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## ANNUAL REPORT: YEAR TO APRIL 2019

### ABOUT AINSLEY GOMMON ARCHITECTS

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Ainsley Gommon is a leading Chartered Practice of Architects and Urban Designers with a focus on housing, education, healthcare buildings and regeneration. The practice promotes collaborative working, sustainability and environmental responsibility in the design, construction and operation of buildings and within our landscape designs.

Ainsley Gommon operates across the United Kingdom from offices in England and Wales. We combine services to meet the demands of larger projects while calling on areas of design specialism such as conservation and master-planning. We continue to grow our skill base which already includes the services of Client Advisor, Principal Designer, Accredited SAP and Energy Performance Assessor and RIBA Conservation Architect.

We work proactively with our clients, fellow consultants and contractors to produce buildings, landscapes, reports and studies of high quality and to deliver projects on time and within budget. We are customer focused and regularly benchmark ourselves using RIBA Benchmarking as well as being independently audited on the quality of our services on a wide range of projects.

We operate a fully transparent and inclusive management system that involves our staff in the running of the practice. Our Investors in People accreditation supports our long term commitment to our practice succession plan and staff development. Continuous improvement, training and personal development are fundamental to Ainsley Gommon, as we believe they are essential to the future well being of our business.

Our programme of continued investment in Information Technology and Building Information Modelling (BIM) ensures we support our clients and construction partners using the most up to date design and presentation tools. Our long term commitment to BIM will enhance our collaborative working methods and the services we provide.

**Cover photo:** Our annual away day in May took us Birmingham city centre, as part of our ongoing programme of continued professional development. The day began at the former New Street station, now transformed into "Grand Central", before heading to Eastside City Park, to view the Patel Taylor designed landscape and Nicholas Grimshaw designed Millennium Point buildings. Other highlights of the day included a visit to the recently completed Central Library, designed by Mecanoo, and The Cube by Ken Shuttleworth / MAKE Architecture.

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## ANNUAL REPORT



## APRIL 2019



# Annual Review: Year to April 2019

## Achievements

- Sep 2018: Successful audit of our Integrated Management System to achieve ISO 9001 2015 & ISO 14001 2015 certification
- Nov 2018: Director Alf Plant is announced the winner of the 'Liver Bird' category in The Liverpool Chamber of Commerce #GetOutThere18 photo competition.
- Dec 2018: Rebecca Evans AM, Minister for Housing and Regeneration officially opened Bryn Gaer, our Older Persons independent living scheme in Newport, South Wales, for Pobl & Derwen.
- Jan 2019: Successful appointment to the Homes England 2019-2023 Multi-disciplinary framework as part of a joint venture between Tibbalds Planning and Urban Design, and Campbell Reith.
- Feb 2019: Four projects were shortlisted for the RICS North West Awards, to be announced later in the year.

## People

- May 2018: Staff enjoyed a Team Building day out in Birmingham city centre.
- Jul 2018: Trish Owen retired from the Birkenhead office after 20 years with the practice.
- Jul 2018: Natalie Male passed her Masters of Architecture from the University of Liverpool, whilst continuing to work part-time at AG|A.
- Aug 2018: Holly Bishton and Rhiannon Williams joined the practice as Part 1 Architectural Assistants.
- Sep 2018: Staff wore denim for Jeans for Genes Day charity supporting children with life-altering genetic disorders.
- Oct 2018: Staff wore pink for Wear It Pink charity to help raise money and awareness for Breast Cancer.
- Dec 2018: AGA staff fundraised for Cystic Fibrosis Trust with a Sponsored Christmas Jumper Day.
- Jan 2019: Architect Arwyn Lloyd joined the North Wales office to assist with a growing and diverse range of projects.

**Projects:** Over the last 12 months, we have worked on a wide range of projects. These are just some of those:

- 1 Perserverance Mill in Padiham, Burnley for The Calico Group was completed in Autumn 2018. Consisting of a mixture of houses, bungalows and flats on a former brown field site the development has been shortlisted in three categories at the 2019 RICS North West Awards.
- 2 Hafod Y Gest Extra Care in Porthmadog was handed over in December 2018. The £7.8million development provides 26 two bedroom and 14 one bedroom apartments with communal and care support facilities.
- 3 South View located in the conservation village of Bromborough Pool, Wirral for WMHA was completed in the summer of 2018. Consisting of 10 new houses the scheme has been shortlisted in three categories at the 2019 RICS North West Awards.
- 4 Our Engineering Building at Coleg Cambria, originally built in 2002, gained an 800m2 extension in December 2018. The extension provides a workshop and classrooms for aeronautical students and in order to meet strict funding requirements progressed from feasibility through to completion within a year.
- 5 'The Courthouse' in Liscard, Wirral was completed for the Regenda Group. Originally the Police Station and Headquarters for the Wirral Division of the Cheshire Constabulary the converted building has been shortlisted in three categories at the 2019 RICS North West Awards.
- 6 The independent living scheme at the Gaer in Newport was completed and officially opened by Rebecca Evans AM. The development of 39 apartments for over 55's and community resource 'The Curve' benefited from an 800m2 integrated solar roof, providing an individual electrical feed to each dwelling.
- 7 The new church hall for St John the Divine in Frankby, Wirral was completed in early 2018. The new building sits comfortably next to the existing Church and gives the client the facilities they need, providing an ideal venue for other community uses.
- 8 Planning Approval was granted for Galloper Offshore Wind Farm's Operations and Maintenance facility in the Port of Harwich, providing a base for 60 operatives serving the wind farm. This is our second building of this type for the renewables company Innogy.
- 9 Planning was submitted for 267 new dwellings with Lovell at Ashfield Road South in Workington in February 2019. Working deftly with a complex sloping site, there were mineshafts, a water course and requirements for POS, areas of play and cycle links to accommodate.
- 10 Planning permission was granted in December 2018 for Ysgol Y Garnedd, a new 420 place primary school in Bangor. A two stage tender process allowed Early Contractor Involvement (ECI) with Read Construction and enabled a start on site three months later.

