
Minutes

Meeting	RIBA Health Client Forum
Date	12.00pm 7 February 2007
Venue	RIBA 66 Portland Place London
Present	Pam Bate (PB) Michael Hopkins & Partners Ben Boglar (BB) Prince's Foundation Richard Griffin (RG) Shepherd Robson Architects Chris Farrah (CF) Department of Health Sue Francis (SF) CABE/ NHS Confederation Bill Murray Chair (BM) NHS Estates Ann Noble (AN) Ann Noble Architects/ Architects for Health David E Noel (DEN) RIBA Alan Prigmore (AP) Consultant Chris Potter (CP) PHS Architects David Richardson (DR) Investors in the Community Paul Townsend (PT) Department of Health Meryl Townley (MT) Van Heningan and Howard Architects Wendy De Silva (WD) Dransfield Owens De Silva Architects
Apologies/ absentees	Andrew Barnett (AB) Michael Hopkins & Partners Arnie Dunn (AD) Campbell & Arnott John Carvell (JC) British Medical Association Diana Dickson (DD) British Medical Association Paul Hyett – Convenor (PH) RyderHKS Bob Horner (BH) Metier Healthcare Paul Mercer (PM) Tangram Architects/ Architects for Health Malcolm McKillop (MK) Mid Essex NHS Trust Ralph Murray (RM) Amec Mike Nightingale (MN) Nightingale Associates David Pokora (DP) Independent Consultant

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1.0 **Welcome**

Welcoming guests to the meeting, BM and DEN provided an overview of the Client Forum initiative and its objectives; to improve the performance of both clients and design professionals ensuring that value for money, fitness for purpose and quality are achieved in the projects they undertake. The Health Client Forum is one of several sector related committees run by the RIBA.

2.0 **Activities of the forum**

Working effectively with contractors, designers and healthcare professionals, the forum aims to improve health buildings and the healing environment through identifying patient needs. This will be executed through a programme of seminars, workshops and a proposed exhibition showcasing recent health building designs.

The forum's activities will broadly cover three key areas:

- community healthcare and good practice
- policy and procurement
- strategic planning

The group was encouraged to explore more cross-sector and cross client forum initiatives. Virgin Active health clubs was identified as an example of the sports and leisure company partnering with local PCTs to deliver community health services.

3.0 **Partners**

CABE, the Department for Health, the BMA, The Princes Foundation and the Patients Association were identified as potential partners. The group agreed that it was important to strengthen links with the Major Contractors Group and Architects for Health, the RIBA Linked Society. The forum will draft a structured programme around planned Architects for Health activities and work in partnership to deliver regional events. Architects for Health has its executive group meeting this week .AN has agreed to meet BM and DEN after to discuss future programming.

AN,BM
DEN

It is harder to identify the client in the health sector and therefore all stakeholders must be engaged in the activities of the group. Although the forum will focus primarily on the design and aesthetics of a building, it will explore what benefits the patient, particularly since the location and delivery of health services is rapidly changing.

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4.0 **Workshop and Conference programme.**

In recent years the forum has delivered a series of conferences on acute services and major PFI hospitals. Last year the forum organised a community healthcare event at the Hub east London and a mental health fringe workshop at the IHEEM Harrogate Healthcare Conference in November. The forum has been invited to participate in this year's Harrogate event in November.

Members suggested the exhibition and future workshops should identify procurement methods used by PCTs in producing well designed local facilities. New and local services dictate each brief and therefore the forum must show flexible delivery models adopted by PCTs that facilitate current working practices. Planned workshops should clearly identify the clients, who is paying and how the stakeholders involved in each project have successfully handled the risks associated with their chosen method of procurement.

5.0 **Case Studies for 2007**

The CABE award winning Kaleidoscope Children and Young People's Centre was identified as a case study. Kaleidoscope's architect, Meryl Townley of van Heyningan and Howard Architects offered to help organise a one day seminar and tour of the building as part of the forum's 2007 programme. This is likely to be in the spring. Information on the centre is attached.

MT/
DEN

Offering to help organise related events, The Department of Health continue to see the forum as a sounding board for policy development in community healthcare, procurement, design reviews and competitive frameworks. With £750 million being pumped into the Capital Development programme, the department is exploring Smart PFI and is keen to work with the RIBA and other institutes to deliver efficient procurement routes.

The Prince's Foundation is currently working with the Department of Health on a design review of Alder Hay NHS Trust. The report will be published on March 30.

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6.0 **Where have all the planners gone?**

With community services being more integrated, the forum identified planning as a major challenge for the PCTs and questioned the experience and skills at strategic authority level. Strategic Planning Authorities will be invited to attend the forum to comment and disclose what initiatives are in place. It was agreed that the forum will explore the effectiveness of the Strategic Health Authorities as a conference theme.

7.0 **Dates of the next meeting**

Dates will be announced shortly following DEN & BM's discussion with AN of Architects for Health. Dates for the first Health Client Forum event in Lewisham will be announced shortly.

DEN
BM

Den/14/7/07