



MINISTERIAL ADVISORY GROUP
ARCHITECTURE AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT
FOR NORTHERN IRELAND

What we do



MAG promotes the highest quality of places for all those involved in using and shaping them.

In 2006, the Northern Ireland government adopted the Policy for Architecture and the Built Environment and in 2007 established a publicly appointed group of professionals. Now comprising a Chair, 7 Members and 21 Specialist Advisors, the Ministerial Advisory Group (MAG) advises on the implementation and development of the Policy.

Our Roles



The Group undertakes its roles in a number of ways including briefing and design workshops, design reviews, consultation responses, site visits, symposiums, position papers, research, advising and working with government departments and district councils

It works across the 11 district councils areas of Northern Ireland and specifically looks at the following subject areas:

- Design and briefing review
- Procurement
- Planning
- Landscape
- Heritage
- Sustainability
- Creativity and innovation
- Community and social
- External communications
- Education and training

Our Work

A collection of work that the Group has delivered between 2007 – 2016



07 SYMPOSIUMS

22 DIRECT COUNCILS ADVISED

40 DIRECT COUNCILS STUDY VISIT REPORTS

62 CONSULTATION RESPONSES

81 BRIEFING AND DESIGN REVIEW REPORTS

+ NUMEROUS MEETINGS, SITE VISITS AND GUIDANCE PROVIDED

Our Aims



EVIDENCE

MAG is developing an evidence base of the benefits associated with:

- Briefing Workshops
- Design Reviews
- Procurement Processes
- Education and Training

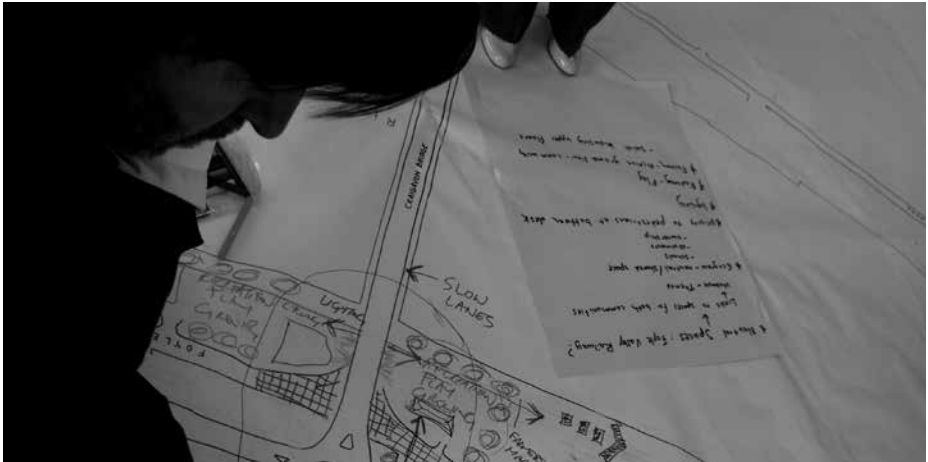


OUTREACH

MAG is producing a suite of documents to demonstrate how the expertise of MAG can be applied, and the Architecture and Built Environment Policy can be implemented by decision makers including those in councils, government departments, housing associations and the community.

This body of work will be complimented by further resources, including:

- Case Studies related to the Creative Consultation Toolkit and the qualities in 'Living Places', the urban stewardship and design guide for Northern Ireland
- Awards as a means to celebrate and inspire excellence in place making
- Symposiums facilitating increased understanding and engagement in relation to issues of strategic importance to Northern Ireland



ACTIONS

Briefing, Procurement & Design Review

We believe in good design from the start to the finish of a project. MAG will continue to work with Central Procurement Directorate, Centres of Procurement Expertise, district councils, housing associations and others, to optimise the quality of briefing and associated procurement processes.

We will facilitate workshops to increase understanding of the value of good briefing and procurement.

MAG will promote and be available to assist with briefing and design reviews while encouraging organisations to build long-term relationships with MAG design review services.



Civic Stewardship

MAG will continue to promote and provide training in civic stewardship across central and local government to reflect people's needs and contributions in relation to their places.

We will work to help realise the value of what we already have. We will encourage and facilitate the development of comprehensive and achievable proposals

for regenerating the places which district councils regard as priorities.

We will champion better strategic planning and design working methods, contributing to the Strategic Design Group with the Department for Infrastructure and others, alongside the promotion of problem-solving studios.

Members

As well as individual responsibilities, the group works collectively with each of the 11 district councils of Northern Ireland.

Andrew Haley (Chair)

Landscape Architect and
Urban Designer

EXPERTISE:

Strategic planning, stakeholder
engagement, regeneration

Rachel Bevan

Architect

EXPERTISE:

Equality, social inclusion, sustainability,
architect's practice, education

Dr Patrice Cairns

Civil and Structural Engineer,
Policy Manager

EXPERTISE:

Climate change, sustainability,
stakeholder engagement, policy analysis

Deirdre Greaney

Architect and Urban Designer

EXPERTISE:

Urban design, community regeneration

Lara Kinneir

Urban Designer and Senior Lecturer

EXPERTISE:

Strategic planning and
regeneration, urban governance,
design, cultural placemaking

Mary Laheen

Architect and Lecturer

EXPERTISE:

Design, landscape heritage, urban &
building conservation, strategic planning

Alwyn Riddell

Architect and Town planner

EXPERTISE:

Regeneration, communities,
urban design, planning

Nicola Waddington

Architect

EXPERTISE:

Urban regeneration, planning,
strategic design

Expert Advisors

Expert Advisors support the MAG on an ad-hoc basis to assist in other areas where the MAG requires additional specialist expertise:

Jason Bolton

EXPERTISE:

Archaeology

Gordon Clarke

EXPERTISE:

Active travel,
landscape architecture

Grainne Cumming

EXPERTISE:

Sustainable development

Justine Daly

EXPERTISE:

Architecture, urban design

John FitzGerald

EXPERTISE:

Architecture

Feargal Harron

EXPERTISE:

Architecture

James Hennessey

EXPERTISE:

Landscape architecture,
urban design

Alan Jones

EXPERTISE:

Architecture

Philip Jones

EXPERTISE:

Urban design

Gregory Keeffe

EXPERTISE:

Renewable energy

Mary Kerrigan

EXPERTISE:

Conservation architecture

Trevor Leaker

EXPERTISE:

Sustainable development

Ciaran Mackel

EXPERTISE:

Urban design

Terence McCaw

EXPERTISE:

Architecture

Marianne O’Kane Boal

EXPERTISE:

Art

James O’Neill

EXPERTISE:

Ecology

Richard Partington

EXPERTISE:

Sustainable development

Paul Reynolds

EXPERTISE:

Urban design

Taina Rikala

EXPERTISE:

Urban design

Austin Smyth

EXPERTISE:

Transport engineering

Ken Sterrett

EXPERTISE:

Urban design

Alex Wright

EXPERTISE:

Architecture,
conservation architecture

Please contact us for further information,
to discuss how MAG can support your work.

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