

What is the value of an Architect in Wales?

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Abstract.

The Architect in Practice (Chappell and Dunn, 2016) was first published in 1952 and is a written guide to the profession, outlining an architect's duties and the value of an Architect within society - among other things. Now seventy years on, this research aims to evaluate the 'value' of an architect within Wales and the overall state of the profession.

The research uses a survey among Wales based architects (see appendix A) that aims to determine the perceived 'value' of an architect through the practitioners' eyes. This data is then cross referenced with current legislation, documentation, and interviews with key individuals identified within the profession. Information from key individuals include interviews with Tim Clark (RIBA international council member), Adrian Dobson (Executive Director Professional Services RIBA), Dr Jenny Russell (Interim Director of Education RIBA), questionnaire responses from Sandra Hedblad (Head of Learning RIBA).

The information gathered is clearly divided into the following subcategories: the public perception of the profession, the relationship between architect and client, architectural education and CPD, membership and awards. Such subcategories are consistent with survey questioning, interview structure, lines of enquiry and chapter discussion within this document.

Findings demonstrate the importance of clarity and a collective movement within the profession, suggesting that there is a lack of cohesion between education and practice, the RIBA and ARB, the architect and client and a general lack of public understanding. This research also reflects an attitude and a want among architects to improve their practice and the state of the profession. An ambition that is found to be hindered by a lack of control, collective thinking, clarity, and a sense of isolation among Wales based architects. This research does, however, reflect a view among Wales based architects that believe architecture within Wales should evolve and adapt to increase the perceived value of architects within the country. An evolving profession that sees the need for stronger links between education and practice, knowledge based CPD, credible data collection, regulated practice, and a better societal understanding of the profession.

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Introduction.

The architect in Practice (Chappell and Dunn, 2016) was first published in 1952 and is a written guide to the profession, outlining an architect's duties and an architect's value within society at that time. Now seventy years on, is it time to re-evaluate the value of an architect? Can the value of an architect be measured? Does assessing the value of architect within Wales, from a critically regional standpoint have relevance in the 21st century?

This research aims to capture an overview of the state of the profession within Wales in the 21st century. Targeting Wales as a region for this dissertation provides both a measurable sample of architects and an opportunity to suggest regional change to current systems within the profession in Wales. Changes and adaptations that can be implemented and recommended by regional bodies such as the RSAW (Royal Society of architects in Wales) the regional branch of the RIBA (Royal Institute of British architects) for Wales.

Cambridge dictionary defines 'value' as the following - "the amount of money that can be received for something", "the importance or worth of something for someone" (Cambridge Dictionary, 2019).

This research aims to gain a wider appreciation of the perceived value of an architect within Wales and aims to suggest actions and reactions that improve the quality, efficiency, and public understanding of architectural practice within Wales.

To obtain a holistic view of the profession within Wales this research is clearly divided into the following subcategories: the public perception of the profession, the relationship between architect and client, architectural education and CPD and membership and awards. These subcategories are consistent with survey questioning, lines of enquiry and the chapter discussion within this document.

To obtain an accurate account of **the public perception of the profession** is an integral part of this research when evaluating the perceived value of an architect. A primary aim for this research, covered within the first chapter, is to gain an understanding of where an architect sits at this moment in time within Welsh society in terms of their perceived role and expected service. To obtain an idea of where an architect must strive to be in terms of public understanding, understand what must be done to ensure the value of an architect is better understood from a public's perspective. Is there a need to strive toward a greater regional awareness of the profession?

Evidence suggests that **the relationship between architect and client** is a critical element that influences the quality of architectural practice within Wales. This research aims to capture an overview of how well architects feel they are understood and to what length their services are appreciated by clients. To what extent do architects feel a lack of clarity amongst clients of the role and service of an architect, compared with the non-architect designer, this could have a detrimental effect to the value of an architect.

Critical to the value of an architect and the knowledge architects have attained and are able to apply through practice is **architectural education**. Evidence highlights the importance of education to the value of an architect and reflects the view of Architects in Wales as to how architectural education might change or adapt to better the transition between education and practice. This element of the research looks at a report by the ARB (Architects Registration Board) named 'Modernising the initial education and training of Architects' (ARB, 2021) and a commentary on how this compares with the views of Wales based architects.

The final chapter of this document discusses the importance of **membership and CPD** (continued professional development) and its effect on architectural practice. It discusses the value of RIBA membership and the importance of life-long learning within the profession to ensure an architect's knowledge base and value remain current and relevant.

To evaluate each of the above elements and to determine the value of an architect in Wales, a survey sent to Wales based ARB registered architects serves as the primary source of data within the methodology of this research (see figure 1). This survey is referred to as 'the architects in Wales survey' throughout this document (see appendix A). Sixty-one responses to this survey were recorded with, forty-five of which have over fifteen years practice experience. The survey is organised into sub-categories that coincide with the chapter discussion of this document to best organise data. These survey responses along with the supporting information from interaction with key individuals within the profession, provide adequate data collection within the methodology to obtain a holistic view of the value of an architect within Wales.

Interaction with key individuals include interviews with Tim Clark (RIBA International Council Member), Adrian Dobson (Executive Director Professional Services RIBA), Dr Jenny Russell (Interim Director of Education RIBA), questionnaire responses from Sandra Hedblad (Head of Learning RIBA) (see appendix B-E).

Chapter 1: The public perception of the profession.

The public perception of an architect is one of the bigger components in terms of the overall success of architecture within Wales, and the value placed upon an architect's service. It is vital that the public understand how and why an architect may be appointed. Possibly more so, how an architect can affect everyday life and impact the built environment. An accurate public understanding will affect how likely a career path architecture is for a young designer and how the profession can adapt ensuring that the service of an architect remains timeless.

12. How well do you feel the public accurately understand and appreciate the value of the profession?

Extremely well	0
Somewhat well	10
Neutral	14
Somewhat not well	27
Extremely not well	10



Figure 2: Architects in Wales survey – response to question 12.

Credit: Author, 2021.

The architects in Wales survey (see appendix A) have shown that most architects (63%) believe that the public have a poor appreciation and understanding of architecture as a profession as shown in figure 2.

Architecture is part and parcel of everyday life, it is everywhere. Practicing architecture sees the need for the design of spaces in order to create the correct conditions to sustain life. Spaces that become places. Places that meaningfully influence the emotions of those that use them. Spaces to shelter, enjoy, and relax.

“The general public doesn’t know what an architect is or does” – Architects in Wales survey, anonymous response.

Picture the dental profession where only half of the people in Wales fully understand the service a dentist provides, and the importance of dental hygiene. A lack of understanding and awareness would certainly have a detrimental effect on the dental health of people in Wales. This analogy reflects the way the architectural profession is perceived to be understood within Wales, based on this survey data. The importance of fully understanding both professions are

very similar. Everyone has teeth and a need for good dental healthcare. Similarly, there is a necessity for shelter, spaces to enjoy and spaces in which to relax. The built environment is a necessity of life. One where an architect can apply their knowledge to best create the envelope that encapsulates life, through the medium of design.

A reality where less than half of Welsh architects believe their practice and the profession is understood and valued sees a transfer to an underperforming profession where the architectural output is below par. Or at least not reaching the potential performance levels. Just as a reality where only half understand the value of a dentist, the half that don't will end up with poor dental health. The public understanding of architecture within Wales is a critical piece of the puzzle when aiming to optimise architectural output and drive architectural standards within Wales, according to responses to the architects in Wales survey.

Is a poor understanding of the profession detrimental to the quality of architecture in Wales?

Question 15 of the architects in Wales survey (see appendix A), shows that sixty responders believe a poor public understanding of the profession either always or occasionally has a detrimental effect on the quality of architecture within Wales (shown figure 3) This leaves just the one responder that says a poor understanding has never had a detrimental effect on the quality of architectural output. This is data gathered from practicing architects within Wales and reflects real experiences within the profession, which is a key element of the methodology within this research. Is anyone doing anything to address this lack of understanding? Should this be addressed? Is the ARB¹, RIBA² or RSAW³ obliged to take it upon themselves to promote a better public understanding of the profession, ultimately increasing the quality of architectural output and standards of practice?

¹ Architects Registration Board – statutory body for architects in the UK under the Architects Act 1997.

² Royal Institute of British Architects – professional body for architects set up in 1837 for the advancement of architecture.

³ Wales branch of the RIBA – Royal Society of Architects in Wales.

15. How often does a poor understanding of the profession have a detrimental effect to the quality of architectural output within Wales?



Figure 3: Architects in Wales survey – response to question 15.

Credit: Author, 2021.

This figure cannot be ignored. A lack of understanding de-values the practice of an architect even before putting pencil to paper, or pen to yellow trace. It would be wise to suggest that the profession might need to adapt the way in which it is perceived. It is only then, when the public understands the value of the profession, that the profession can possibly concentrate solely on driving architectural standards. The consensus is, based on responses to the architects in Wales survey, that architects in Wales feel as if they are forced to live fulfil expectations that the public have of the profession. A frustration born from a constant battle with this underestimation, misunderstood stereotype that ultimately has detrimental effect on architectural practice within Wales.

Stereotype.

There is a general societal understanding and awareness of architects within Wales. But what is expressed among responses to the architects in Wales survey is that the understanding of function and the value of an architect is below par. Is it just that architects are frustrated at the general misconception of the profession? Does this de-value the profession and more importantly would a better public understanding translate to better practice, and better the quality of architecture in Wales?

The Welsh translation for 'architect' is 'pensaer'. The meaning of pensaer is head-carpenter. This translation alone suggests that historically the architect is self-qualified. Prior to architectural education an architect would become an architect based on function. Those designing buildings became architects without attaining an education in architecture. A title that has since become a protected title attained from seven years schooling and practice

experience, at its shortest route. How would a 'self-qualified' architect sit within the modern-day system of architectural education? A title based upon function rather than qualification.

The 'self-qualified' architect would be someone that has attained their title in a response to the work they undertake, rather than qualifications-based attainment (discussed further in chapter 3). Would the public then attain a better understanding of the role and value of an architect?



Figure 4: Mies van der Rohe

Credit: Dezeen, 2018.

The modern day architect stereotype may still be influenced greatly by the post war modernist movement from the likes of Mies Van der Rohe and Le Corbusier that typically depicts a white man dressed in all black as the architect. Although much has been done since then to correct all that is wrong about this stereotype and increase inclusivity within architecture, it is important to consider how this might affect the way the public perceive architecture today. One might think that this stereotypical picture of an Architect has changed. But is it possible that this has indirectly diminished the collective understanding of the profession and continually alienates

the public? An alienation that de-values the profession, altering how role of an architect is perceived. The public see less of the 'head-carpenter' (pensaer) and more of the 'starchitect'. A modern perception that where the public are unable to understand how an architect might be of value to them, on a personable level. The prospect of becoming an architect, or even engaging with an architect might seem out of reach.

An unrealistic, unattainable picture is painted. A picture that masks the reality of the versatility and personable nature of the profession. The collective opinion of architects within Wales is that the 'unattainable' and misled perception of architecture is seen as the reality. A consequence of this is that the day-to-day architecture of shopping centres etc is almost seen as 'non-architecture'. An architecture that looks the same and is disregarded in terms of how the public value architecture within Wales. Perhaps not de-valuing the architect, but painting a clouded picture of the profession, where the role of an architect cannot be understood properly due to a lack of ambition to strive towards regional architectural quality in Wales.

