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# Big challenges ahead

## Exciting times for architects as Sheffield eyes a transformation

**E**XCITING times are ahead for architects in South Yorkshire

The redevelopment of Sheffield continues to gather momentum with many exciting new developments starting on site or being planned for the near future.

The transformation that has already taken place in the city is set to continue with the redevelopment of Park Hill, the continued public realm improvements around the railway station and city centre, the refurbishment of the Crucible

**By Rachel Hughes**

Membership and Events Manager, RIBA Yorkshire

Theatre and other well known projects.

The Skye Edge area of Sheffield has been chosen as one of three UK sites among many sites across Europe to feature in Europan 9, a housing competition run by the Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE). The European competition is open to architects and urban design professionals under the

age of 40. The aim is to design contemporary, innovative housing schemes that address social and community issues and take into account wider long-term issues such as climate change. It aims to match young talent and ideas with real housing site developers and sponsors and actual built projects may result. Further information is available at [www.europan.org.uk](http://www.europan.org.uk).

Bond Bryan Architects are working the University of Sheffield on the Factory of the Future, located at the Advanced Manufacturing Research Cen-

tre at Waverley, near Rotherham. Working with international partners such as Boeing and Rolls Royce, the university's factory will be equipped with the latest manufacturing technologies, allowing companies to test newly-developed methods and equipment. The factory building will be a modern, low-energy, sustainable building using wind turbine power. It is expected to become a model for good and efficient factory design.

The new Sheffield Society of Architects was relaunched at

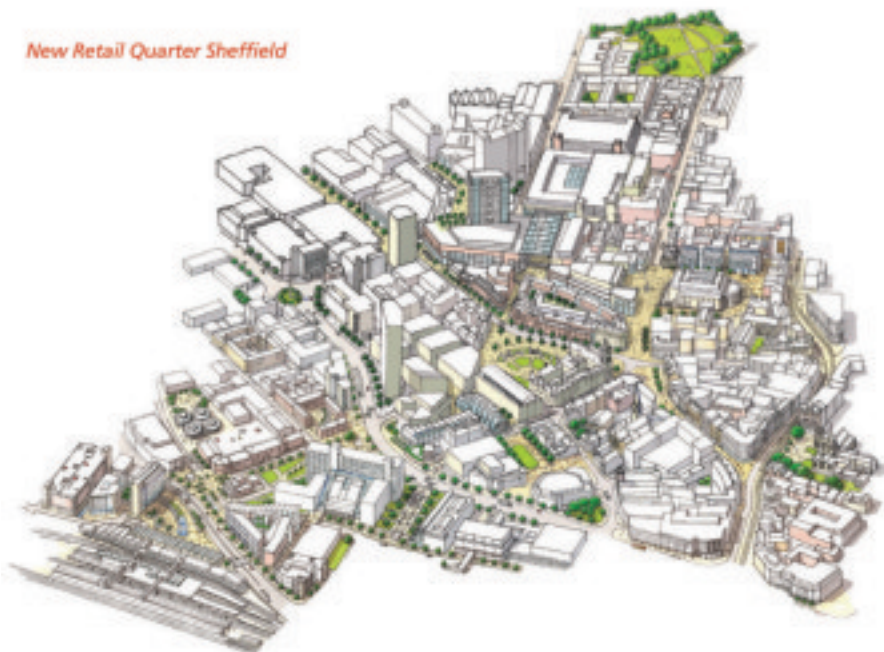
the start of February with Andrew Budd at the helm as acting chair.

Andrew, who is a director a Sheffield-based architecture practice, also teaches part-time at the University of Sheffield and has far-reaching plans for the new society. The society is one of the branches of the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) Yorkshire region.

There will be a number of events planned and there are hopes to create a forum for discussions and improve interac-

tion between Sheffield architects. The group also hopes to continue the links with the two Sheffield-based schools of architecture in an effort to help retain some of the talent produced within the city. One idea is to hold an exhibition of work produced by local practices.

If you want to know more about how an architect could help you redesign your home or workplace, or if you would like a list of architects in your area, contact RIBA Yorkshire on 0113 2780156 or email [riba.yorkshire@inst.riba.org](mailto:riba.yorkshire@inst.riba.org).



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## At heart of changes

**M**ULTI-disciplinary design practice Building Design Partnership, BDP, is very much at the heart of changes in centre of Sheffield. As masterplanner of the New Retail Quarter its designs require the demolition of its own offices to make way for the new John Lewis store. The company is currently looking at locations to design a new home for its 90 Sheffield based staff. BDP is also designing a new home for its current neighbours the South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service. This fire station and headquarters building recently received planning permission for its new location on

### Building Design Partnership

Eyre Street. The Fire Services' move will kick-start Sheffield's new retail development and will see the transformation of the shopping experience to an overall layout by BDP. Northbank the practices' new office building on the banks of the River Don will be completed this summer and will provide a new gateway to the start of the Five Wiers Walk.

BDP has been in Sheffield for over 30 years since its beginnings as the Design Teaching Practice.

It is the largest architect-led building design consul-

tancy in the UK and is the designer of some countries best-known buildings including; No.1 Court at Wimbledon, the refurbishment of the Royal Albert Hall and the Glasgow science centre a regularly seen backdrop in advertising campaigns.

Closer to home BDP designed IceSheffield and the White Rose Shopping Centre in Leeds.

Education is vital to shaping our future and BDP has a strong record in this area with its innovative vertically stacked playdecks at Hampden Gurney School in London being shortlisted for the highly prestigious Stirling Prize.

# BRASS FOUNDERS

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