



Architects Registration Board  
eBulletin : July 2017

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## Chair's Message

**Our recently re-elected Chair looks ahead to ARB's work plan for the second half of 2017 and beyond.**

Welcome to the July eBulletin.

We are all deeply shocked and saddened by the Grenfell Tower fire tragedy. In the wake of this terrible fire, the public and media focus on regulation in the construction profession is understandably heightened. Many are interested to learn more about the nature and extent of the regulatory safeguards which exist in the public interest. At this time, we continue to work hard to communicate our role as a regulator to both the profession and the users of architects' services so that people are aware of the protections in place. We have published a [statement](#) on our website in response to the enquiries we have received.

The recent Periodic Review of the regulation of architects, conducted by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG), is also a key area of focus for us at present. We are working with the Department to move forward with the recommendations from the Review starting with the move towards an all appointed Board which will bring ARB into line with best practice among other regulated professions. When DCLG advertises these appointments, we will reach out to the profession to encourage applications from a diverse range of high calibre candidates, who have the skills and expertise required to support the work of a modern regulator. At the July Board

meeting, we were provided with an update on the Periodic Review and you can [read more about this in an article in this eBulletin](#).

At our recent Board meeting, we discussed our proposals to undertake 'business as usual' reviews of the Criteria and the Procedures that underpin the qualifications we recognise. Subject to discussion with the DCLG, the Board decided that the next step should be to undertake a pre-consultation exercise in the early autumn, and to report the findings of the exercise to the Board in November, so that we can then make decisions on the way forward. Please look out for more information on our website over the coming weeks.

Myself and my fellow Board colleagues discussed a number of other matters at the Board meeting



including:

- An update on [mid-year performance against the 2017 Business Plan](#),
- Annual reports from the [Prescription Committee](#) and the [Investigations Oversight Committee](#),
- A [mid-year report on statistics, trends and performance indicators for 2017](#),
- The [Management Accounts 2017](#) and Year-end Forecast, and
- The [Business Plan and Priorities 2017-2018](#).

We reviewed the organisation's mid-year performance and agreed a request for [additional resources](#); with these in place, ARB is on track to meet its challenging targets.

I would like to finish by saying that I am delighted to have been re-elected as Chair of the ARB and look forward to continuing to work with Richard Parnaby, who has been re-elected as Vice-Chair, and the other Board Members as we continue to regulate the profession in the public interest. A key element of our work is stakeholder engagement and we are keen to hear the views of others, if you would like to speak to us please email us at [info@arb.org.uk](mailto:info@arb.org.uk) or you can call us on +44 (0) 20 7580 5861.

Best wishes,

Nabila Zulfiqar



UK law. We also continue to comply with existing EU legislation (the Professional Qualifications Directive (2005/36/EC)). Our sponsoring government department, the Department for Communities and Local Government, will notify us of any changes that may need to be made to our role and remit in the future. Nonetheless, we recognise that many of our stakeholders have questions in relation to the UK's decision to leave the EU and so we have published a list of FAQs on our website, these were updated in June 2017 and can be viewed [here](#).

## Interactive map for students

Do you know someone who is considering studying to become an architect? If so, please tell them about the [interactive map](#) of Schools and Institutions of Architecture which is available on our new website.

Not all UK architecture qualifications are prescribed by ARB for the purposes of entry to the UK Register of Architects so we're working to encourage those considering a career as an architect to use this tool to find the best qualification for their needs. It's easy to use, just select the part you are looking for (Part 1, Part 2 or Part 3) and whether you want a qualification which is part or full time and the map will show you the options available.

If you need any help using this or any other of our services please email the team at [info@arb.org.uk](mailto:info@arb.org.uk) or call us on +44 (0) 20 7580 5861 and we'll be happy to help.



## Dear Architect

Dear Architect

### [Review of how we investigate complaints](#)

ARB is about to undertake a review of how it investigates complaints made about architects, to see whether the current procedures in place are appropriate and efficient.

There will be another consultation before any final decisions are made in respect of changes to the current disciplinary regime, but first we want as many views as possible on what our investigations procedures should look like. We are particularly keen to hear from the profession, or those that have had contact with ARB, on how we should deal with complaints about architects.

The consultation documents are available [here](#) and we would really welcome your input.



## Brexit FAQs

At present the Architects Act 1997 remains in place and we continue to deliver on our remit as set out in



## 2016 Annual Report coming soon

We will soon be publishing the 2016 Annual Report. This report will set out our work in 2016, providing details of how we delivered against the business plan. It will also provide a range of facts and figures about the Register including the male/female split of architects as well as information about the qualifications we recognise and the complaints we received in 2016.

To make sure you don't miss this please visit Registrants' [online services](#) to check that you have selected to receive this communication. You can also edit your details via this portal so if you have changed your contact details recently, please use this service so that we can update them on the Register.



## Prescription of qualifications

At the last Board meeting on 13 July 2017, the Board considered an application from an institution seeking prescription of its qualification under the Architects Act 1997 for the first time. In line with its

Procedures for the Prescription of Qualifications, the Board considered the response to the consultation it had undertaken.

The Board decided that the following qualification should be prescribed from July 2017 until June 2021:

### **Falmouth University** BA (Hons) Architecture

The Board also considered applications from institutions seeking to renew prescription of its qualifications under the Architects Act 1997.

The Board decided that prescription of the following qualifications should continue until September 2021:

### **University College London/The Bartlett**

BSc (Hons) Architecture

MArch Architecture (ARB/RIBA Part 2)

The Bartlett Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Practice & Management in Architecture ARB Part 3

The Bartlett Postgraduate Diploma in Professional Practice & Management in Architecture ARB/RIBA Part 3

### **Newcastle University**

Bachelor of Arts (Hons) in Architecture

Master of Architecture

Postgraduate Diploma in Architectural Practice and Management

### **University of Lincoln**

Bachelor of Architecture (Hons)

Master of Architecture

And that prescription of the following qualification should continue until January 2022:

### **Anglia Ruskin University**

BA (Hons) Architecture

For further details, please see the 'Schools and Institutions of Architecture' section of ARB's website.



## Periodic Review update

At the July Board meeting, the Board noted an update regarding the [Periodic Review recommendations](#). The recommendations covered a range of factors including moving to an all appointed Board and implementing changes to streamline ARB's professional conduct process. There were also recommendations relating to the EU Professional Qualifications Directive and the accreditation of qualifications recognised by ARB, but the report on the Review made clear that any change in this area would not be taken forward until it is known what arrangements will be in place once the UK has left the EU.

Most of the recommendations are in the domain of DCLG, such as those which require changes to primary legislation, but we have identified seven of the points which require action on our part and the paper presented to the Board sets out progress on these.

At the recent Board meeting the Registrar provided a verbal update on behalf of DCLG, explaining that the Department had commenced the process of implementing the recommendation to move towards a smaller Board, a change which is expected in spring 2018.