Seminar programme

Chair’s opening remarks
Ruth Slavid, architectural writer, editor and consultant

Are you an inclusive designer?
Julie Fleck OBE, strategic access and inclusive design advisor & author of ‘Are you an inclusive designer?’

Noise – The silent workplace killer
Ben Hancock, managing director, Oscar Acoustics

Case Study: Merrion House, Leeds
Philip Ellis, architect associate, BDP

Refreshment break / interlude

The Future of Working
Sunil Johal, director, BeFlow Consultancy

Case study: Offices in Paddington, London
Edward Williams, managing director, Edward Williams Architects

Chair’s closing remarks and close
PHILIP ELLIS
Architect associate
BDP

Based on 35 years of experience, Julie wrote “Are you an inclusive Designer?” to help shift attitudes and behaviours in the construction industry, so that inclusive design becomes business as usual in all development projects. At the Greater London Authority, Julie developed the London Plan policies on inclusive design and contributed to the development of the Olympic Delivery Authority’s award-winning Inclusive Design Strategy and Standards. Following the London 2012 Games, Julie lead the Government’s Paralympic Legacy BEPSE Project, aimed at stimulating a systematic change in how built environment professionals adopt inclusive design. She drafted a Teaching and Learning Briefing Guide and two Essential Principles Guides for built environment professionals. Julie is a member of the BCS Standard ES569/559 Committee, a Design Council Built Environment Expert, and in 2006 was awarded the OBE for services to disabled people.

JULIE FLECK
Strategic access and inclusive design advisor
Oscar Acoustics

SUNIL SOHAL
Managing director
Quiver Consultancy

Ben Hancock is involved in all parts of the business. With a design background, an eye for detail and extensive product knowledge, he has assisted architects and contractors in bringing concepts and designs to fruition whilst building lasting relationships. Past projects include Warner Bros Film Studios & Harry Potter Studio Tour, Ravenshaw School of Government, Hampton Court Palace, Tate Modern, Britain’s St. Ives.

RUTH SLAVID
Architectural writer, editor and consultant
Oscar Acoustics

Suni is a born and very proud ‘Brummie’ and with real connection to his city. As a Project Director on the Paradise Development Scheme in Birmingham City Centre, Sunil helps lead one of the UK’s most important city centre developments and one of the biggest development schemes Birmingham has seen for generations. Previously working for Argent LLP for the last five years and now working on behalf of Argent LLP as a development consultant, he has developed a reputation for prompt and strategic decision making, with an ability to work with key stakeholders and a creative vision delivering very challenging, complex projects. He is someone who brings abundant levels of energy, leadership, optimism and resilience to the team and industry. He believes in personal and organisational learning and that giving back is an essential part of becoming a great leader and a role model to aspiring younger professionals. Sunil believes that engaging with community and industries outside of construction is vitally important to help impact a different perspective and share experiences to help wider stakeholders, partners and indeed decision makers understand a balanced view. More recently Sunil has been working with various industry bodies concentrating on how the workplace environment impacts human performance, a topic which will be of key focus in the immediate future.

EDWARD WILLIAMS
Direct Edward Williams Architects

Edward Williams is an architect and runs his own practice, Edward Williams Architects, with his partner Laura Carrara-Cagni; he established the studio in 2011 after nearly 20 years at Hopkins Architects (1991-2010). His studio specialises in high profile, complex, sustainable projects for leading clients in the UK and internationally and is currently working on major healthcare, residential and mixed use projects in the UK and abroad. Edward has also been the Royal Institute of British Architects Honorary Literary Officer (2012-2016) and Chair of the RIBA Library Committee which has responsibility for the oversight of the British Architectural Library. He sat on the main Board of the RIBA, the British Architectural Trust Board of the RIBA and was a trustee and Council Member of the RIBA (2012-2018). He is also a founding trustee of the British Architectural Library Trust established in 2013 and works to raise funds in the USA to support the work of the Library and its collection. He continues to sit on the RIBA Public Education Committee (2015-). And he has just joined the Midland Net Arts Curator Committee (2019) in Birmingham. Edward studied at Sussex College Cambridge, where he was a scholar, and then Oxford Brookes University. His interests include sailing, gardening, avocados farming, forests and marine life and contemporary art. He is a member of the Worshipful Company of Skinners, the Oxford & Cambridge club in London and the International Dentistry society.