



September 2007

Piers Gough, Nick Johnson and Hanif Kara are Appointed as Commissioners to Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE)

Margaret Hodge, Minister for Culture, Creative Industries and Tourism announced today that Piers Gough, Nick Johnson and Hanif Kara have been appointed as Commissioners to CABE.

Piers Gough and Hanif Kara's four year appointments will run from 1 August 2007 to 31 July 2011. Nick Johnson's four year appointment will run from 15 December 2007 to 14 December 2011.

Biographical notes

Piers Gough

Piers Gough is Principal of CZWG Architects LLP, which has a track record of designing developer and RSL schemes, many in urban locations and involving a high proportion of residential accommodation. The practice was founded in 1975. Principal buildings include China Wharf, Cascades, and many subsequent buildings in the Docklands; Clerkenwell, Soho and Bankside Lofts; Mile End Park Green Bridge, Camden Wharf and The Glass Building; and Westbourne Grove Public Toilets and flower kiosk! The Masterplan for the Gorbals in Glasgow has won universal acclaim as an exemplar of inner city regeneration. Piers was a member of CABE's design review panel from its inception, and until recently, was a Commissioner of English Heritage and on its Stonehenge Committee, having previously been on its London Advisory Committee and Urban Panel. Before that Piers was on the Urban Design Group set up by the London Docklands Development Corporation. He has lectured extensively in Europe, America and China, and contributed regularly to the architectural press, radio and magazines. He is Design Champion for Kent County Council.

Piers has not been involved in any political activity during the last five years.

Hanif Kara

Hanif Kara is a leading Structural Engineer and Director of Adams Kara Taylor Ltd where he has been involved in high profile construction projects throughout the United Kingdom and Europe, many of which have been awarded or recognised as excellent in terms of the design, sustainability or value. His projects have included Peckham Library, which won both the Stirling Prize and the Prime Minister's Better Public Building Award, the National Trust Headquarters in Swindon, which won 17 design awards, and the Phaeno Centre in Germany which has won critical acclaim globally. He is a Member of the Design Review Panel for CABE and he was selected for the Master Jury for the 2004 Aga Khan Awards for Architecture. In 2004 he was

made an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects. He was recently appointed as one of 15 members of the Design for London Advisory Group to Mayor of London. Hanif has had teaching positions throughout Europe and North America and his work is closely linked with the Research and Education, he taught a diploma unit at the Architectural Association (London 2000-2004), is a visiting lecturer at Harvard (Boston) and guest professor of technology at KTH Stockholm.

Hanif has not been involved in any political activity during the last five years.

Nick Johnson

Nick Johnson is Deputy Chief Executive of Manchester based urban regeneration company Urban Splash. Over the last 10 years he has been responsible for Britannia Basin, a £45million development project of over 350 apartments and office units in Castlefield, Manchester. Currently he leads the project team for New Islington, Manchester's Millennium Community, and Park Hill, Sheffield, Europe's largest listed building. New Islington in Manchester is increasingly being recognised as an exemplar regeneration project. Taking Will Alsop's vision, and working closely with English Partnerships and the local community, Urban Splash have brought together a host of architects including FAT, Ian Simpson Architects, De Metz Forbes Knight, Ben Kelly Design, DSDHA and others. By 2012, over 1500 new homes will have been constructed together with a new park, 2 new canals, a primary health care facility and primary school. Nick chairs Marketing Manchester, the agency responsible for the promotion of Manchester, with an annual budget of over £5million. For almost 10 years, during the 1990's, he was a self employed consultant, specialising in development advice on many regeneration projects across the North West, for both public and private sector clients. His projects included Houldsworth Mill in Stockport, the Northern Quarter and Spinningfields in Manchester. Nick also worked extensively with Central Manchester Development Corporation on early regeneration projects in the city. Nick is has recently been appointed the Edward P Bass Distinguished Visiting Architecture Fellow at Yale School of Architecture. He is a frequent public speaker.

Nick has not been involved in any political activity during the last five years.

Background

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 (DCMS), with additional funding from Communities and Local Government (CLG).

Remuneration for these Commissioner posts is c. £5,600 a year.

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.