Grand Designs. Are they too grand? The role of the media within architecture.

"I don't think that the public has a clue what an average architect does nowadays. Most architects do not get to spend months agonising over a detail as the likes of 'Grand Designs' would have you believe." - Architects in Wales survey, anonymous response.

Of the sixty-one responding architects, the architects in Wales survey shows that there is a split between those that believe TV programs such as Grand Designs⁴ have helped and those that believe they have hindered the public understanding of architecture within Wales. Twenty-eight say it has helped, whilst twenty say it has hindered and the remaining twenty share a neutral opinion. A programme such as Grand Designs has the potential to have an influence over how the public perceive architecture. For some members of public, it may be the only exposure they have to the architectural profession. In this case, a TV program would then have the power to independently mould an opinion of what services an architect can offer and ultimately the value of appointing an architect. On one hand it is likely that such TV programmes along with other media sources, such as social media streams, raise the expectations of what may be achieved through architectural practice. On the other hand, a programme like this has the capability of falsely representing the profession and by doing so creates a false sense of expectation. One that is misaligned with the real value of an architect.

⁴ TV programme on channel 4 covering the construction of one-off houses and showcases the RIBA House of the Year Award.

13. Do you feel TV programs such as Grand Designs have helped/hindered the public understanding of architecture and therefore the quality of design outputs?



Figure 5: Architects in Wales survey – response to question 13.

Credit: Author, 2021.

A view that does not cover the diversity of the profession. A view that doesn't reflect the versatility of an architect, either. Too often the media will tell a story of a 5-bedroom detached house where the budget alone would mean that this is, for the majority, unattainable. How can the public use these TV programmes to truly understand the value of an architect? In most cases it's the client that is at the centre of the design process as if to suggest an architect could be easily replaced by a robot just if the client accurately depicts what they want, or what they think they might need. This is an opinion voiced by Tim Clark (RIBA international council member) during an interview (see appendix B). Tim Clark raises the point that whilst some form of artificial intelligence may be able to replicate aspects of the architects' services, an architect's depth of knowledge, workings out and thought processes is that which gives an architect value. This is something that might not be completely appreciated nor understood by the public due to a lack of awareness and coverage through media platforms. The problem here is that what the client wants and what the client needs architecturally rarely align. This frustration is echoed in the architects in Wales survey responses. It might be that a client is seeking to build a double extension on their mid terraced house and are hell-bent that this is what they need. Rather than simply giving the client what they want or what they think they need, the architect argues that what they need is something different. The architect demonstrates that a single storey extension, to draw light deeper into the plan or in fact demonstrating that there is no need to extend at all and that this could be the better option. The best solution to ensure quality of space might be a remodelling of the existing, rather than an extension. The architect would therefore save money for the client that can be spent elsewhere, whilst simultaneously providing the client with an end-product that best meets their functional and desirable needs. The value of an architect here goes beyond what is often the perceptive role of an architect.

The application of knowledge through design development and consultation processes referred to above is how the public should perceive an architect's value based on interviews and survey response evidence. A value that tends not to be obvious through TV programmes. Perhaps this is why a number of respondents believe that such TV programmes hinder the perception of architects. Is there a need for a new TV programme to cover the processes that truly represent the role of an architect? Such a programme could perhaps improve the understanding of architect's knowledge, the trust between an architect and client and the perceived value of an architect to the public.

It's important not to forget that media coverage of small extensions and renovations exist as well via programmes such as 'Your Home Made Perfect' or 'The house that 100k Built'⁵. How often were these houses built for 100k and how often do they go over-budget? How attainable are they in reality? Whilst these often represent a far more realistic outcome, is this a true representation of the profession and the service of an architect? Does the architect that appears on TV give an accurate and appropriate account of the profession? It is hard to believe that what might be a three-minute interview during an hour long programme is enough to convey an idea of what architecture is and what the value of an architect is all about.

The bottom line is that good architecture exists at all scales and responds to countless external factors. The variety of architecture that exists within the profession, its diversity and flexibility to respond to all budgets is something that can be overlooked particularly within the media. A frustration reflected in surveys and interviews is that the media coverage of architects compromises the perceived importance of architects, due to a lack of attention drawn to the design processes and technical resolution.

⁵ BBC programmes covering smaller architectural projects.

Chapter 2: The relationship between architect and client.

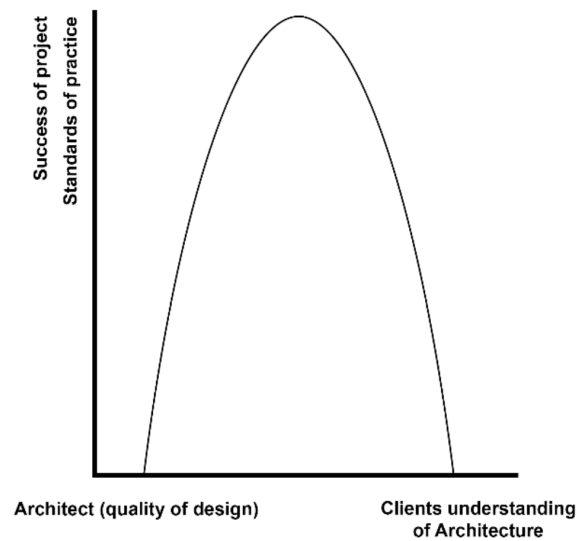


Figure 6: Diagram of how the client understanding of architecture might impact the quality of architectural output.

Credit: Author, 2021.

Based on survey responses and interviews, a successful relationship between architect and client must be attained to drive the standards of architectural practice. Neither one can exist without the other. Without an architect the client would not be able to unlock a projects full architectural potential and without the client the architect becomes redundant.

The Architect vs The Draftsperson. How well do clients understand the service of an architect?

Is it possible that the success of society revolves around the notion of how well things are understood and perceived? Someone would not go to the supermarket to buy a new car, nor would they go to a dentist for heart surgery. A clarity that is required to ensure the value of service is understood and to ensure the value is applied and used appropriately. A sense of clarity that, based on research highlighted within this document, is somewhat clouded within the architectural profession at this moment in time.

Data of the architects in Wales survey indicates that there is an almost 50/50 split among clients that understand the service of an architect and those who do not. To echo a previously used analogy, imagine being sat in the waiting room of a dentist surgery. Inside which there are eight people who understand the service a dentist provides and are awaiting dental

treatment. The others are waiting for other non-dental medical services because they do not understand the service a dentist provides. Although each of the 16 require a medical service, only 8 of which understand the role of a dentist.

5. In your experience how well does the client, at the beginning of a project, fully understand your role as an Architect?



Figure 7: Architects in Wales survey – response to question 5.

Credit: Author, 2021.

Figure 7 shows how well Wales based architects believe their clients understand their role as an architect. These responses show that there is a varied understanding amongst clients around the services they expect to be provided with by an architect. Further written response to the architects in Wales survey suggests that the client understanding is often highly dependent on the type of client. A commercial client, for example would better understand the role of an architect than a domestic client. The survey feedback is curious given the available television coverage of domestic projects talked about in chapter 1.

The race to the bottom.

The 'client' in its broad architectural setting covers a range of different individuals from different sectors and backgrounds. This is reflected in many of the written responses to the architects in Wales survey where it is mentioned on multiple occasions that there is varied understanding between commercial clients and inexperienced private, domestic clients. Commercial clients are often familiar with the process of employing an architect and therefore know what to expect. They are also able to draw from experience and understand the potential difficulties and realities that often occur during a project. Not to mention many of these commercial clients are often repeat clients and therefore have an already established relationship with the architect. Evident from survey responses is that at this point where architect and client understand one another the quality of architectural output is at its highest. When understood and appreciated, the architect is valued.

It is evident from research that a clouded understanding of the value of an architect and the service they provide, mainly from private domestic clients, leaves the system open to exploitation.

At present there is no qualification required to submit drawings as part of a planning application. No qualification to prove the individual's competency nor to prove that they have sufficient knowledge and have undertaken the adequate training. The RIBA back the idea of regulating some architectural functions, these would be called 'reserved planning and building regulations activities' (Ing, 2021). CIAT⁶, on the other hand, oppose this idea and believe architects and technologists should be equally privileged in terms of what they can and can't do. Is it fair that architects and technologists are seen as equal when complete architectural education is over twice the length of an architectural technologist?

The system is open to exploitation from all angles. From those with no qualification or background within construction and the built environment. A system where a lack of client understanding, and awareness leaves the client exposed. Exposed to a situation where no regulation of function means that a non-architect can carry out the duties of an architect. This reinforces the importance of a public awareness and understanding of the ARB and RIBA within Welsh society to ensure consumer protection.

Regulation of function adds value to an architect. Value that means architects can take greater ownership over the quality of architecture regionally within Wales.

ARB – Regulation of function versus the protection of title.

The Architects Registration Board is the statutory body for architects in the United Kingdom, operating under the Architects Act 1997 (The Architects Act 1997). In order to join the architects register an individual is required to have completed all three parts of architectural education. It is only then upon registration that an individual can call themselves an architect. The title architect is protected, and it is illegal to use the title if an individual is not part of the ARB register.

Despite the protection of title enforcing a legal consequence for those that falsely claim to be architects, the protection of title does not stop the practice of architecture. Using the word architecture instead of architect would avoid breaking the law, an unaware client may not notice a difference. Each of the architects that took part in the architects in Wales survey are ARB registered, but the responses suggests that clients often have a poor understanding of

⁶ Chartered Institute of Architectural Technologists.

the ARB, and its significance. Responses suggest there is greater awareness of the RIBA within society, but not to the level of awareness needed to enact change.

Does ARB registration fail to drive architectural standards across the United Kingdom because the function of an architect is not regulated? Does becoming an architect then just become a tick box exercise? Has there ever been anyone struck off the register for 'bad architecture'? What is 'bad architecture'?

The ARB publish previous professional conduct committee decisions on their webpage (ARB, 2022). An example decision sees an architect reprimanded because they "did not provide adequate terms of engagement to the Complainant contrary to Standard 4.4 of the Architects Code". The ARB code of conduct and complaints committee protects the client in terms of an architect's professionalism and conduct. A protection that doesn't exist for the client opting to use a non-architect designer, reinforcing the importance of a better client and public understanding.

Would using a similar system, perhaps a 'design standards committee' be beneficial? Such a system would ensure regulation over architectural outputs as well as professional conduct. Not only enabling a greater control over the quality of architectural output, but because of this control adding value to an Architects service in comparison with the non-architect designer. A control over design standards that would give architects greater ownership and ability to change outputs in response to climate change, for example, at a quicker rate.

Could ARB regulation of planning applications be a way of regulating the function of the non-architect?

In contrast to regulating the function of an architect, should the ARB introduce a system that can regulate the performance of qualified architects, whilst also assessing the performance of those who are in practice but haven't yet qualified? A way of levelling the playing field where an individual is judged upon their architectural output rather than their qualifications?

Is this the way in which the profession can adapt to mitigate poor client understanding and promote good architectural practice, boosting the value of good architectural design? In this case a good client understanding would become less important because the standard of practice would become consistently better. It is however possible that such an approach has the potential to de-value the services of a qualified architect.

To survive or thrive? The importance of post occupancy evaluations.

It is common that customers are met with a clients' satisfaction survey, product review surveys or service feedback surveys after completing a purchase. The digital world allows companies

to digitally conduct satisfaction surveys via email. It might be that after purchasing a product the seller sends a survey from which their able to gather data and suggest changes to the way they operate to better the service provided.

