Sir Terry Farrell CBE is to conduct an independent review of architecture and the wider built environment and make recommendations to the Minister for Culture, Communications and Creative Industries, to inform DCMS’s approach to its role within government of promoting high standards of design. The intention of the review is to engage the sector in helping DCMS to develop its thinking about the role for Government in the achievement of high quality design, so that DCMS can continue to influence and shape policy across government, not least because the public sector is a major funder of buildings.

The review will examine the following areas:

1. Promoting education, outreach and skills

   The review will consider the potential contribution of built environment education to a broad and balanced education both as a cultural subject in its own right and as a way of teaching other subjects.

2. Understanding the role for Government in promoting design quality in architecture and the built environment

   The review will look at lessons that can be learnt nationally and internationally about the role for Government in promoting and achieving best design quality. The role of national built environment bodies and other organisations like museums and architecture and built environment centres in promoting appreciation and better understanding of good design will also be considered.

3. Cultural heritage and the built environment

   The review will look at whether the desire to preserve the ‘old’ makes it more difficult to encourage good new architecture, and the value of our historic built environment as a cultural asset and in successful place-making.

4. The economic benefits of good architecture and design, and maximising the UK’s growth potential

   The review will consider the contribution of architecture to the UK’s economy, how the economic value of good built environment design can be demonstrated, and how it can be maximised in the future.

Sir Terry Farrell will be supported by an expert advisory panel drawn from across the architecture and design industry who will look at the themes of the review in more detail. The advisory panel will issue a call for evidence shortly and it is expected Sir Terry Farrell will produce a report by the end of the year.