



# ARCHITECTURE ADVISORY BOARD MEETING NOTES

Wednesday 2nd March 2022; 9:00AM - 10:00AM

**Meeting Segment: Welcome & Introduction to Blueprint for All - Sonia Watson**

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**Meeting Segment: HomeGrown Plus - Neil Pinder**

Homegrown Plus is a not-for-profit organisation founded by Neil Pinder to address issues of diversity in architecture and beyond. Neil has been a trustee of Blueprint for All for the past 15 years, through his work HomeGrown Plus acts as a link between schools, universities and architectural practices. Blueprint for All are excited to explore our partnership and access its incredible resources.

To find out more about the work of HomeGrown Plus please visit their website: <https://homegrownplus.co.uk/> or contact Neil Pinder: [homegrownplus@icloud.com](mailto:homegrownplus@icloud.com)

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**Meeting Segment: Updates on the Building Futures Programme - Simone Dos Santos, Programme Officer**

**Workshops** - Building Future's delivered the first two workshops of the year, **Apprenticeships in Architecture** with Scott Brownrigg, to tie in with National Apprenticeship Week and **employability** with urban and HTA. We have CV, Portfolio, Visualisation and Skills workshops to come and we are developing **toolkits** with our partners.

**Partner Engagement Grid** - As we develop our plans for the year, we are inviting practices that are **committed to accelerating change in their industry** to join us. The Partner Engagement Grid (attached to this email) includes a **list of both financial and non-financial asks** and has been attached to this email.

Please let us know what opportunities listed in the grid are of interest to you and your colleagues and we can start to initiate the process: [sdossantos@blueprintforall.org](mailto:sdossantos@blueprintforall.org) or [hpenny@blueprintforall.org](mailto:hpenny@blueprintforall.org)

**#Bemoreinclusive Partnership** - To date our **partnership with urban** has raised over **£45,000** for Blueprint for All.

For information on how to recruit through our **#BeMoreInclusive Partnership** please email **Mark Nagle: [mark@bemoreurban.com](mailto:mark@bemoreurban.com)**

**Mentoring on Guider** - Launched our first 32 mentors for Building Futures programme on our new online mentoring platform Guider. We are looking to increase capacity of the platform in the new year, so if interested please register your interest through our website: <https://www.blueprintforall.org/mentoring/> once you sign up you will be invited to attend our mentor training session on the **17th March** to learn more about Guider and the platform.

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### **Meeting Segment: Apprenticeships in Architecture - Helen Taylor, Scott Brownrigg**

Architectural apprenticeships provide an alternative route in architecture, providing opportunities to train, study and work within the industry.

Level 6 is equivalent to your Part 1, there is a huge demand but there are a limited number of employers offering it with funding allocated at £25,000. Level 7 is equivalent to Part 2 and 3, take up and interest is high with £21,000 funding allocated. Apprentices are recruited as full-time (30hrs) paid members of staff with a minimum of 20% of their contracted time spent training.

For more information on apprenticeships please visit [Scott Brownrigg's page on apprenticeships](#) and see the summary we made attached in this email or for any questions please email **Helen Taylor: [h.taylor@scottbrownrigg.com](mailto:h.taylor@scottbrownrigg.com)**

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### **Meeting Segment: Connecting People in Places - Libby Taylor, Programme Officer**

The connecting people and places programme aims to drive systematic change in organisations and society by increasing recognition of how **communities of diverse ethnic heritage have influenced their heritage** across England.

In **phase 1** several young researchers created **17 case studies of heritage sites** significant to local communities of diverse ethnic heritage. We then went on to create an insights report which is now published on our website to show how more people can get involved, to find out more please visit the report [HERE](#).

As part of the **second phase**, we have shared the insights gained through a **6-episode podcast** and exhibitions that will be hosted in **6 regions** across England over the next couple of months. If you would like to be a **guest speaker at one of the exhibition celebratory events** or are able to **provide materials**, please get in touch with the team: [cppteam@blueprintforall.org](mailto:cppteam@blueprintforall.org)

## Meeting Segment: Barriers Discussion and Advisory Board Commitments

*What are the top barriers that young people face when entering a professional career?*

Blueprint for All commissioned Censuswide to survey 500 people aged 18-24 who attended university in the spring of 2021. From this research 96% of young people see barriers for entering a professional career with the top barriers being high levels of competition, companies wanting to hire experienced employees, entry level jobs becoming out of reach and salary, all issues that our programme participants have experienced with the architectural industry too.

Unfortunately, we did run out of time and were unable to discuss this further but please have a read of the [Life Chances Survey report](#) [HERE](#). Ahead of our next meeting please consider the survey results and [how your practices can support our young people entering careers in the built environment](#) and build a society where businesses and organisations thrive because of an inclusive culture.

### Questions

**Ken Okonkwo, Haworth Tompkins:** Would like to get involved with HomeGrown Plus and will get in contact with Neil Pinder. Ken asked Helen from SB how to recruit for a level 6 apprenticeship?

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### Meeting Attendees

- **Sonia Watson** - CEO
- **Aleksandra Paduch** - Scott Brownrigg
- **Alfonso Padro** - HKS Architects
- **Caroline Dove** - HTA Design
- **Duncan Finch** - Avanti Architects
- **Esther Njie** - Foster + Partners
- **Eve Denney** - JTP
- **Harjinder Singh** - Rogers Stirk Harbour & Partners
- **Heather Storry** - Independent HR Consultant
- **Helen Taylor** - Scott Brownrigg
- **Jack Newton** - Rogers Stirk Harbour & Partners
- **Ken Okonkwo** - Haworth Tompkins
- **Neil Farrance** - Formation Architect
- **Neil Pinder** - HomeGrown Plus
- **Peter Garstecki** - Foster + Partners
- **Bana Tesfamichael** - Project Coordinator, Blueprint for All
- **Hermione Penny** - Programme Manager, Blueprint for All
- **Libby Taylor** - Programme Officer, Blueprint for All
- **Mila Rebello** - Senior IT & Digital Office, Blueprint for All
- **Rachel Howsen** - Programme Officer, Blueprint for All
- **Rahima Begum** - Programmes Coordinator, Blueprint for All
- **Simone Dos Santos** - Programme Officer, Blueprint for All

