

Architects Registration Board

Purpose and Objectives

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1. What is ARB?

The Architects Registration Board (ARB) was established by an Act of Parliament - the Architects Act - in 1997. ARB is both the independent statutory regulator of all UK architects and the UK's competent authority for architects.

ARB has fifteen members on its Board, eight of whom are members of the public (lay members) appointed by the Privy Council, and seven are architects who are elected by their peers. The term of office for both architect and lay members is four years, with the option of a second consecutive four-year term if reappointed or re-elected.

2. ARB's Purpose and Objectives

Our primary purpose is to deliver the Act. In doing so, we will also observe other statutory requirements.

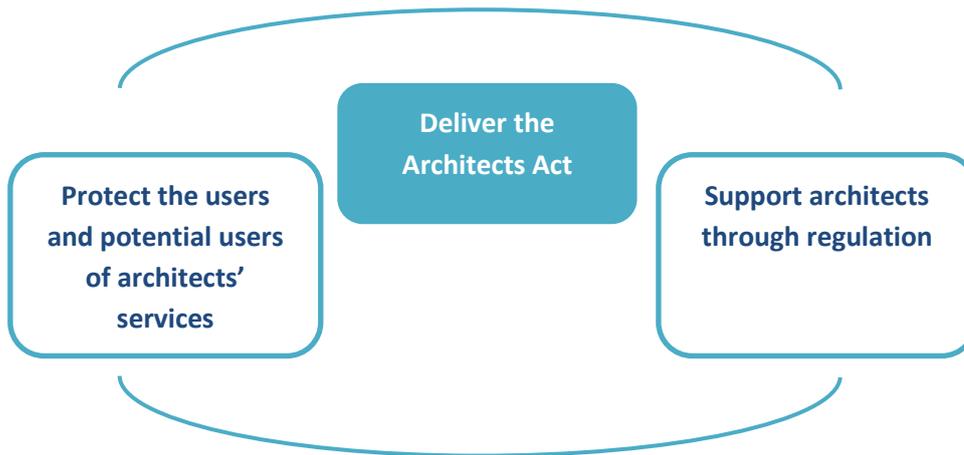
In accordance with the provisions of the Architects Act 1997, we work to ensure that architects are competent and behave with integrity. We set and maintain standards for entry to the Register of Architects, as well as the standards of conduct and practice which are expected of architects.

The ARB Board has identified two objectives from the Act which underpin all of our work. These are:

Protect the users and potential users of architects' services

Support architects through regulation

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Protect the users and potential users of architects' services: We will protect the users and potential users of architects' services by regulating architects so that the public can be confident that architects are appropriately qualified. We will raise the public's awareness of the Register.

Support architects through regulation: We will maintain and publicly demonstrate the status of architects as competent, qualified professionals, and we will regulate use of the title "architect". We will raise awareness of the Architects Code of Conduct and Practice and the need for those on the Register to maintain their competence.

We will ensure that we act in a manner which is at all times proportionate, while seeking to maximise the efficient and effective use of our resources. We will ensure that we secure value for money, and that we are accountable to our stakeholders.

We will work in conjunction with partners from within the profession, education, the wider built environment and beyond to deliver our objectives in the most efficient way.

3. ARB's Values

Our values underpin everything we do.

We will reflect our core values throughout the organisation in all our activities and communications. This will demonstrate that ARB is a professional, confident and cohesive organisation which actively listens to and engages with its stakeholders.

ARB's Core Values

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Proportionality:	ARB's actions are proportionate and demonstrate the efficient and effective use of its resources, taking into account the issues and risks involved.
Objectivity:	ARB is objective in taking decisions, and its actions are based on evidence.
Openness:	ARB welcomes, encourages and considers the opinions of others.
Transparency:	Wherever possible, ARB is transparent in its actions, makes information accessible to others and takes decisions in public.
Integrity:	ARB is professional and honest, and treats everyone with respect.
Consistency:	ARB's rules, guidance and procedures will be harmonised and implemented fairly

4. What ARB does

Our responsibilities are set out within the Architects Act 1997, and are outlined below.

- To maintain and publish the Register of Architects.
- To prescribe ("recognise") the UK qualifications needed to become an architect.
- To register those who meet ARB's requirements for qualifications, experience and competence.
- To set standards for professional competence.
- To issue a code laying down standards of conduct and practice expected of architects.
- To regulate use of the title "architect".
- To deal with complaints and enquiries from members of the public regarding the conduct and competence of architects.
- ARB is the Competent Authority for architects in the UK. In this capacity, ARB liaises with its counterparts in other European countries to fulfil its obligations.

5. Business Planning

We will develop an annual Business Plan which will identify the work to be undertaken in each year to further the objectives. We publish the Business Plan on our website, and welcome feedback from stakeholders. Comments will be taken into consideration when developing the following year's Business Plan.

We will review our performance against the Business Plan on a regular basis.