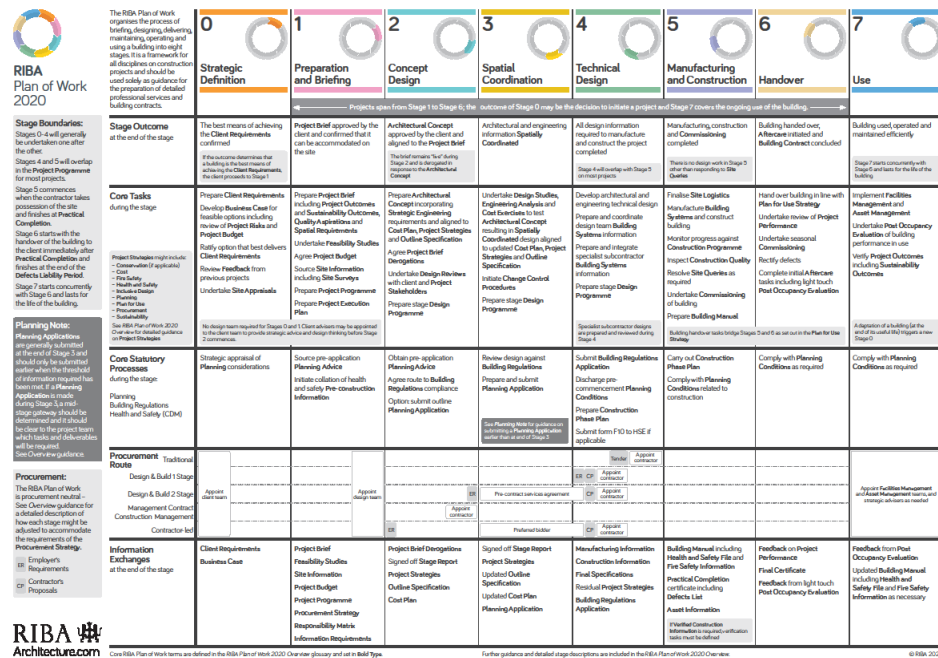


Figure 8: RIBA Plan of Work 2020

Credit: RIBA, 2020.

The RIBA Plan of Works (see figure 9) is a guide that outlines each stage of the design, planning and construction processes (RIBA, 2020). Ranging from stages zero to seven the stages cover strategic definition, preparation and briefing, concept design, spatial coordination, technical design, manufacturing and construction, handover, and use. Stage seven recommends an assessment is undertaken that addresses the feedback of a post occupancy evaluation, usually taken 12, 24, and 36 post-handover. This evaluation that aims to measure the performance gap in design.

9. Do you conduct client satisfaction surveys/post occupancy evaluations?



Figure 9: Architects in Wales survey – response to question 9.

Credit: Author, 2021.

10. How important are post occupancy evaluations in terms of how you approach the next project?



Figure 10: Architects in Wales survey – response to question 10.

Credit: Author, 2021.

The data collected from the architects in Wales survey (see appendix A) suggests that Wales based Architects believe post occupancy evaluations are important. 64% of those that responded said that post occupancy evaluations were either somewhat important or extremely important in terms of how they approach their next project (see figure 9). A collective opinion among Wales based architects is that the importance of post occupancy is valued and recognised within the profession.

However, the survey also shows how many of these architects do in fact conduct post occupancy evaluations/client satisfaction surveys. This data shows that there is a 25% drop-off from architects that despite recognising the importance of post occupancy evaluations, they do not carry them out. A reality reflected in written responses, to the same survey, is that post occupancy evaluations are often unattainable because clients cannot afford/refuse to pay the fee for this service or do not understand their importance as they may not be the end user.

Is this a service Architects can be expected to conduct for free, for the greater good of the profession?



Figure 11: Grange Pavilion by Benham Architects.

Credit: James Alexander Foxhall.

During a guest lecture at The Swansea School of Architecture, Dan Benham of Benham Architects explains that The Grange Pavilion, Cardiff was his first ever RIBA stage 7 (Benham, 2021). At the time of writing this scheme is shortlisted for the RSAW Welsh architecture awards 2022 (RIBA, 2022). This is a reality that is reflected across the country, based on survey responses, and one that neglects the opportunity to address the performance gap in buildings and better our regional architecture within Wales.

Is it possible that someone or some organisations should be doing more to ensure post-occupancy evaluations happen? Can the ARB or RIBA offer an incentive for the completion of post occupancy evaluations and do more to ensure their completion? Or should the value of an architect be that they take it upon themselves. Should post occupancy evaluations be set out as part of the fee quotation at the beginning of a project? The expectation can't be for the profession to evolve and adapt and to achieve the highest standards of architecture if a lack of evaluation and assessment of the performance gap is collectively neglecting an opportunity to learn and adapt.

Can it be expected and pushed by the ARB that architects conduct client satisfaction surveys as a requirement? A survey that is easily carried out given the technologies of today, to evaluate how successful the architecture is. To assess how the building is occupied by the end user, particularly with small domestic projects.

Chapter 3: Architectural education and CPD.

The Architects Association was founded in 1847. The first School of Architecture in the United Kingdom. It was first founded as a reaction to the previously existing education system. (The Architects Association, 2020). The first Welsh based architecture school was The Welsh School of Architecture (Cardiff University, 2022) established in 1920 and located in Cardiff.

There are another three schools of architecture at part 1 and one at part 2 within Wales that have since been founded and can be striving towards increasing the number of Wales based architecture graduates. The Swansea School of Architecture (UWTSD) and Cardiff Met University offering part 1 courses, and CAT (Centre of Alternative Technology) offering a part 2 course. The opportunity to study architecture is readily available within Wales. Should these Welsh based Schools strive to create a regional architectural identity, ultimately driving the standards and awareness of architectural practice within Wales?

Is an architectural education that which provides an architect with their value? Educational value in terms of how skills learnt through studies, can be applied to practice. This chapter aims to capture the importance of education within the profession and the significance of architectural education to the value of an architect. A cross reference of the architects in Wales survey data (see appendix A) and interviews with Dr Jenny Russell (Interim Director of Education RIBA) (see appendix E), and architectural education questionnaire responses from Sandra Hedblad (Head of Learning RIBA) (see appendix D) lead to an evaluation of architectural education in Wales.

Data collection and policy writing – should the views of 6 Schools of Architecture represent the future of 64?

'Modernising the initial education and training of Architects' (ARB, 2021) is the newest ARB report that suggests the way ahead for architectural education. It states that the way architects are educated and trained "*must change*", in order to "*meet the demands of today and the challenges of tomorrow*". The document states that there is a need for a "*modern*" architectural education. Maybe suggesting that the old method is old fashioned and outdated. Given the ever-evolving challenges of climate change, fire safety and many other considerations it is possible that the current education system hasn't adapted quickly enough. Initially, at face value it is clear to see why this view may be obtained and is consistent with the architects in Wales survey responses shown at appendix A. The document overview outlines key aspects

to which the ARB believe require modernisation to ensure appropriate student competencies. Such aspects include the following: course content, relevance to practice and inter-professional learning to better equip students for practice.

The basis for the 'Modernising the initial education and training of Architects' document is a '*Review of Architects Competencies*' carried out by SQW (SQW, 2021). A survey that aims to gather an understanding about the "state" of the profession. A survey that suggests changes to architectural education, with the view to adjust the course of the profession. This survey, however, has a poor response rate of 10% of architects within the UK and just 6 schools of architecture. 6 from 64 Schools of architecture to influence change that will affect how every school operates. Change that might not be relevant at all. For example, the documents suggests that university taught design should be better integrated with application in practice. If there are schools that are already covering these elements that are among the 56 Schools of architecture excluded from this research, then the recommended changes are irrelevant.

How can it be that as little as 10% of the profession can influence a decision such as the overall approach to architectural education within the UK? The remaining 90% should have an equal say, but in this case their views have been ignored. Ignored to the point where it is hard not to question how the ARB aren't able to obtain a higher number survey of responses. The architects in Wales survey (see appendix A) has obtained a comparable response rate. Such a response rate does, indeed, provide enough data to prompt discussion. But, using such a small sample of the profession to a new approach to education that will affect all of those involved, could be seen as ignorant. A clear direction in all aspects of the profession is important, as stated by numerous responses to the architects in Wales survey. A clear and emotive vision cannot be obtained until the data reflects the views, experiences, and suggestions of the majority.

The ARB charge an annual registration fee of £184 (ARB, 2022). One would think that this annual registration process provides the best possible opportunity to gather the views of every architect within the UK. A short annual survey that is mandatory upon registration or re-registration with targeted, timely questions would provide an opportunity to gather valid data that can best inform legislation and policy. Changes to policy based on a 10% response rate could impact the value and topical relevance of an architectural education to the other 90% who's reviews are excluded from the data. An annual survey, as suggested, would provide an opportunity to build a database showing the evolution of architectural practice through the architects eyes that is a holistic representation of the "state" of the profession.

A short survey filled annually upon ARB registration that would include key topics for today. A small price to pay to gain a true reflection of current practice to best inform the future of all architects and the value of an architect.

Dr Jenny Russell expressed the difficulties with making changes within architectural education during an interview (see appendix E) when asked whether she believed the profession is nimble enough to adapt and enact change. She highlights that there is a disconnect between the ARB and RIBA curriculum with the institutes that run the education courses (Russell, 2022). A disconnect here can be problematic when striving to enact change. Dr Jenny Russell expresses the concern that changing the structure of university courses can take years. Does this mean that the responsibility lies with lecturers to deliver timely changes rather than course content? Can courses be written in a way that pre-empt the need for change?

Architectural education, architectural training, or some sort of hybrid system?

The architects in Wales survey asks whether or not fire safety is perceived to be adequately taught at university, from their experiences (see figure 12). The consensus is that no, evidence suggests that architects in Wales do not believe fire safety is adequately taught, from their experiences, with 77% stating that more should be done to ensure the graduate understands the importance of fire safety. Perhaps most importantly, in response to this data, more should be done to ensure the graduate can design and implement fire safe design solutions within practice.

20. From your experience, is fire safety adequately taught at schools of Architecture?

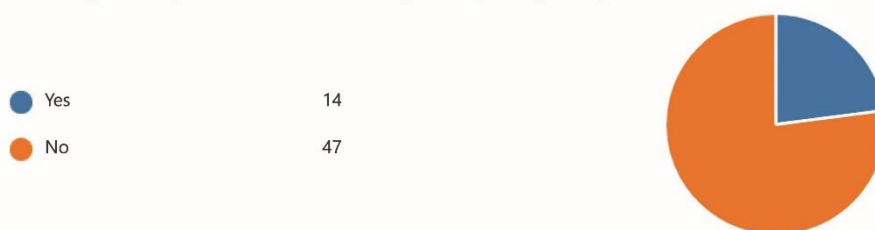


Figure 12: Architects in Wales survey – response to question 20.

Credit: Author, 2021.

On the 14th of June 2017 Grenfell Tower, North Kensington was engulfed in flames because of a fire started in a fourth floor flat (BBC, 2018). The entire tower block burnt which resulted in the death of 72 residents. This incident highlights the importance of fire safety and

ownership within the construction process. An Architects Journal article titled *'Four years on from Grenfell: the cladding scandal and architects' role in solving it'* (Jessel, 2021) talks about a survey of 300 architects to assess how the scandal continues to effect everyday practice. Survey responses included within the article reflect a perception that the profession has been too silent and as a consequence lost the trust of the public.

