

Issue Date: Monday 27 September

## SHORTLIST ANNOUNCED FOR NEW ISLINGTON ARCHITECT AND DEVELOPER COMPETITION

Today Urban Splash has announced the shortlist for the New Islington Architect and Developer Competition which was launched on 9 July 04. Expressions of interest were invited to find a team that will design and develop a 6,750 m<sup>2</sup> plot at the 29-acre Millennium Community, East Manchester.

The shortlisted teams are:

- Angel Property with Spacecraft Architects
- Igloo Regeneration Partnership/Aviva with de Rijke Marsh Morgan Architects
- Grosvenor Investments Ltd with Squire and Partners Architects
- Oregon (R-Gen/Nikal) with Mecanoo Architects
- Taylor Woodrow Developments Ltd with shedkm Architects
- London and Newcastle with Hawkins Brown Architects
- City Lofts Group plc with Conran and Partners Architects

“It was very difficult to narrow the selection down to just seven teams,” said Nick Johnson, development director, Urban Splash. “The 25 entries we received were very strong and from some outstanding teams”.

“The quality of the teams short listed for this competition reflects the growing interest and enthusiasm being generated for New Islington and New East Manchester,” said Tom Russell, chief executive, New East Manchester Ltd

New Islington is one of seven Millennium Communities managed by national regeneration agency English Partnerships. David Chilton, senior regeneration manager for English Partnerships said: “This is a hugely important project and like all the Millennium Communities, requires the highest standards of design, sustainability and innovation. We are very pleased with the quality of the organisations shortlisted and are confident we’ll be able to appoint architect and developer partners who will help us make a real difference in this part of New East Manchester.”

*More follows*

**SHORTLIST ANNOUNCED FOR NEW ISLINGTON ARCHITECT AND DEVELOPER COMPETITION Contd...**

# NEW ISLINGTON

PRESS INFORMATION

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The teams have been invited to make formal presentations to Urban Splash and its partners at New Islington. It is expected that a winner will be announced on 11 November 04.

The judges for the competition are:

- Tom Bloxham MBE, chairman, Urban Splash
- Nick Johnson, development director, Urban Splash
- Clive Wilding, English Partnerships
- David Chiltern, senior regeneration manager, English Partnerships
- Lyn Fenton, Ancoats Urban Village Company
- Tom Russell, chief executive, New East Manchester Ltd
- Matthew Harrison, Manchester Methodist Housing Group

Work has already started to turn the strategic framework by Alsop Architects into reality and the ambition is to bring some of the world's best architects to work side by side, to create an "expo" of world-class architecture and make New Islington one of the most exciting places in the country.

The first part of the new waterway, which will link the Ashton and Rochdale Canals, is now complete and planning permission has been received for the first phase of new buildings designed by Alsop Architects and Ian Simpson Architects and the public realm designed by Grant Associates.

"The site has to be one of the best in Manchester – surrounded by water on three sides with Ancoats Urban Village on one side and New Islington on the other, it will benefit from all the infrastructure works English Partnerships are putting in," said Nick Johnson.

As well as the practical, though unconventional two stage selection process, the partners are looking to take their receipt for the land on completion of the buildings rather than up-front as is usually the case.

*More follows*

#### **SHORTLIST ANNOUNCED FOR NEW ISLINGTON ARCHITECT AND DEVELOPER COMPETITION Contd...**

"We think that by taking our land receipt at the end, it will allow greater innovation and ultimately greater return, sharing in the added value from the process," said Nick Johnson.

[www.newislington.co.uk](http://www.newislington.co.uk)

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### **Editors Notes**

The Millennium Communities Programme was initiated in 1997 with the launch of the design competition for the Greenwich Millennium Village. A range of different types of sites have been chosen to demonstrate that energy efficient, environmentally responsible development is achievable regardless of geographical location. These are Greenwich, South London; Allerton Bywater, near Leeds; New Islington, Ancoats, East Manchester; South Lynn, King's Lynn, East Anglia; East Ketley, Telford; Oakgrove, Milton Keynes and Hastings, East Sussex. One of the main objectives of the Programme is to influence the house building industry and to encourage higher standards of innovation and energy efficiency. It also aims to deliver 6,000 homes by 2010.

### **For Further Information Please Contact**

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