



Background information on Architects Declare

Architects Declare was launched on May 30th 2019. The founding signatories were all of the then 17 UK winners of The Stirling Prize. More architectural practices quickly joined and, shortly afterwards, it expanded to include other built environment disciplines under the broader umbrella of 'Construction Declares'. The structure of the organisation was deliberately decentralised and it rapidly spread internationally. It now has over 5,000 companies, in 22 different countries signed up to variations of the original 11-point declaration.

Our working principles are as follows:

- This is an emergency and radical changes are needed in the way the built environment is conceived, designed and delivered; we seek to deliver what is necessary rather than what is perceived to be possible.
- As professional practices, our signatories have the ability to be influential across all aspects of the built environment. Together we have a strong voice.
- We are a supportive network; we do not name and shame but strive to support signatories to meet the Declaration.

We see our principal activities as:

- Creating a devolved network for architectural practices to share information, tools and best practice, thereby supporting one another to deliver the Declaration.
- Given the urgency and scientific basis behind the emergency, encouraging signatories to use their influence on projects and across the industry to deliver the Declaration.
- Encouraging signatories to speak out in a professional capacity, championing the radical changes needed to deliver the Declaration, whether collectively or as individual practices.
- Organising national and international events, seminars and conversations, to share knowledge, raise awareness and explore how the Declaration can best be delivered.
- Working nationally and internationally with Construction Declares signatories and other like-minded organisations, to coordinate activities and be more effective.
- Engaging with the trade press and media, to support them in constructively championing the Declaration and exposing obstacles to best practice.
- Increasing the number of practices in the network: both in Architects Declare and in the wider community that is Construction Declares.
- Using the strength of the network to engage with national and regional governments, professional institutes and other organisations, to bring about the paradigm shift that is needed to deliver the Declaration.

We communicate with our signatories through newsletters, events, surveys and virtual coordination meetings. We also receive some direct feedback from signatories via email and would like to encourage this. We sought detailed responses through a survey in early May 2020, which confirmed that over 95% of those who responded, supported AD in speaking publicly about the climate and biodiversity emergencies on behalf of UK signatories.

Our Strategy for Change is described in a separate document.

In the UK, the core team of organisers has expanded to form a diverse Steering Group which currently comprises:

- Clara Bagenal George (LETI / Elementa Consulting / GLA Design Advocate)
- Julia Barfield (Marks Barfield Architects)
- Peter Clegg (FCB Studios)
- Caroline Cole (Colander Associates)
- Mike Cook (Buro Happold)
- Rosie Murphy (Architype / Black Females in Architecture)
- Michael Pawlyn (Exploration)
- Kat Scott (ACAN / dRMM / LETI)
- Lauren Shevills (ACAN / MAE)
- Maria Smith (Buro Happold, RIBA Council / Turncoats / GLA Design Advocate)
- Steve Tompkins (Haworth Tompkins)
- Andrew Waugh (Waugh Thistleton).
- Jacqueline Wheeler (Haworth Tompkins), Co-ordinator for Architects Declare and Construction Declares