

## Achieving urban Integration

Mentoring sessions are run to share panel member experience with HS2 Ltd and support design work on specific topics. On 5 May, Sam Richards led a one-to-one session with Tom Venner, Commercial Development Director at HS2 Ltd, to share his experience of leading the Urban Integration Team at Crossrail.

Sam Richards and his team were instrumental in the delivery of co-ordinated station, urban realm and over site development projects for Crossrail. They also played an important role in securing stakeholder confidence and support – which in turn contributed significantly to investment in the urban realm, through partnership funding.

Tom Venner has been appointed as Commercial Development Director at HS2 Ltd, as part of the strategy to achieve the project's regeneration objectives, and maximise the value of development around stations.

During the session Sam Richards talked about lessons learned from his experience at Crossrail, highlighting several key areas in relation to the integration of the stations, commercial development and public realm.



Aerial view of Abbey Wood station © Crossrail Ltd

These included:

- the importance of partnership working with local authorities
- the need to ensure public realm, station design, and commercial developments are reviewed together at Design Panel meetings
- the value of masterplans for the areas around stations, showing how commercial development can be integrated with station and urban realm design
- the need for in-house urban design expertise, to manage the design of the station, commercial development and urban realm
- the powerful role that a board level design champion could play in driving forward a commercial development strategy.

## Design Panel activities May and June 2017

# 3

- Sam Richards mentoring sessions to support the HS2 Ltd commercial development team
- Tony Burton and Daisy Froud mentoring session on community engagement
- Angus Low mentoring session on bridge design

### Mentoring sessions

# 7

- HS2 visual identity
- Track security and terrorism
- Station ITT assessor pack
- Phase 2a route: Whitmore Heath to Madeley
- HS2 benefits realisation
- Station contractor procurement
- Community engagement

### Workshop reviews

# 3

- Euston Station - planning brief and station design
- Birmingham Interchange - masterplanning and regeneration
- Curzon Street Station - commercialisation

### Full reviews reviews

# 4

- M18 route programme workshop
- Meeting to discuss panel meetings on Phase One site specific projects
- Monthly Design Panel Team Meeting - May
- Monthly Design Panel Team Meeting - June

### Governance meetings



US Department of Transportation headquarters, with security integrated into landscape by Lee and Associates

## Track security and counter terrorism

In May 2017 the HS2 Independent Design Panel met to discuss the design approach to track security and counter terrorism.

A presentation was given by Reuben McDonald, System Safety Manager at HS2 Ltd, covering work on both station design and railway infrastructure along the whole route.

The panel stressed the importance of providing security protection in an unobtrusive way – ensuring people feel safe, without being too aware of security interventions. Looking for solutions that are ‘invisible’ will be essential to achieving that balance. Landscape around the US Department of Transportation headquarters, designed by Lee and Associates, is a good example of this.

The panel also emphasised the need for solutions that are responsive to their context. For example, the approach to track boundary treatment in open farmland needs to be different from urban settings.

Overall, the panel praised both the clarity of presentation and approach taken so far - and looks forward to providing further comments as more detailed design work progresses.



Tom Venner  
Commercial Development  
Director, HS2 Ltd

## People's stories

As Commercial Development Director for HS2, Tom Venner leads a team working to create high quality places around and within HS2 stations through property development. Tom and the team work across the organisation, with their partners, stakeholders and communities to unlock the regeneration potential of the railway.

Each station, depot and individual piece of land acquired can positively contribute to the regeneration of the area around the railway. The land must be made to work hard to maximise the value created, both for the local communities and the public purse.

Before joining HS2 Ltd in January, Tom led a team of development managers at Land Securities, the largest UK property developer, delivering commercial and residential schemes nationwide. Most recently Tom led a team delivering the regeneration of Victoria and strategic housing-led development sites in the south east.

## Election period purdah ends

Parliament was dissolved on 3 May in the run up to the general election on 8 June, marking the start of purdah for public sector organisations. Whilst the Design Panel has continued with its work to advise HS2 Ltd, purdah rules mean that publication of newsletters was put on hold - with this double edition to bring news of panel activity up to date.



Frame Projects  
Secretariat to the  
HS2 Independent  
Design Panel

**HS2 INDEPENDENT  
DESIGN PANEL**