

85%

WOULD
RECOMMEND
DESIGN
REVIEW
TO OTHERS

PlacesMatter

We champion the value of good design throughout the project, encouraging organisations to take a more strategic and practical approach to developing their vision, whilst still achieving value for money.

Design Review must be carried out using a robust and defensible process – summarised in these ten principles.

Design Review is an independent and impartial evaluation process in which a panel of experts on the built environment assess the design of a proposal.



Independent. It is conducted by people who are not connected with the scheme's promoters and decision makers, and ensures that conflicts of interest do not arise.

Expert. It is carried out by suitably trained people who are experienced in design and know how to criticise constructively.

Multidisciplinary. It combines the different perspectives of architects, urban designers, urban and rural planners, landscape architects, engineers and other specialist experts to provide a complete, rounded assessment.

Accountable. The Review Panel and its advice must be clearly seen to work for the benefit of the public. This is ingrained within the panel's terms of reference.

Transparent. The panel's remit, membership, governance processes, 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 avoids 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 to 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.



PlacesMatter: One of nine regional members of the Design Network, we cover the whole of the North West of England.





Economic Value of Good Design showed that good design can add an increase of up to 23% in rental and capital value.

PlacesMatter is an organisation devoted to generating a strong sense of place in living, working and leisure environments throughout the North West of England.



We work across the public, private and third sectors to drive up the skills and knowledge of all those involved in new development, promoting good design and encouraging strong client leadership.

At Bruntwood – we're firm believers in making our great city regions greater. A vital part of this is to create environments that are built to provide a strong sense of place.



Bruntwood's Head of Development, Lee Treanor has recently joined the Places Matter panel, bringing his 18 years of experience in the commercial property industry. So far, Lee has been involved with the Design Review and Enabling of redesigns of two district level town centres and an office to hotel conversion planned in Manchester.

“When it comes to creating a strong sense of place, the creation of communities is something that we are beginning to see more and more, whether it's in residential areas, workspaces or, naturally, in neighbourhoods with food, beverage and retail places.”

“Being involved in helping to shape schemes from developments outside of Bruntwood allows me to see things from a different perspective, whilst still working towards the aim of making our great city regions greater.”

Deloitte remains as committed as ever to the growth and development of the North West Region. We believe that quality helps to drive economic performance.



Simon Bedford leads the local government development team at Deloitte Real Estate. With over 25 years in practice he has advised on major regeneration and strategic development projects across the UK and further afield.

“The design quality of an asset makes a real difference to its long term economic value and performance, so we regularly seek the expert advice of Places Matter Design Review to assist our clients in maximising their development opportunities.”

“We work with the very best architects and they are often the most receptive to seeking design advice. Together we aim to create truly inspirational places, which will have a long-term economic return. We believe that design quality is a cornerstone to achieving success.”

Economic Value:

Design Review has been shown to add value to development schemes.



£34m could be added to the value of 144 development schemes that have undergone a Design Review.

PlacesMatter has a sixty member panel, drawn from across the built environment professions. Our current co-Chairs are Annie Coombs – Landscape Architect and Matt Brook – Architect.



We seek to ensure that panel members' skills are matched to the requirements of the projects under review. Each panel will usually contain a mix of professional disciplines.

PlacesMatter – our services

We encourage you to use the inspirational environment of RIBA North, Liverpool for our training, but are always happy to travel to you.



Design Review

Now recognised in the National Planning Policy Framework, this is a tried and tested process for improving the quality of the design of buildings and landscapes. Desk review is offered for returning schemes.

Design Enabling

This provides an additional level of 'hands-on' independent advice and guidance on what might be achieved and how it can be done.

Design Training

Members of our expert panel will share their skills with your team, to enable you to gain a greater understanding of specific processes, such as Building for Life 12, and urban design principles and how they can help your decision making and project development.

PlacesMatter

**Design
Network!**

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