founder, AKT II

Hanif Kara enjoys an international standing based on his practice, research and education in interdisciplinary design. His work is widely publicised and he is currently Professor in Practice of Architectural Technology at Harvard Graduate School of Design. AKT II is a design led structural and civil engineering practice that applies innovative material uses, sustainable construction and complex analysis methods. It has won over 350 design awards – including three Stirling Prizes.
www.akt-uk.com





Matthew Lloyd

Architect

Founding Partner, Matthew Lloyd Architects

Matthew Lloyd Architects are an award winning practice, recognised for sensitive, innovative, contextual architecture in urban settings – often in historic contexts. The practice's Bourne Estate housing scheme for Camden Council won a 2017 Camden Design Award and was named Overall Winner of the Housing Design Awards 2018. He is also a member of the Camden Design Review Panel.

www.matthewlloyd.co.uk



Joe Morris

Architect

Founding Director, Morris + Company

With over 20 years' experience as an architect, Joe Morris takes a strategic design lead on all projects undertaken by Morris + Company. Many projects are located in London such as the mixed use commercial scheme in King's Cross; an innovative live / work typology in Haringey; a mixed use Energy Hub in Southwark; and more recently a new health centre and early years nursery, also in Southwark. He is also a member of several other London design review panels.

www.morrisandcompany



Peter Morris

Architect

Director, Allford Hall Monaghan Morris

As a director, Peter Morris focusses on the management of the practice; as an architect, he critically reviews all projects – reflecting AHMM's belief in the interdependence of professional excellence and good business practice. He has been responsible for the direction of various projects from inception through to completion, including the competition-winning schemes for Walsall Bus Station and the Barbican Arts Centre, and continues to direct several of the practice's projects.

www.ahmm.co.uk





Greg Penoyre
Architect
Consultant, Penoyre & Prasad

Greg Penoyre has played a central role in the design, procurement and delivery of most of Penoyre & Prasad's projects – more than 300 – across the public and commercial sectors. He has developed a particular specialism in architecture for senior living. He serves on design review panels, judges architectural competitions and awards, is currently a visiting Professor at the University of Sheffield, and is on the RIBA Conservation Register. www.penoyreprasad.com



Henry Peterson
Local resident expert

Henry Peterson is a local resident expert who has lived in North Kensington for forty five years. He has a background in architecture and urban regeneration and has worked with the Greater London Council, London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham, and the Local Government Association. As a Kensington resident for most of his life, he has long been interested in development in this part of London, and in what makes this part of a global city a very appealing place in which to live and work.



David Ravenscroft
Landscape Architect
Associate Director, Andy Sturgeon Design

A chartered landscape architect with some 17 years' experience working with both public and private sector clients, David Ravenscroft's work includes residential and mixed use schemes, major commercial developments in the City of London, the design of contemporary landscapes and also of historic gardens for the National Trust. Projects for the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea include the landscape design for the award winning Silchester Estate and, more recently, the masterplan for the Treverton regeneration area. www.andysturgeon.com





Sam Richards
Transport Consultant

As Head of Urban Integration at Crossrail from 2008 to 2017, Sam Richards led an urban realm improvement programme for 31 stations as part of a £100m programme. Recent work includes an advisory role in producing Design Principles for National Infrastructure on behalf of the National Infrastructure Commission (NIC). He is a member of the HS2 Independent Design Panel, a design adviser to Transport for London, and a member of the Otterpool Park Place Panel.



Deborah Saunt
Architect
Director, DSDHA

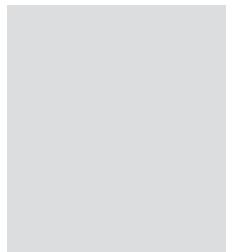
Deborah Saunt co-founded the architecture, urban design and spatial research studio DSDHA – with several award winning education, residential and mixed use schemes to its name and shortlisted for the 2010 RIBA Stirling Prize. She leads high profile urban masterplan and public realm strategies – focusing on people’s needs in a rapidly evolving environmental, technological and social context – and has lectured extensively on delivering high density housing schemes.
www.dsdha.co.uk



Ann Sawyer
Inclusive design expert
Founder, Access=Design

Ann Sawyer, an architect and access consultant, set up Access Design in 2005. She has been involved in inclusive design for many years, including on major developments, providing expert advice on education, arts, commercial, historic buildings and housing projects. She is the author of the well-respected book *The Access Manual*.
www.accessdesign.co.uk





Julian Turner
Local resident expert

Julian Turner is a local resident expert who was born in the borough and has lived in Chelsea for the past eighteen years. He has a background in architecture, with experience of residential and commercial development, and of working in the context of conservation areas, listed buildings and heritage sites. He also has a particular interest in ecological sustainability.



Barbara Weiss
Architect
Director, Barbara Weiss Architects

Barbara Weiss has run her own practice for over 30 years, after working for prestigious design studios in the UK and internationally. Quality in architecture and conservation of heritage are at the heart of the practice's work, which includes residential developments as well as award winning health projects. Among the practice's significant projects in Kensington and Chelsea is a Norman Shaw building for Imperial College.
www.barbaraweissarchitects.com



18 KEY REFERENCES

Relevant Kensington and Chelsea Council documents

Kensington and Chelsea Local Plan (2019)

<https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-policy/local-plan/local-plan-2019>

This link provides access to a number of planning documents that together form the development plan for Kensington and Chelsea – the starting point for planning decisions in the borough.

Further planning documents including Heritage and Conservation, and Neighbourhood Plans can be accessed via the planning and building control web page:

<https://www.rbkc.gov.uk/planning-and-building-control/planning-and-building-control>

Relevant Greater London Authority documents

Good Growth by Design

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

Principles of design review

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

<http://www.designcouncil.org.uk/resources/guide/design-review-principles-and-practice>

Other relevant documents

National Design Guide

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-design-guide>

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-framework--2>

Report of the Building Better, Building Beautiful Commission

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/living-with-beauty-report-of-the-building-better-building-beautiful-commission>

Historic England Tall Buildings Advice

<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/tall-buildings-advice-note-4/>



APPENDIX A

Procedure regarding confidentiality

The Kensington and Chelsea Quality Review Panel provides a constructive and reliable forum for applicants and their design teams to seek guidance at an early stage, when 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, Kensington and Chelsea 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, it 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 7 and 8).
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), they should decline to comment and refer the inquiry to the panel manager.
4. If, subsequent to a review of a scheme in which a panel member has participated, s/he is approached by any applicant, architect or agent to ascertain a potential interest in contributing to the project team for that scheme, s/he must decline. Professional work in a scheme previously reviewed by a panel member is not permitted.
5. 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.
6. 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 agreed report will then be distributed to all relevant stakeholders.
7. If the proposal is at a pre-application stage, the report is not made public and is only shared with Kensington and Chelsea Council, the applicant and design team, and any other stakeholder bodies that the Council has consulted on the project.
8. 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 Kensington and Chelsea Council's website once the final report is made public.
9. 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 and these will be formally recorded at each meeting.
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 Kensington and Chelsea 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 s/he has 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. 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.
5. Personal interests that should be declared, but which would not normally prevent a panel member participating in a review meeting, 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.
6. If, subsequent to a review of a scheme in which a panel member has participated, s/he is approached by any applicant, architect or agent to ascertain a potential interest in contributing to the project team for that scheme, s/he must decline. Professional work in a scheme previously reviewed by a panel member is not permitted.
7. 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.
8. Councillors and Council employees are not eligible to be panel members.