It is then striking that the 'Modernising the initial education and training of architects' report by the ARB fails to specifically mention anything fire safety related. It continues to vaguely suggest that the graduate should be better equipped for practice but fails to specify the education of fire safety. In fact, fails to mention any specific way in which to better the readiness of graduates to transfer into practice. The lack of clarity and specificity within the ARB report is questionable, given the strength of response gathered in the architects in Wales survey about fire safety. One would expect such a report to specify educational recommendations.

The ARB report does, however, mention what is referred to within the document as an *"integrated approach"*. An integration between academic education and professional practice but also an integration that sees a potential partial by-pass of the educational system for those that may have *"transferable knowledge or skills"*. The document suggests introducing a system where the conventional 7-year prescribed route to qualification becomes just one of many ways to become an architect. This opens the door for those who have knowledge and experience within the profession. For example, an individual may have studied architectural technology at university and has since gained 5 years' experience working within an architects practice on numerous projects. It is suggested within the document that this individual would then be able to by-pass part 1 because of their equivalent experiences. The critical question here is whether or not the *"transferable knowledge or skills"* criteria is consistent with that of a part 1 undergraduate course? How might this affect the appeal of studying architecture within Wales, and are prospective students likely to seek employment with the view to studying a part 2 course once the experience criteria have been met? A possibility of by-passing undergraduate course fees.

A shift away from the conventional seven years of education and toward an apprenticeship scheme is something that is backed, and clearly voiced within the responses to the architects in Wales survey (see appendix A).

"There should be more of an opportunity to train in architecture through a combination of work placements and university study. They offer very different experiences and skill sets", - architects in Wales survey anonymous response 8.

“I do think there should be further work to explore the concept of architectural apprenticeships in practice”- architects in Wales survey anonymous response 20.

Contrary to the prior point made about fire safety, where there is an inconsistency between the architects in Wales survey and ARB report, the idea that architecture should push an apprenticeship system, is picked up within both documents. The ARB document outlines an objective to align academia and practice whilst it lacks an explanation of how this outcome may be achieved.

The RIBA future architects mentoring scheme (RIBA, 2022) is an example of how students can learn and interact with architects in practice, which is currently running for a growing list of participating schools. This scheme offers an opportunity for part 1 students to partake in 6 hours' worth of mentoring sessions. Should the ARB adopt such a scheme as part of their education criteria to better the ties between education and practice and drive standards across the UK?

The presence of Architecture within secondary school education.

A continuation of this movement and re structure of architectural education would be to explore the idea of introducing architecture to secondary school education. 61% of architects responding to the architects in Wales survey say 'yes' architecture should be introduced at this level, in response to question 18. This view is also echoed by written responses that suggests that some form of introduction is needed to increase an awareness and to avoid students that have skill sets suited to architecture but opt to study alternative subjects due to a lack of understanding and exposure to architecture.

18. Do you think architecture should be introduced at secondary school level 2 (ages 14-16) to increase awareness of the profession?

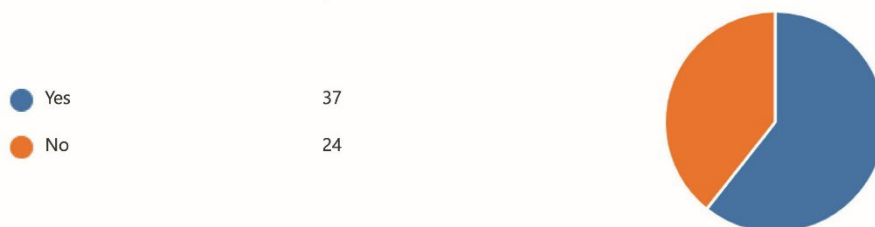


Figure 13: Architects in Wales survey – response to question 18.

Credit: Author, 2021.

Written responses, although agreeing that architecture must be introduced, states that it must be introduced as a discipline spanning across numerous subject areas, rather than an isolated subject as taught at university. Anonymous responses suggests that such response can help secondary school students understand the benefits of design and how architecture can better the environments we live in. It is important to note that the success of introducing architecture within secondary schools, whether that is a specific subject or a cross-discipline awareness, would greatly depend on having teachers with appropriate knowledge to deliver the subject area successfully. Is architecture seen as a viable career path within Wales and would introducing such a system help boost the generation and retention of architects within Wales?

WJEC now offer a level 2 qualification in Construction and the Built Environment (WJEC, 2022) which is pioneering in terms of introducing the construction industry to secondary schools within Wales. This course provokes an awareness of architecture and possibly an important move that will see a greater understanding and appreciation of architecture. A regional awareness of this profession. Should this course be introduced across the UK and will a better understanding and appreciation of the construction industry among secondary school pupils create a demand for an architecture specific course at GCSE level?

During an interview (see appendix C), Adrian Dobson (Executive Director Professional Services RIBA), uses the example that Scandinavian countries have a deeper appreciation of design because it forms a part of early education. Can this be used as a precedent for the architectural education in Wales?

Both Dr Jenny Russell (Interim Director of Education, RIBA) and Sandra Hedblad (Head of Learning RIBA) also share an opinion that believe architecture should be introduced at secondary school level. During an online interview (see appendix E) Dr Jenny Russell share in insight into her own research of the introducing architecture to children. She shares that her findings demonstrate there is an ability among younger children to appreciate things in three dimensions that is lost during maturity and replaced by a more logical way of thinking. It then makes sense that her research encourages the introduction of architecture to the education of even younger pupils. An awareness of the three-dimensional quality of space across disciplines. It is her opinion that this approach is likely to increase the number of pupils that show an interest in architecture and pursue architecture at university, as stated in the argument above.

Is CPD just a tick box exercise?

It is expected that CPD or Continuing Professional Development is recommended to be carried out by ARB registered architects to ensure the competency and continued learning of

architects (ARB, 2022). The architects in Wales survey (see appendix A) reflects an opinion among Wales based architects that CPD is an important part of the profession. 88% say that CPD is either extremely important or somewhat important to the quality of architectural practice (see figure 14). And the consensus is that the RIBA CPD Core Curriculum largely outlines the correct topics for graduates and professionals to follow.

19. How important do you think CPD is to the quality of architectural practice?



Figure 14: Architects in Wales survey – response to question 19.

Credit: Author, 2021.

Despite this, written responses to the architects in Wales survey reflect an opinion that suggests CPD must adapt slightly to best influence the quality of practice and the competency of the profession within Wales. Responses suggest that the RIBA CPD curriculum must be able to adapt to in order to stay relevant in terms of its topical content.

“CPD needs to be adapted to individual needs and not a global tick box exercise. CPD can be adapted to give back into the community, inform public perception and to nurture understanding of our profession”- architects in Wales survey, anonymous response.

There is a demand for the RIBA CPD Curriculum to not only adapt to timely factors such as legislation and regulation changes, but to also be nimble in the way that CPD can be tailored to the individual. Perhaps an individual’s experiences, skillset and knowledge are logged within a CPD database to ensure CPD is relevant to the individual. CPD is not continued professional development if that individual is already competent in that specific subject area. Neither is offering conservation specific CPD relevant for a practitioner working solely on new builds. Based on written survey responses it is fair to suggest that CPD can improve. To provide a purpose-built database that can factor experiences, skillset, and knowledge to determine the correct CPD for the individual. By doing so, maybe with a targeted regional approach within

Wales, the competency of the profession will be to increase ensuring practitioners remain 'practice ready'.

When asked about the importance of CPD (see appendix E) Dr Jenny Russell supports the idea that CPD should be experience based, and that quite often CPD events are just tick box exercises. Using an example of a carpet fitting CPD event, she voices that it is of critical importance that the information provided within the CPD can further the existing knowledge of the individual and that the knowledge can be applied through practice. It might be that a CPD event on carpet fitting is somewhat irrelevant due to a lack of transferable knowledge.

Chapter 4: Membership and awards.

The RIBA (Royal Institute of British Architects) was founded in 1834 (RIBA, 2022). Its purpose was to advance the profession of architecture within the UK. A purpose that remains consistent with its aims and aspirations in the 21st century. The RIBA has since (2019) opened two international offices to support members globally. Annual membership comes at a cost, for which the RIBA pledge to support their members with access to the Core CPD products and a 20% discount on the RIBA academy and other professional events. The primary benefit of becoming an RIBA chartered member is, however, the use of the RIBA name to show that an individual has “achieved the highest standards in architecture”, and an opportunity to enter for regional and national RIBA awards, as explained on the RIBA webpage (RIBA, 2022).

The importance of membership in Wales.

The architects in Wales survey data (see appendix A) depicts a clear picture of how important RIBA membership is to Wales based architects (see figure 15). The data reflects a significant split between those who believe RIBA membership is extremely important and those who do not. Such a split (although slightly weighted towards those who believe RIBA membership is important) would question why Wales based architects share such opposing views of the importance of membership and its benefit to professional practice. In a profession where each and every survey responder has the overall success, progression and advancement of the profession in their best interests. Contrasting data would suggest that there is a lack RIBA membership appreciation and architects in Wales are able to continue practice whilst avoiding the added cost of RIBA membership, in a way that has no effect on their output and business. Should RIBA membership provide architects with an unmissable service that positively impacts day to day architectural practice? Can the RIBA do more through membership to firstly justify the cost of membership, and secondly to advance the profession and the perceived value of an architect.

24. How important is RIBA membership to you and/or your practice?

Extremely important	23
Somewhat important	15
Neutral	4
Somewhat not important	7
Extremely not important	12

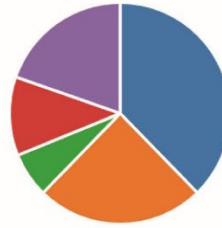


Figure 15: Architects in Wales survey – response to question 24.

Credit: Author, 2021.

After all, it's ARB registration that carries the legal weight and architects can practice with that and that alone. This is often the case and is consistent reflected within written responses to the architects in Wales survey. Does this then suggest that the profession would be better off with just one of these bodies (ARB and RIBA) to achieve clarity? Would this better the understanding amongst the public and clients of what an architect does and the benefits of using an architect? An attempt to draw one these names into general circulation and public knowledge. Does there need to be more of a collective approach?

There is a general lack of understanding in Wales over the importance of RIBA membership and a further lack of understanding of the importance of ARB registration. This view is consistent with the responses to the architects in Wales survey.

Does there need to be a marketing campaign that aims to better the awareness by engaging in public activity and live projects. Or one that sees the RIBA and ARB highlighted on television. Research shows that architects feel as if there is a definite lack of public understanding and awareness that must be corrected if the true value of an architect is to be realised within 21st century society – can this be attained through the awareness of membership?

Alienation and Isolation.

“RIBA is a good club in London not much down here” - architects in Wales survey, anonymous response.

When asked about international RIBA membership Tim Clark (RIBA international council member) expressed a view that suggests international members feel removed and isolated (see appendix B). An isolation that is felt to such an extent that he is surprised around 1500 international members remain. He mentions that a large proportion of these members are

students and are eligible for free membership, suggesting that the value of membership in terms of what a member receives isn't justified compared with the cost of membership.

