



design  
south-east

---

**supporting a better  
built environment**

## Recruitment Pack for the South+East Design Panel

1. An outline of the South+East Design Panel
2. Personal Specification: Panel Members and Panel Chairs
3. Application and selection process

### 1. An outline of the South+East Design Panel

Stretching from the New Forest to the Norfolk Broads, and Milton Keynes to Margate the regions which make up the South+East Design Panel area are diverse and complex. As well as being the largest and most economically productive, the South and East between them have many challenges and opportunities, from the need to accommodate tens of thousands of new homes to the regeneration of towns and cities while protecting and enhancing the setting of various internationally important landscapes and heritage assets; be they on the coast, the outskirts of the capital or relatively isolated rural communities, they are all co-joined by the need to deliver sustainable growth.

The South+East Design Panel brings together a multidisciplinary group of built environment experts to offer independent, impartial advice to Local Planning Authorities and developers to support better decision making around design, architecture and place making. The Design Review process, by offering a high level of expertise for a condensed period of time, is able to offer a very efficient means of accessing expert design advice.



Design South East is looking to appoint a group of individuals to contribute their professional built environment expertise to assist in evaluating and promoting good design across our area.

## **ABOUT THE SOUTH+EAST DESIGN PANEL**

The South East Regional Design Panel was established by Design South East and SEEDA in 2002 and was the first regional panel in England. Since then the Panel has gone on to review over 600 regionally significant schemes across the South East. The East of England Design Panel has a similar heritage and has a long history of providing highly respected design advice.

The South+East Design Panel (S+EDP) brings together the East of England Design Panel and the South East Regional Design Panel, as a single entity, acknowledging the thematic similarities that the two areas have. As such, the Panel will be expected to deal with the review of a wide range of development proposals from large town centre sites and urban extensions to sensitive rural development.

The objective of S+EDP is to help raise the quality of development in the greater South East through the provision of timely, expert and independent design advice, offering support to local authorities, developers and design teams through a discursive process of critical appraisal of development proposals.

## **THE OPERATION OF THE DESIGN PANEL**

The S+EDP will review and advise across the whole range of development types which are being promoted in the South and East, from masterplans and individual buildings to design guidance and design codes.

The panel will be operational from October 2014.

The Panel operates peripatetically, delivering its advice on the ground where it is required.

The make-up of a typical Design Panel meeting will be a multidisciplinary group of five experts, whose expertise reflect the needs of the project. The Panel will be lead by a number of Chairs who will be called upon to lead the Panel.

We are now seeking to recruit a Panel Chairs and Panel Members.



## 2. Person Specification: Panel Members and Panel Chair

The application process is open to all suitably qualified practitioners and professionals. We would like to appoint a balanced membership reflecting the diversity of the area in terms of age, gender and cultural background.

Applicants must be able to demonstrate a high degree of expertise and experience in one or more of the following:

- Architecture
- Urban design
- Economic development
- Transport planning
- Landscape architecture
- Sustainability
- Planning
- Community development
- Heritage

All applicants must demonstrate the following **essential** criteria:

- A commitment to design quality of buildings, streets and places
- An understanding of the South East and/or the East of England, its environment and planning context
- A talent for critical appraisal
- An ability to communicate complex design observations to a range of audiences both lay and professional
- A qualification in one of the built environment professions
- A proven track record for influencing better buildings and spaces
- Availability for a minimum of 4 days per year to attend meetings

A good knowledge of the greater South East and its particular challenges is **desirable**, and essential in applications for Chair.

You must be able to offer a minimum of four days annually to attend panel meetings which will be held across the area.

A payment of up to £200+VAT will be paid per day, travel expenses associated with the Design Review process will be paid. Appointments will be made for a three year term.

Members and the Chair will be appointed as individuals rather than as representatives of their company, organisation or other interests.



## **PANEL MEMBERS**

Members of the S+EDP will be acknowledged experts in their field, with a demonstrable track record of working on projects of significant scale, sensitivity and complexity. Applicants must demonstrate their “added value” to the design of schemes they have been involved in, in the past.

Applications are invited from urban designers, town planners, architects, landscape architects, developers, engineers and others with a commitment to design quality and a talent for critical appraisal.

Existing members of the South East Regional Design Panel or East of England Panel appointed more than three years ago will need to apply through this process.

## **PANEL CHAIR**

The Chairs of the S+EDP will be respected built environment practitioners with strong diplomatic and interpersonal skills in communicating the value of design.

Any Chair of the Panel will have a good knowledge of the greater South East and commitment to raising the quality of the environment in the area.

The interviews for Panel Chair will be held on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2014**.

## **PANEL INDUCTION**

All successful candidates will be required to attend a Design Panel induction day and Launch on **Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> October 2014**. The provisional venue of the induction meeting is central London.



### 3. Application and selection process

#### **APPLICATION PROCESS**

Recruitment of the Panel will be carried out through an open, objective process.

Application for Panel Membership or Panel Chair is by application form and supporting CV. Please indicate clearly if you wish to be considered for the Chair.

Please submit your application to Robert Offord at Design South East, Admiral's Offices, Historic Dockyard, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4TZ

The deadline for applications will be **Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2014**.

Applicants short-listed for the position of Chair will be invited to interview on **Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2014**.

#### **SELECTION PROCESS**

Applications will be assessed by an independent evaluator and representatives of Design South East.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

Further information on the work of the Panel can be obtained by emailing [sarah@designsoutheast.org](mailto:sarah@designsoutheast.org) or telephoning 01634 401 166.

For an informal discussion about the roles, please contact **Robert Offord** at Design South East.

