

# Re-Format Review 2013

## Focused on Design

Are things hotting up in our industry with the OECD reporting construction growth at its fastest pace for six years? Whilst it may still be early to be too optimistic, as we move into 2014 we are proud to say that 2013 proved to be another productive and successful year. Certainly with more projects on site concurrently than for many recent years we're making our mark across the south.

After many years of careful consultation and planning work we've been successful at two separate planning appeals

in Farnham. Each appeal was handled entirely in-house, with one of the projects shortlisted for 2012's Housing Design Awards; testament to our passion and belief that design excellence will win the day.

Equally busy, our graphic designers have undertaken new identity and website projects for clients keen to expand their own brand potential.

In the summer we re-launched our Re-Format Your House website. Originally featured in Grand Designs magazine, RFYH has a growing number of private residential clients.

As part of our growth plans we are pleased to announce that Dan Brunt, Gavin Hensman and Matt Swanton have accepted

partnerships within the practice. Dan, Gavin and Matt have contributed considerably towards Re-Format's exceptional development over the past few years and we are looking forward to providing ever stronger design services to our growing client list.



## Making an Entrance

Image 1

We are delighted that our work at St Polycarp's Catholic Primary School won Best New Building – Highly Commended in the Waverley Design Awards 2013, showcasing the best architecture in the region. The stunning alterations and extensions provide a much needed new entrance to the School.

## Winned Mill

Image 3

Our consent at appeal for a 70 bed care home and 16 shared ownership family houses at Bourne Mill, Farnham, follows success on appeal for 9 townhouses on an adjoining site. The inspector was entirely satisfied that the proposals successfully responded to this complex site in keeping with the NPPF's sustainable objectives.

## Re-Location

Image 4

Construction is underway to expand and restore a Grade II listed barn and farm complex to create Re-Format's new studio and conference facilities. The new premises are conveniently located in Petersfield, Hampshire, near to the mainline railway station and adjacent to the A3 for easy access.

## Spanish Steps

Image 5

Our annual study trip was to Valencia, Southern Spain. Guided by a local architect we toured this intriguing city and gained a great insight into its unique urban development.

The most impressive feature of Valencia is the 18km long linear urban park that was created in the vast disused river bed of the Turia when the waterway had to be diverted due to devastating floods.

## Silver Service

We're proud to have improved our Investors in People recognition by achieving the higher Silver level of the standard. Awarded to only 5% of all IIP businesses, this demonstrates our commitment to improving our business through involvement and development of all our team members.

## Over The Top

Image 2

Re-Format's new building for Canford School was formally opened by the outgoing Headmaster John Lever, who retired after 21 years at the School.

The new building, containing chemistry, physics, maths, economics, classics and the central IT suite, is built over and around an existing single storey building to complete the central zone of the Grade I listed campus.

## On His Bike

Image 6

Re-Format team member Ewan recently cycled 250 miles through 2 countries in 48 hours. The team raised over £50,000 for the Halow Project Charity which is dedicated to creating opportunities and providing support for young people with learning disabilities.

## News Flash

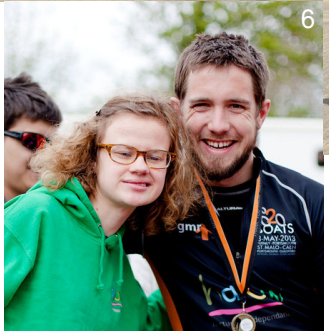
Commissioned by Portsmouth City Council to look at upgrading SEN provision in the City

Commissioned by Mansell to design new Free School in Lewisham

Successful bid with Balfour Beatty to deliver new Primary School for London Borough of Hillingdon

3 commissions from Richmond, Sutton & Merton framework for Leisure Centre / Residential Scheme / Primary School Extension

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## Top Marks

Image 7 | 8

Alongside our work on the School's logo, signage and wayfinding, we were commissioned by Chase Bridge Primary School to design a new prospectus and stationery set consisting of letterheads, business cards, compliments slips and folders.

We successfully integrated the secondary colour palette (which had been implemented in the new building design) to complement the School's traditional maroon colour. Chase Bridge Headteacher, Andrew King commented '...it's fantastic! Looks clean, coherent and professional.'



Cover Image – Beam Cottage  
100% Recycled Paper



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## Going, Going, Gone

Image 10

We have recently completed a residential development for Hazeley Developments in Winchester. The new units replaced a single dwelling and were all sold off-plan within days of release.

## On Site in West Sussex

Image 11

Re-Format currently has 10 projects on site for West Sussex County Council as part of their ongoing programme of school expansion and civil project upgrades.

## Crawley Showcase

Image 12

We have submitted a planning application for a new museum in Crawley, West Sussex. The design imaginatively extends and alters a listed building containing a 13th century 'Hall House' whilst providing a new welcoming and open approach for the public.



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## Mid-term Planning Report

By Richard Goodall, Planning Consultant

Consistent with all new Governments coming into power, the planning system was identified as one in need of a radical overhaul to deliver a fairer and faster process.

The flagship change to the planning system was meant to be the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) which, with the strike of a pen, made obsolete hundreds of pages of the last Government's planning policy and replaced it with clear, concise, progressive and growth centric policies. Its golden thread was the presumption in favour of sustainable development, and by implication, all proposals which were 'sustainable' would be approved without delay.

18 months since the NPPF was published the planning system has changed very little.

The percentage of appeals allowed remains stubbornly low

and the definition of sustainable development remains worryingly loose and subjective, giving Inspectors the power to refuse developments that they do not like. In addition, the revocation of the Regional Spatial Strategy was to return power to the local level, avoiding imposition of development on communities.

The reality is that the NPPF still requires LPAs to maintain a five year housing land supply and for most authorities that will be based on the old RSS figures given the absence of any reliable evidence based alternatives. On a more positive note, LPAs without a five year housing land supply and an aged Local Plan are at risk of speculative windfall housing sites being brought forward and have limited powers to prevent them.

So opportunities are still there for the right sites in the right locations, but the NPPF has not made the planning stage easier.



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# MAT

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### Architecture

Project Management  
Masterplanning  
Planning Services  
CDM Co-ordination  
3D Visualisation

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