The sense of alienation and isolation felt by international members is consistent with the written responses to the architects in Wales survey. A sense of inclusion and belonging is something that is extremely important with any membership, and it is evident that a number of Wales based architects feel as if their region is isolated and that membership is tailored to architects in other regions. Can the RSAW do more to increase the value of membership in Wales?

Critical Regionalism – towards a Welsh architecture.

The architects in Wales survey reflects the current standpoint of Wales based architects on critical regionalism. 72% say that it's important that Wales work to create a strong sense of critical regionalism architecturally within Wales (as shown in figure 16). Critical regionalism provides a coherent sense of architectural identity for a region in terms of building aesthetics, materials and response to context and climatic factors (Cutieru, 2021). For example, the design of Welsh chapels built throughout the Wales during the industrial revolution, offers a distinct style of architecture. The same can be said for terraced houses built throughout the same region. Both examples reflect a region that reflects the societal factor of the influx of workers to the area, the need to protect workers against the elements and the need for communal gathering spaces and a sense of community. A regionalism that is expressed through both aesthetics, and the quality of construction, with the majority still used to this day some 100 years later.

14. Critical Regionalism counters the idea that a place is lacking in architectural identity.

Do you think it's important for Architects in Wales to create a strong sense of Critical Regionalism?



Figure 16: Architects in Wales survey – response to question 14.

Credit: Author, 2021.

“If you mean critical regionalism to be a certain Welsh architectural’ style’ then I’m not in favour. I would be in favour of a critical regionalism based on quality” – architects in Wales survey, anonymous response.

Architects can control and influence a sense of critical regionalism within Wales through the regulation of architectural practice. Guidance such as the Placemaking Wales Guide (Design Commission for Wales, 2020) is already in place to regulate the quality of the built environment within the country. A regional quality of architectural design in terms of style and identity should coincide with a regional identity in terms of quality. The RSAW have an opportunity to directly influence a sense of identity through the quality of architectural practice in Wales. A regional regulation of architectural practice should help to achieve this.

In 15th century Wales if you could construct a house between dusk and dawn on common land the occupier would be able to claim ownership of the house (Prior, 2020). This was called *Ty-Unnos* which translates to one-night house. Could greater regulation of the profession strive toward a Welsh architecture that encapsulates a similar ownership? A profession that adopts a greater sense of critical regionalism, reflecting the unique characteristics of Wales.

Do awards in architecture increase the perceived value of an architect?

Among the 61 responders to the architects in Wales survey (see appendix A), although 54% state that they have won an award, 67% say that awards are not important to them or their practice. At first glance this data would show that awards, in many cases, do not directly affect the day-to-day practice of architects in a way that would deem them to be important (although it is important to note that this is something that is hard to measure). The data also shows that there is an almost 50/50 split between responses where awards have helped architect attract clients and responses where awards have not affected business.

26. Are architecture awards important to you or your practice? Do you have ambitions of winning them?

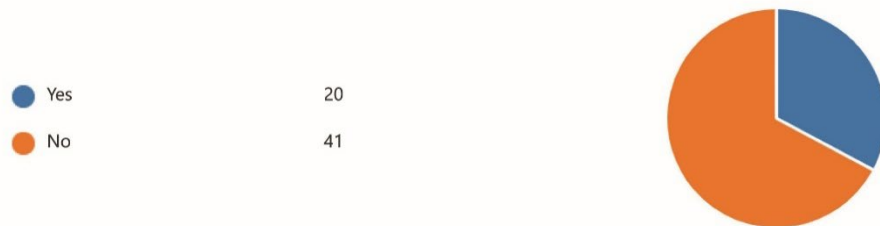


Figure 17: Architects in Wales survey – response to question 26.

Credit: Author, 2021.

27. Have you won an award?

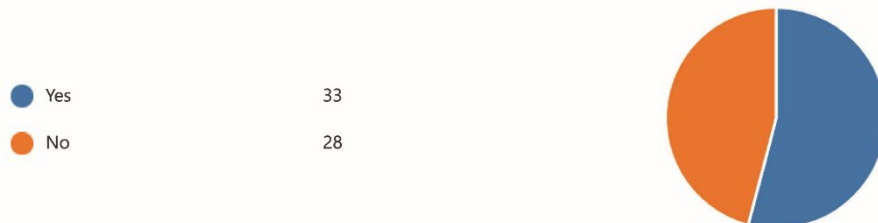


Figure 18: Architects in Wales survey – response to question 27.

Credit: Author, 2021.

28. Have awards helped you and/or your practice gain work?



Figure 18: Architects in Wales survey – response to question 27.

Credit: Author, 2021.

“The awards culture is problematic, but it is a good opportunity to raise your profile.” - anonymous response to the architects in Wales survey.

In Wales there is an opportunity to use RSAW awards to set standards of what is 'good design' in accordance with the RIBA awards criteria. Current criteria are divided into the following categories: architectural integrity, useability and context, delivery, execution, and initial occupation (RIBA, 2022). Does this do enough to move away from something that could easily become subjective judging? Are the differences between good architecture and even better architecture clearly defined? Is it possible for criteria to clearly define the differences between excellent design on a restrictive budget and design that has access to unlimited amounts of money?

In the same way that 'good' architecture is showcased to drive standards of architecture within Wales, would showcasing 'bad' examples of architecture help to drive standards and increase the importance of awards (or the importance of avoiding bad awards) within Wales? Can there be a new approach to architectural awards within Wales? To promote public engagement and understanding within society. A better understanding of what is 'good architecture' where application of knowledge and design resolution against external factors such as budget clearly depicts the perceived value of an architect within Wales.

Conclusion

This research is based on responses to the architects in Wales survey (see appendix A), and whilst a larger number of responses is desirable for future research, the survey has produced data that stands alone in terms of the information that has been gathered. The indicators within the data collected prove that architects in Wales feel strongly about the profession, and that change is needed to ensure best possible practice. Views are expressed that would remain silent and redundant if such surveys aren't carried out by the likes of the RSAW, RIBA or ARB. Such a survey provides tactile data and personal views. Views that should be considered to enact change and strive toward the best possible regional architecture within Wales and across the United Kingdom. As mentioned in Chapter three an annual survey carried out by the ARB upon registration would allow for data to be obtained from every architect within the United Kingdom. This would add value to the profession in terms of its robustness, but also an additional value of how the profession cares for the views of all architects, an inclusive view.

Upon conclusion of this research, there isn't so much of an issue with the current framework of the profession, but what is evident is that architects in Wales strongly believe there is a poor understanding of the role an architect. From both the client and public points of view. Bodies such as the ARB and RIBA should be made accountable for this lack of understanding. Greater public engagement, media coverage, marketing and the regulation of an architect's function are ways in which the ARB and RIBA can react and facilitate an understanding of architecture that is needed within society.

Regulation of function sees an architect regain lost control and authority within the construction process. An ability to orchestrate proceedings and apply knowledge to drive standards of architectural practice. An authority that is to be recognised by clients and the public. An authority that is valued.

Architectural education is what provides an architect with skills that can then be applied to architectural practice. The regulation of education is therefore imperative to ensure the curriculum aligns with the relevant topics for practice, responding timely to the likes of the sustainability agenda. This research has found that there is a need to closely link education with practice to drive competency amongst graduates. The RIBA mentor scheme is something that is beginning to do this. This research has also concluded that it is important that changes to curriculum are based upon holistic data, contrary to the ARB report referred to within the chapter discussion. The possible benefits of the introduction of architecture within primary and secondary school education in Wales is another outcome of this research. An idea that is

backed by architects and one that is believed to have the capability of increasing the public awareness, understanding and appreciation of the profession within Wales. Introducing architecture earlier on in education will also increase the number of prospective students that will go on to study and practice within Wales. The importance of life-long learning is also picked up within the research. CPD that must be relevant, and experience based, providing an education that is transferable to practice.

Architects in Wales feel as though it is hard to justify the cost of RIBA membership and feel isolated and alienated. It is important that there is a clear and coherent approach between the RIBA and ARB to ensure architect feels as though their services are of value. Is there a need for both the RIBA and ARB? With a greater appreciation of their value, they can then expect greater success when striving toward what they think is 'good design'. This research has also identified that there is an opportunity for the RSAW to push toward a regional value of an architect within Wales. A value that stems from a greater regional understanding and awareness of the services and expertise of an architect. This research suggests a regional architecture can be achieved within Wales, through greater public engagement, marketing, engaging architects and carefully targeted awards.

The value of an architect is knowledge, a skill set, and an understanding of design attained through a regulated education process. The ability to provide a service that is superior to a service that is provided by an individual that hasn't attained the same level of qualification. A regulated function. The question is whether the service of an architect can be valued if it is not fully understood by the public or client. A greater public perception of the value of an architect within Wales will improve the quality of architectural output. The profession needs not to be afraid of moving towards a greater use of digital platforms and public engagement to drive the regional understanding within Wales. To recognise the value of an architect in Wales, a clear and coherent response is needed across the areas discussed within this research. The introduction of architecture at primary and secondary school, to inspire and enthuse young minds, will improve the awareness of architecture. The RIBA, ARB and RSAW could benefit by actively encouraging feedback and the participation of all architects in Wales to encourage a feeling of importance, of value. The value of the architectural profession must be that these bodies deliver clear and coherent guidelines for design. Guidelines that take the views of every architect into consideration, to eradicate the feeling of isolation amongst architects in Wales.

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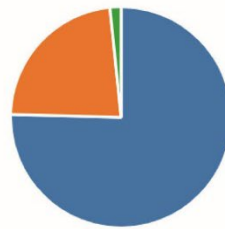
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Appendix A: Architects in Wales survey (Author, 2021).

This survey was submitted digitally via Microsoft Teams to every Wales based architect on ARB. The survey received 61 responses.

1. Please specify your gender below:

Male	46
Female	14
Prefer not to say	1



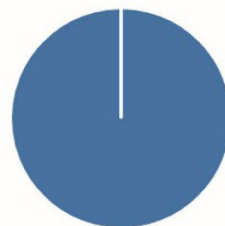
2. Are you a Chartered Member of the RIBA?

Yes	42
No	19

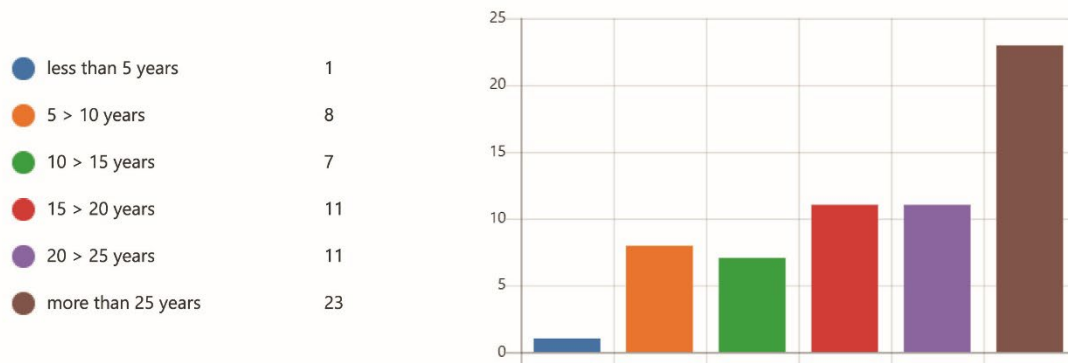


3. Are you ARB registered?

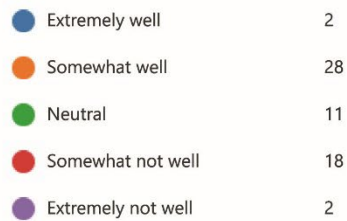
Yes	61
No	0



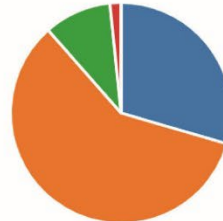
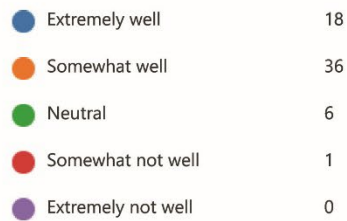
4. How many years have you been working in practice?



