

Sir Terry Farrell's Review of Architecture and the Built Environment

Purpose of report

For discussion and direction.

Summary

Culture Minister, Ed Vaizey MP, has asked world-renowned architect Sir Terry Farrell CBE to make recommendations on promoting high standards of design.

Neil Bennett (a partner at Terry Farrell and Partners who is closely involved with the review) and Charlie Peel, the review co-ordinator, will attend the Board to explore the role of councils in the built environment and how they are working with partners to improve the attractiveness of places as well as maximising building's contribution to economic growth.

The terms of reference for the review are attached at **Annex A**.

Recommendation:

Members are invited to discuss the role of councils in the built environment.

Action

To be taken forward by officers as directed by members.

Contact officer:

Laura Caton

Position:

Senior Adviser

Phone no:

020 7664 3154

E-mail:

laura.caton@local.gov.uk

Sir Terry Farrell's Review of Architecture and the Built Environment

Background

1. Culture Minister, Ed Vaizey MP, has asked world-renowned architect Sir Terry Farrell CBE to make recommendations on promoting high standards of design.
2. The review is intended to engage architects, designers and other built environment professionals to help DCMS think about its role in achieving high-quality design, allowing us to better influence and shape policy across government.
3. The review will look at four main areas:
 - 3.1. Understanding the Government's role in promoting design quality in architecture and the built environment
 - 3.2. The economic benefits of architecture; maximising the UK's growth potential
 - 3.3. Cultural heritage and the built environment
 - 3.4. Promoting education, outreach, and skills
4. Promoting design quality in architecture and the built environment is of great interest to local government and the LGA. The Culture, Tourism and Sport Board, in conjunction with the Environment and Housing Board, has spent the last year focusing particularly on the relationship between culture, the economy and planning.
5. Neil Bennett (a partner at Terry Farrell and Partners who is closely involved with the review) and Charlie Peel, the review co-ordinator, will attend the Board to explore the role of councils in the built environment and how they are working with partners to improve the attractiveness of places as well as maximising building's contribution to economic growth.
6. The terms of reference for the review are attached at **Annex A**.

Annex A

Terms of Reference for Sir Terry Farrell's Review of Architecture and the Built Environment

1. Sir Terry Farrell CBE is to conduct an independent review of architecture and the wider built environment and make recommendations to the Minister for Culture, Communications and Creative Industries, to inform DCMS's approach to its role within government of promoting high standards of design.
2. The intention of the review is to engage the sector in helping DCMS to develop its thinking about the role for Government in the achievement of high quality design, so that DCMS can continue to influence and shape policy across government, not least because the public sector is a major funder of buildings.
3. The review will examine the following areas:
 - 3.1. Understanding the role for Government in promoting design quality in architecture and the built environment.
4. The review will look at lessons that can be learnt nationally and internationally about the role for Government in promoting and achieving best design quality. The role of national built environment bodies and other organisations like museums and architecture and built environment centres in promoting appreciation and better understanding of good design will also be considered.
 - 4.1. The economic benefits of good architecture and design, and maximising the UK's growth potential
5. The review will consider the contribution of architecture to the UK's economy, how the economic value of good built environment design can be demonstrated, and how it can be maximised in the future.
 - 5.1. Cultural heritage and the built environment
6. The review will look at whether the desire to preserve the 'old' makes it more difficult to encourage good new architecture, and the value of our historic built environment as a cultural asset and in successful place-making.
 - 6.1. Promoting education, outreach and skills
7. The review will consider the potential contribution of built environment education to a broad and balanced education both as a cultural subject in its own right and as a way of teaching other subjects.
8. Sir Terry Farrell will be supported by an expert advisory panel drawn from across the architecture and design industry who will look at the themes of the review in more detail. The advisory panel will issue a call for evidence shortly and it is expected Sir Terry Farrell will produce a report by the end of the year.