

September 2010

Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment appointments and reappointments

John Penrose, Minister for Tourism and Heritage has appointed Rab Bennetts and Sarah Wigglesworth as Commissioners to the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment. The four year appointments will run from 1st September 2010.

In addition, Joyce Bridges, MJ Long and Lorna Walker have been reappointed for second terms of 4 years from 20th August 2010.

Biographical notes

Rab Bennetts OBE

Rab Bennetts co-founded Bennetts Associates architects in 1987 and now leads the design direction of the award winning firm. Bennetts Associates is responsible for many prominent projects, including the transformation of the Royal Shakespeare Theatre. Rab has also been involved in a number of architecture related bodies (Chair of the Royal Institute of British Architects Competitions Committee, and Founder and Advisory Board Member of the UK Green Building) and has lectured extensively as well as contributed to numerous publications and conferences. Rab was awarded the OBE for services to architecture in 2003.

Sarah Wigglesworth MBE

Sarah is the founder of Sarah Wigglesworth Architects, an award winning architectural practice that specialises in low energy and sustainable building including the Straw Bale House and Quilted Office project, an experiment exploring sustainable living on a brownfield site in north London. Sarah has been Professor of Architecture at the University of Sheffield since January 1999. She has published many articles and co-authored two books covering the topics of architectural research, feminism and the everyday. Sarah is editor of a third book due for publication in early 2011. She was awarded an MBE for services to architecture in 2004.

Joyce Bridges CBE

Joyce Bridges has wide experience in central government in urban policy, regeneration and planning. She held director-level posts in the former Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and the Government Office for London. She is an English Heritage commissioner and chairs its London Advisory Committee. Joyce is deputy chair of CABE and chairs its Planning Advisory Committee. She is a member of the Mayor of London's Design Advisory Panel and a member of DCLG's Housing Sounding Board.

MJ Long OBE

MJ Long is an architect and a senior partner of Long & Kentish, whose recent projects include the National Maritime Museum Cornwall in Falmouth, and Pallant House Gallery in Chichester. Projects also include the British Library



Centre for Conservation, and a number of schemes in the West Country. She has taught for many years at Yale University School of Architecture, and acted as external examiner at a number of British schools of architecture. MJ is chair of CABE's design review programme and champion for the South West Region.

Lorna Walker

Lorna Walker is managing director of Lorna Walker Consulting Ltd, which concentrates on strategic and practical design consultations in sustainable development and urban regeneration. A director at Ove Arup and Partners from 1989 to 2004, she is a recognised authority in the fields of sustainable development, urban regeneration, water quality and waste treatment. Lorna was a member of Lord Rogers' urban task force, a member of the sustainable development committee of the International Federation of Consulting Engineers, FIDIC, and a lead expert on the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills Foresight programme on sustainable energy management in the built environment. She is also a visiting professor in engineering design for sustainable development at the University of Sheffield, and was recently recognised for her contribution to engineering and sustainable development with an honorary doctorate of engineering degree. Lorna is chair of the sustainable design committee, the health champion and joint champion for the North East.

Background

1. the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) is the Government's advisor on architecture, urban design and public space. It was created in 1999 as the champion for design quality in buildings, spaces and places across England. It promotes the best in architecture and urban design by promoting high standards in the design of buildings and spaces, advising all those who create, manage and utilise the built environment, and stimulating public debate. CABE is sponsored by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport with additional funding from Communities and Local Government (CLG).
2. Commissioners can claim remuneration of £5,800 per year plus reasonable expenses.
3. These appointments have been made in accordance with the OCPA Code of Practice. Appointments are made on merit and political activity plays no part in the appointments process. None of the appointees has declared any significant politically activity during the last 5 years.