5. In your experience how well does the client, at the beginning of a project, fully understand your role as an Architect?

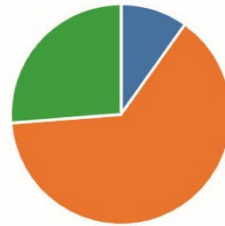


6. How well do you think the dialogue between client and Architect maintained throughout a project?



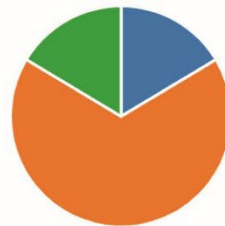
7. To what extent do you feel the architectural quality of your schemes is compromised by the vision of the client?

Extremely compromised	6
Somewhat compromised	39
Not compromised	16



8. To what extent do you feel the architectural quality of your schemes are compromised by budget?

Extremely compromised	10
Somewhat compromised	41
Not compromised	10



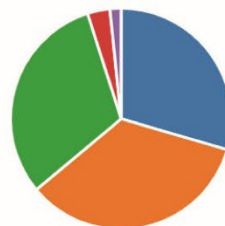
9. Do you conduct client satisfaction surveys/post occupancy evaluations?

Yes	24
No	37



10. How important are post occupancy evaluations in terms of how you approach the next project?

Extremely important	18
Somewhat important	21
Neutral	19
Somewhat not important	2
Extremely not important	1



11. Any other points you think are important with regards to the Architect/client relationship.

A clear and unambiguous understanding at the start of any project. Sound advice that is impartial as much as possible to provide a service in the interests of the client whilst maintaining ones integrity and freedom of thought.

The client often doesn't know the difference between an architect and a technician and doesn't understand the implications of ARB registration, protection of title and the education an Architect receives. The client very often doesnt understand the full range of services that an architect can offer over unqualified draftsmen.

Must work together and closely understand each others visions and constraints

It can vary massively from project to project depending on who the client is.

Depends on how you frame your professional approach? Artisan creator of architecture, or professional advisor guiding a client?

The budget question is slightly misleading. If budget expectations are known at the outset these can be designed in, as with any other constraint, and be very successful. Problems occur when the client vision expectation and budget do not match at the beginning.

While a client may not appreciate the role of an architect at the very outset, with the evolution of the briefing process they will have a much clearer understanding - including an appreciation that the design process is fluid and actually bringing a project into being may involve overcoming a variety of unforeseen challenges.

Remembering that it is the Client's building, not the Architect's and always remembering that balance between offering professional advice and letting the Client make choices. Respect the Client.

Not having 3 D imaging means that often clients find it difficult to understand the drawings as a complete concept. It is very important to be computer literate as clients constantly changing thoughts

A prompt personal service is extremely important.

The importance of dialogue at the beginning and throughout the project is extremely important. Every client is different, every project different. It is importance that they see the type of work I do and level of sustainability. Project budget as discussed at the beginning. I

think compromised is not a good word. If I really disagree with the client No7 I would not do the project.

Honesty

Our business is mostly residential with small extensions through to up to 30 houses, with a small mixture of commercial and community projects. In the case of residential many people start off just wanting to build a box on the back of the house and have no expectations of anything other than that. We offer a free upfront meeting and discussion on site to try and fire them up and show them what could be possible and how much more we could add in terms of value to their expectations. But because in the past work has been very hard to find in the area in which we live and work (the Rhondda etc) we don't to turn work away just because they are not wanting to spend huge amounts of money or create architectural masterpieces! Because budgets are tight quite often clients abandon our role as soon as we get planning and complete a set of construction drawings in the mis-lead belief that they can manage the job on site. What happens then is that Builder strips are anything of any value or uniqueness and reduce it down to what he is used to building, and then the client is too embarrassed to contact us to show us the finished product.

We do get really intelligent and creative clients who know that we are going to do something very special because I am an architect with 42 years experience and seven years formal training! Then things get very exciting as they work with us on creating something special and unique even if it is not very expensive.

We generally find that as the project progresses the clients begin to realise just what they could get for the same money if they trust us and give us more freedom. I would say that 80% of our projects go in this direction.

Thorough appointment documents setting out services offered. Written and subsequently acknowledged scope of services to be in place at start of project. Clear fee structure and payment schedule expectations. Clear concise written communication to manage client expectations at all times. Clarity clarity clarity.

A thorough briefing at the first encounter, which of course should be confirmed in the description of services. I think the bald statements set out above fail to capture shades of communication and design development and indeed post occupation appraisal that may come down more to observation in use rather than questionnaire.

A continuous relationship throughout the project rather than a change of architect through a design build approach where the original client appointed architect is replaced by the contractor's architect.
Hard to answer your survey as clients are sometimes organizations, pension funds are sometimes definable by one person. The insurers, estate agents and other professionals all have an influence on the clients time and attention architecture has a lower status than some of these influences.
the relationship often changes during the construction period
While we do not do a formal survey we do maintain a close contact with clients.
Paramount to maintain dialogue and communication even during the perceived sticky periods. Helps to take away a poor game of Chinese whispers and paranoia on both sides.
It is a primary role of the Architect to develop and maintain the relationship with the Client. It is essential to listen to and fully understand the Clients expectations and know and work within the Client's budget.
Understanding how experienced a client is and how much hand holding they will require to make their decisions.
The relationship is often governed by the type of project being undertaken i.e. someones house would be fundamentally different to a commercial scheme
Regular communication and clear feedback throughout a project essential, don't assume a client understands fully your ideas without explanation.
Keeping to your promised timelines is always good. Once the client is annoyed with the architect, he/she has to work extra hard to re-establish a good relationship.
Because these projects involve people, and people are different, then it is difficult to make generalist statements like the ones in this questionnaire. Each client is different, each project is different. Corporate clients are very different to individual homeowner clients.
Expectations of a professional client, ie a developer, were realistic as they had experience of lots of projects and working with a professional team. However, expectations of domestic clients were always totally unrealistic.
Clearly outline the scope of your services and your exact role and responsibilities.

tv shows (Grand Designs etc) do not give inexperienced private clients a true picture of the architect/client relationship, or architectural projects as a whole

Q5 - This does vary as some clients are very informed and are often building professionals and sometimes architects in their own right. I work with both public and private sector clients, with individuals, organisations and trust. Some clients require more assistance and guidance than others and the use of 'soft management' skills is important.

Q6 - Dialogue with the client is important throughout and the need to confront sometimes difficult issues should not be avoided. 'Saying what you mean, and meaning what you say' is crucial.

Q7 - The role of the architect is to respond to the client brief, but then to bring value and creativity to the design solution, that might not otherwise be considered. In extreme circumstances, it is better not to accept a commission with a client that hugely at odds with your own views and values. There needs to be mutual respect between parties and a level of professionalism so that the working relationship can evolve and flourish.

Q8 - Architectural solutions should not be compromised, but they might be different from initial perceptions or preconceptions. It might mean that as an Architect I would need to work harder to realise the solution.

Q9+Q10 - I could do more than I currently do as a sole trader with post-occupancy evaluations etc.

There's a very clear split between a professional and a non-professional client. I have assumed that you're referring to non-professional clients e.g. homeowners. We take a lot of time to educate our clients throughout the process to ensure that they understand the process as best as possible and this leads to much better outcomes.

Difficult to give meaningful responses, as each project, and client are different. You may have assumed all clients are private individuals, organizations tend to have staff with building experience and will have different expectations.

This is probably because of our relationship with clients but we often feel that the remainder of the design team (structural, M & E) do not see their elements of the design compromised for budget as much as the architecture when value engineering is required. They can use technical gargon to persuade a client to stick to their designs or just not offer any change in spec.

We seek testimonials on some schemes as feedback but not all. But I would not callk them post occupancy evaluations..

As with most relationships, the more effort to maintain them that is put in, the more beneficial the relationship becomes. However, the commercial reality of fee levels, particularly in Wales, makes this challenging.

12. How well do you feel the public accurately understand and appreciate the value of the profession?

Extremely well	0
Somewhat well	10
Neutral	14
Somewhat not well	27
Extremely not well	10



13. Do you feel TV programs such as Grand Designs have helped/hindered the public understanding of architecture and therefore the quality of design outputs?

Helped	28
Hindered	13
Neutral	20



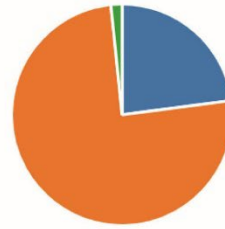
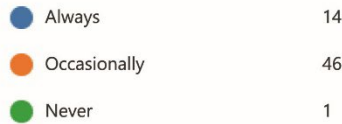
14. Critical Regionalism counters the idea that a place is lacking in architectural identity.

Do you think it's important for Architects in Wales to create a strong sense of Critical Regionalism?

Yes	44
No	17



15. How often does a poor understanding of the profession have a detrimental effect to the quality of architectural output within Wales?



16. Do you have any other comments regarding the perception of the profession, and the potential to create a strong sense of critical regionalism within Wales?

The advent of the large practice/ or homogenous service providers such as Aecom with a one appointment for all disciplines supply chain has had a major impact. It has stifled creativity and alienated small practices too. The loss of architect's departments in local authority, rail and GLC has further impacted the training ground for many architects.

In my experience, the general public doesn't know what an architect is or does. it is very difficult to define what is Welsh Architecture.

Don't understand what I'm being asked in 14. I think a region does have an architectural identity which is important

Shopping centres that take over the centre of a town and chain stores can be detrimental as they all look the same.

critical regionalism, if understood and interpreted well is positive. Too many architects don't understand what this is and instead mimic the vernacular, driving architectural quality in Wales down further.

Welsh architects and planners need to explore a "Welsh" approach to the built environment, and to be open to dialogue with regard to the broad range of Welsh identities and how this can be manifested in the built form

Q15 seems slightly loaded. I would tick a box between always and occasionally, and that presupposes that there is a poor understanding of the profession in Wales. There are obstacles to the agency of an architect's professional role - awful procurement, a low level of aspiration and budget for public buildings etc.

The Quality of Architecture in Wales is generally poor and the Council and Government lack the ambition to change this.
Clients often have firm and fixed ideas of the type of Architecture that they wish to commission. It is often difficult and potentially very time consuming to convince them to adopt a different approach.
Sad that there are not many new builds of quality design, especially mass housing which is very poor
Unfortunately despite a glorious distant past in Celtic days Wales has become a very conservative country with backward and entrenched views about what architecture is all about. So there are relatively few exciting and contemporary houses or buildings. And yet some of the greatest buildings in the UK are in Wales such as the Royal School of music in Cardiff. Your survey does not examine the role of the planning authority in design; in my view they are the real culprits and even in our capital in Cardiff, or perhaps especially in Cardiff, they oppose anything that is different to the grindingly boring. I do not feel that there is an architecture that is significantly different from the rest of the UK for Wales but I do feel there are some strands that we could follow through.
I don't think that the public has a clue what an average architect does nowadays. Most architects do not get to spend months agonising over a detail as the likes of 'Grand Designs' would have you believe. The day to day job of most architects is actually quite mundane management and administration with the likes of project managers, planning consultants, design & build contracts and BIM eroding the profession and standing of us as esteemed project leaders and designers. We are sometimes merely machines for producing drawn output. All new buildings should sit well in their environment and add positivity to their surroundings. They should aim to use locally sourced materials and compliment the grain, texture, scale, materials etc of the locality. This will help create / reinforce the so called critical regionalism.
I think 14 is fraught with danger as it could be used by authoritarian bodies to straight-jacket good construction. This can already be seen in ill-informed conservation area demands.
No
What is critical regionalism ?

if, you mean critical regionalism to be a certain Welsh architectural 'style', then I'm not in favour.

I would be in favour of a critical regionalism based on quality

Good outcomes are derived from an effective team. When having to overcome negative perceptions of the profession this makes the building of the team far more difficult. It is always important to understand history and context.

Architectural education often pushes students to internationalism, which can result in regionalism being overlooked

Architects need to have more 'patrons' of architecture. What I mean by this is that 'building' is not the same as architecture which is rooted in place and creating a sense of place no matter how simple or conversely how large the project is. This value in architecture should come at a (reasonable) cost and fees commensurate for this higher level of service and vision. Good architects will capture identity and character of a place in an appropriate design response and the planning system needs to recognise what constitutes good contextual design and placemaking ahead of un-validated arguments about commercial viability given the location.

I think that it would be interesting to contrast the answers to 12) given by members of the architectural profession with answers to the same question given by members of the public.

No

The average Joe doesn't seem to understand the architects role and believe it is almost entirely design work when in reality design work only entails 5% of our work. Basically, it is believed we get paid a hell of a lot (not true) to do pretty pictures.

the RIBA could do more to get the message out to the general public - most projects are not of Stirling Prize scale

Q12 - This does vary between clients and between different sectors of society and this will probably remain the case for the foreseeable future. Demographics, education do influence an appreciation of the built environment in its broadest terms.

Q13 - Programmes such as Grand Designs has percolated into society and has raised the general awareness of many sectors of the population. The words 'Grand Design' is now often used to describe a DIY or building project in its own right by many.

Q14 - Critical Regionalism is very important, but should not become parochial, nor a manifestation of post-modern regionalism that was identified by writers such as Charles Jencks. It should not be a new vernacular but should be an appropriate response to its setting or context.

Q15 - It is the role and training of an architect to broaden horizons, to inspire and to be leaders for change.

Little promotion of architecture as a career in schools. This is true of construction to.

The public often do not understand the difference between a HND technologist and a qualified architect. Affiliation schemes do not assist in this regard.

Design perceptions of what is 'good' in the eyes of a client can lead to an 'anywhere architecture' response that does not adequately pick up on the context of the site or the cultural/intangible cues.

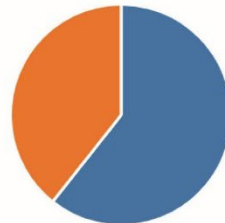
17. Do you think the opportunity to study Architecture is readily available within Wales?

● Yes 48
● No 13



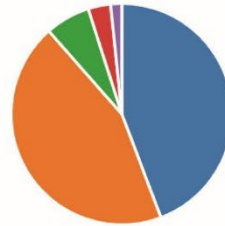
18. Do you think architecture should be introduced at secondary school level 2 (ages 14-16) to increase awareness of the profession?

● Yes 37
● No 24



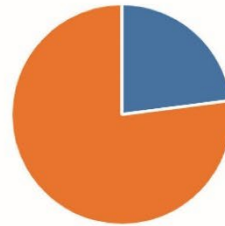
19. How important do you think CPD is to the quality of architectural practice?

Extremely important	27
Somewhat important	27
Neutral	4
Somewhat not important	2
Extremely not important	1



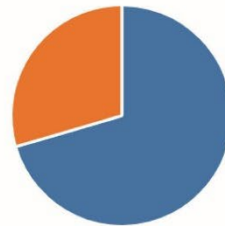
20. From your experience, is fire safety adequately taught at schools of Architecture?

Yes	14
No	47



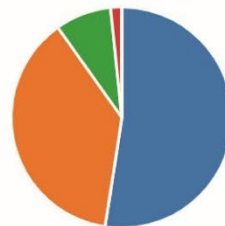
21. Do you think the RIBA CPD Core Curriculum outlines the correct topics for graduates and professionals to follow?

Yes	43
No	18



22. How important is sustainability in your practice?

Extremely important	32
Somewhat important	23
Neutral	5
Somewhat not important	1
Extremely not important	0



23. Do you have any other comments regarding education and CPD for the architectural profession?

In question 21 should have another button option under 'other' as in my experience as a specialist designer with experience of certain building types the CPD provided by the RIBA might not be adequate. So one must look at the content related to knowledge and somehow grade it like university level 4 - to masters....Its just a thought because I have been to a number of CPD events and learned very little new.

CPD needs to be adapted to individual needs and not a global tick box exercise. CPD can be adapted to give back into the community, inform public perception and to nurture understanding of our profession.

The RIBA core curriculum is too prescriptive and focused on too wide a subject field.

Architecture should be taught in schools, not as a discipline, but across humanities, arts and science to help learners understand the importance of good design in creating sustainable places. The new secondary curriculum areas of learning should assist with this.

Instead of secondary schools, architecture should be offered as vocational learning. Much more quality and current practice learning can be achieved as companies are more likely to be on the cutting edge of professional thinking. This would also allow people to get paid and learn, removing barriers created by the cost of formal architecture training.

'Sustainability' is frequently used by architects to justify whatever they wish to build due to its breadth of meaning and elastic descriptive properties. Reading some Design & Access Statements online rather highlights the point. We aim to design well considered buildings but this may not always be about ultra low energy (although that is an important factor for consideration among other points).

There should be a cross over between the Urban Design / Planning Departments and the Architectural Departments in year 2 to give both an understanding of what each profession does and the important points of each discipline.

There should be more of an opportunity to train in architecture through a combination of work placements and university study. They offer very different experiences and skill sets. I think a lot of CPD is completed as a tick box exercise, particularly materials CPD offered by companies which just want to sell their product. Quality and relevant CPD is important, as is the personal development aspect, such as improving communication with Clients. This is less focussed on in CPD requirements, but admittedly hard to measure.

As I qualified along time ago cannot really answer questions 20 &21 so my answers relate to over 40 years ago

Question 21: I would answer 'don't know' if this answer were available.

I have put no to 21 but would really know since I am not an RIBA member. An earlier question asked if I was an ARB member but I would have to be to called an Architect!

Architectural Eductaion should be available in the Welsh language

I finished my training as an architect in 1980 and have not been involved in architectural education since, and so I am not really aware what is going on, including in Wales.

I was until recently the RSAW chair of the small practice network which started a year ago and therefore improve the communications between sole practitioners and small practices across Wales. One of the key challenges on very small income practices is the affordability of really useful and core CPD. Small architectural practices and very low fees generally in Wales, and for example my salary has varied from between £10,000 a year to £35,000 a year in Wales, which would probably surprise you and most others, even though I am the only FRIBA in Wales! So we have been trying to find ways of putting on our own CPD events. I feel that architecture is more than something that should be put in front of children at an early age. Architecture is the pulling together of a wide number of disciplines including suppliers and contractors to realise a vision. So it is more than skills in design; it is about communication and project management skills and in team working and maximising strategies that can deliver solutions in a matrix of increasingly competing requirements. So educating people about design would be about the process and not just about how to make pretty buildings. Many of the schemes that are designed by architectural students are completely unbuildable and unrealistic and when they get out into practice it's very depressing!

Having left the commercial profession 5 years ago I'm not up to date on the current CPD curriculum or how architecture is taught.

I answered 19-21 as demanded, but I really have no good idea of realities.

it is improving with the ability to catch up and isolate topics when required. If knowledge isn't put into practice within 3 months generally it is useless.

Key attribute for all young professionals during their studies, whether it is their intention to work as a salaried Architect or as a sole practitioner is to be exposed to the basics of running a business. At the very least understand Tax, HMRC, cash flow (and its forecast), HR law.
I think education should be reduced from 5 years to 4 years. Although the final, 5th year is important for establishing a decent portfolio, I think it is less important that getting experience in a practice.
An expansion of the core topics would be helpful
I do think there should be further work to explore the concept of architectural apprenticeships in practice.
It is extremely difficult to simply suggest the answer to any particular problem (e.g. fire safety) lies in more time spent learning this at University. Architectural education is often about teaching people to think like architects, so they can learn "on the job".
I have not worked as an architectural professional since the 1980s so I have no idea about the current RIBAs CPD requirements or curriculum but your survey did not give me the option to skip these questions.
The RIBA Core Curriculum should be clearer in their requirement as there are too many grey areas. Some topics are hard to achieve through taught CPD's and most of the time can only be achieved through reading.
no
Q17 - This answer should be nuanced by saying that more can be done and as the course evolves at UWTSD, this will and should provide an offering that is distinct from others. I didn't study in Wales, but when I returned, the change of scene, and the differences in views and values provided me with a perspective and a better appreciation of my own 'cynefin' than was previously the case. Q18 - More can be done and we are at a point in time where architecture and the built environment could be elevated in its relevance to life, living and the environment of the future. More could be done with the Welsh Baccalaureate qualification and with the new Davidson Curriculum that is to be introduced next year. Q20 - This should be nuanced by saying that the basics should be taught well, it should be regularly updated, but should not dominate at the expense of all other considerations. The knowledge of individuals will evolve, depending on the nature, or sector of working that is encountered in practice. Q21 - The ARB and RIBA are debating these themes currently. The nature of practice is

hugely varied and for these reasons, the core curriculum topics might not have a relevance to practice. I don't always believe that the other topics or themes are particularly relevant in their own right to many. Rightly or wrongly I am an Specialist Conservation Accredited Architect and on top of the basic CPD requirements, it is necessary that I maintain additional CPD records that relate to conservation and the historic environment. I required these records amongst other things for re-accreditation every 5 years.

Unable to answer 20 or 21. I do not know. However, your survey will not allow me leave blank.

The lack of oversight / repercussions for not completing annual CPD can lead to complacency. Post Building Safety Act it will be interesting to see the direction the profession takes.

24. How important is RIBA membership to you and/or your practice?

Extremely important	23
Somewhat important	15
Neutral	4
Somewhat not important	7
Extremely not important	12



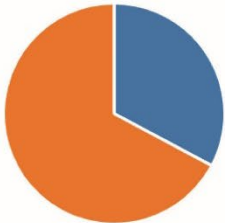
25. Do you feel like your clients are aware of the importance of RIBA/ARB membership?

Yes	21
No	40

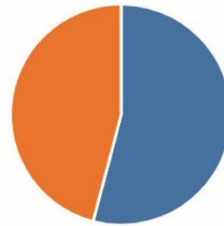


26. Are architecture awards important to you or your practice? Do you have ambitions of winning them?

Yes	20
No	41



27. Have you won an award?



28. Have awards helped you and/or your practice gain work?



29. Do you have any other comments regarding membership and awards?

No

RIBA is a good club in London not much down here

its difficult to gauge whether the practice gained from awards

Split answer to Question 26. - Are architecture awards important to you or your practice? No.
Do you have ambitions of winning them? Yes

Awards are one of the many ways to gain notoriety in the industry and with clients and should probably be a part of a wider media campaign

The awards culture is problematic, but it is a good opportunity to raise your profile.

No other than they are expensive

membership is very expensive, but worth it - their Find An Architect service is good

Q25 - This isn't always the case and many don't understand the role and differences between the ARB and the RIBA.

Clients come in all types, but some are unable to distinguish between architecture and building.

Appendix B: Transcript of interview with Tim Clark, RIBA international council member.

This interview was conducted online by the author of this document on the 17th of December 2021.

Aneurin James (1901128)

OK, I'm so if I just give you an overview if that's OK, uhm.

00:00:13.210 --> 00:00:14.350

Tim Clark

Yeah, sure yeah.

00:00:15.280 --> 00:00:27.080

Aneurin James (1901128)

So this year, my dissertation aims to evaluate or measure the value of an architect and and I'm sort of base in that in in Wales, just so it's immeasurable.

00:00:27.900 --> 00:00:37.780

Aneurin James (1901128)

And sort of area and the first steps for my dissertation was to conduct this survey among Welsh ARB registered.

00:00:38.080 --> 00:00:39.690

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uh architects.

00:00:39.920 --> 00:00:40.270

Tim Clark

Yeah.

00:00:41.760 --> 00:00:47.470

Aneurin James (1901128)

And my dissertation two day Ian Standen I I'm not sure if you you know anything.

00:00:46.290 --> 00:00:49.670

Tim Clark

Yeah, I know I've seen this will be very good friends yeah yeah.

00:00:49.400 --> 00:00:57.360

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, so uhm he shot the recommended. I try and get in touch with you and to try and just to discuss some of these these findings.

00:00:53.900 --> 00:00:54.290

Tim Clark

OK.

00:00:57.610 --> 00:00:57.980

Tim Clark

OK.

00:00:58.000 --> 00:01:04.380

Aneurin James (1901128)

And so if I can, if I can share my screen and pull some, some of these are.

00:01:02.640 --> 00:01:03.010

Tim Clark

Sure.

00:01:04.950 --> 00:01:08.300

Tim Clark

And this is a. Is this a Part 2 dissertation?

00:01:08.570 --> 00:01:09.830

Aneurin James (1901128)

No, I'm part one.

00:01:10.580 --> 00:01:15.290

Tim Clark

Apart, one God, they really make you work. 90 course there's a part, one dissertation here.

00:01:16.200 --> 00:01:17.160

Tim Clark

Yeah, great.

00:01:17.920 --> 00:01:19.470

Aneurin James (1901128)

And there we go.

00:01:19.190 --> 00:01:19.530

Tim Clark

OK.

00:01:20.090 --> 00:01:29.170

Aneurin James (1901128)

OK, so I'm so this shows about 58 responses from architects in Wales and out of these 58.

00:01:26.470 --> 00:01:26.750

Tim Clark

Sorry.

00:01:29.780 --> 00:01:33.340

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uhm, 19 of them aren't members of the RCB.

00:01:33.690 --> 00:01:34.080

Tim Clark

Uh-huh

00:01:34.160 --> 00:01:36.820

Aneurin James (1901128)

And so the first question to you is.

00:01:37.430 --> 00:01:47.350

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uhm firstly, what what? What is it like to be in RIB member in Europe? And then secondly then what do you think the importance of of membership is?

00:01:49.330 --> 00:02:17.540

Tim Clark

OK, what it's like to be in RIBA member in Europe is I'm fortunate enough to be elected as the counselor for Europe. So I have a a privileged position on Council for the three or six years altogether that I can. I'm eligible to speak for Europe on Council and I'd say we're outside the UK were a bit forgotten and I think it's a miracle that we've still got. I don't know it's about.

00:02:18.180 --> 00:02:24.740

Tim Clark

In Europe, what about 1500 members? Many of them students who are able to subscribe free of charge.

00:02:25.670 --> 00:02:37.060

Tim Clark

So what do they get for the what? What is it that you want when you're already a member?

It's basically it's world recognition that they are. IPA letters are.

00:02:37.670 --> 00:03:03.430

Tim Clark

Very important to most people who are still members and some are linked to activities that our IPAS separately promoting and they do tend to promote things separately from their counselors. So there's another kind of age that might be aggravating for some people. And then also there's a hope that there will be better networking possibilities between that.

00:02:58.080 --> 00:02:58.330

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:03:04.080 --> 00:03:17.550

Tim Clark

Between members and global access to continuing professional development, so those will be the attractions either wished for or actual. But the main thing is the use of the letters, and then what was the other question?

00:03:11.160 --> 00:03:11.440

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:03:18.820 --> 00:03:19.750

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uhm?

00:03:20.770 --> 00:03:22.270

Aneurin James (1901128)

Gosh I.

00:03:23.240 --> 00:03:36.590

Aneurin James (1901128)

I'm uh, what's the importance of membership and and why do you think maybe the 19 of these ARB registered architects aren't members and and why there is a sort of that drop off maybe?

00:03:38.620 --> 00:03:39.730

Tim Clark

Well, I think it's because.

00:03:40.860 --> 00:03:49.010

Tim Clark

As the ARB man, but you can get registered elsewhere and in in Europe for example. And ARB is the legal.

00:03:49.090 --> 00:04:15.460

Tim Clark

Uhm, body that that that legally sort of empowered body that can regulate the use of title. So if you're a really an architect then you're registered the usually you have to be registered with ARB. If you're in the UK, calling yourself an architect and if you're registered in another country entitled to use that title, you can use the title outside outside the UK. But it's to do with the use of title.

00:04:16.570 --> 00:04:35.860

Tim Clark

And you can't really go around saying, yeah, you're an architect and there shall register with ARB. So that's the reason I think there's a, you know, there's kind of like a little bit of a further step there. But I think ARB is even more out of touch with members who are outside outside the UK. And generally I think it's it's it kind of has its own.

00:04:36.950 --> 00:04:46.300

Tim Clark

Priorities. Rather like our IBA does, but that the that Mr Lot of the things that are at the main Members might be interested in, such as I just mentioned.

00:04:46.790 --> 00:05:17.370

Aneurin James (1901128)

And then it's I think it's funny. You should say that already because some of the written feedback I've had from my survey is there actually some Welsh architects they feel isolated as well and they feel a bit cut off. And if I go, if I go to the next slide so and so this question at the top shows up whether or not these architects sort or think membership is important to them, and I think it's quite striking really, this split between those who.

00:04:57.540 --> 00:04:57.860

Tim Clark

Yeah.

00:04:59.010 --> 00:04:59.930

Tim Clark

Oh, interesting.

00:05:00.820 --> 00:05:01.120

Tim Clark

Yeah.

00:05:02.260 --> 00:05:02.540

Tim Clark

Yeah.

00:05:03.560 --> 00:05:04.080

Tim Clark

Yeah, sure.

00:05:17.420 --> 00:05:23.230

Aneurin James (1901128)

We believe it's very important the nozzle, believe it. It's it's extremely not important and.

00:05:22.350 --> 00:05:23.470

Tim Clark

Murder.

00:05:24.300 --> 00:05:36.000

Aneurin James (1901128)

And I I I and I wonder whether this split is due to the lack of awareness and the importance of ARB, an IP from a public point of view and from a client point of view as well.

00:05:37.060 --> 00:05:41.230

Tim Clark

Yeah I do. I think that the public when clients generally.

00:05:41.870 --> 00:05:46.030

Tim Clark

On aware of what our API is and they just think that's the only.

00:05:47.100 --> 00:05:51.160

Tim Clark

Thing that matters, not ARB. They know even less about AARP.

00:05:53.040 --> 00:05:53.500

Tim Clark

And.

00:05:54.620 --> 00:06:03.440

Tim Clark

It's important for identity. I think that when you're an architect, our idea is being kind of like hanging around as you train and part one and Part 2.

00:06:04.060 --> 00:06:34.560

Tim Clark

Uh, part three? Or are you conscious of our IPA being there, so it's natural to feel you should associate, but then after a very short time, a lot of people think, well, that hasn't really done much for me and I'm registered, so I don't need to be a member of our IPA. So individually, I think the individual decides not to be a member of our ABA, but the public probably are even less conscious of what our IPA might do, although they're more conscious of our own value of RIBA membership.

00:06:35.180 --> 00:06:54.950

Tim Clark

Of ARB membership of every I'll be registration. So I think that that there is a kind of edge there which which is our IPA is the more recognizable identifier for architects and that's why people want to be part of it. But as a member you learn to feel that you can do without it.

00:06:56.560 --> 00:07:14.780

Tim Clark

So because it it doesn't do much. You know, for outside the oh, right? Yeah, even the stuff that it does and we talked about this at Council, even the stuff that it does. It does great work on climate change and on liability and and how you you know the value of an architect is another theme that we've been looking at.

00:07:14.460 --> 00:07:14.710

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:07:15.410 --> 00:07:16.510

Tim Clark

Come and.

00:07:17.700 --> 00:07:42.840

Tim Clark

We hardly hear any of it in the outside world, so that that that's another reason why people won't won't think it's that important, but do you feel your clients are aware of the importance of RB? I think they'd be in put away, or the importance of RCB, a member membership. They think that would be the the one thing that people should have. AARP membership. ARB registration should be I. I think it's kind of not really properly understood yet by clients.

00:07:23.760 --> 00:07:24.100

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:07:34.890 --> 00:07:35.210

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yep.

00:07:38.460 --> 00:07:38.760

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:07:43.860 --> 00:07:56.850

Aneurin James (1901128)

What do you think we? I say we but the profession can do to sort of better educate the the wider society then and yeah and and from my sort of Standen pine the.

00:07:52.920 --> 00:07:53.240

Tim Clark

Let's see.

00:07:54.160 --> 00:07:54.520

Tim Clark

Yep.

00:07:55.320 --> 00:07:55.640

Tim Clark

Yes.

00:07:57.620 --> 00:08:18.740

Aneurin James (1901128)

To better understand in the public and clients have of the profession ultimately eat the better, the out the architectural outputs because they understand professional services that architects can provide. And so I'm just wondering if you think there's anything that the profession can be doing better to better educate wider society.

00:08:19.820 --> 00:08:24.770

Tim Clark

So I do. I think there's a lot of public engagement needed. People need to have.

00:08:25.780 --> 00:08:37.520

Tim Clark

Better knowledge of what the architect supposed to do and how they can take advantage of what the architect can do and what the differences between ARB and Riva.

00:08:38.100 --> 00:08:39.820

Tim Clark

Huh, what the differences are?

00:08:41.290 --> 00:08:42.960

Tim Clark

And here's something else for you.

00:08:43.910 --> 00:08:44.800

Tim Clark

Uh and Aaron?

00:08:46.150 --> 00:08:51.520

Tim Clark

A lot of people think that they know what an architect does, but have you ever seen it written down somewhere?

00:08:52.520 --> 00:08:55.330

Tim Clark

And that that's where the problem lies, because architects.

00:08:55.940 --> 00:09:02.980

Tim Clark

Are usually regarded as the draftsman you know woman. Sorry, the draft draft person and.

00:09:02.840 --> 00:09:03.160

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:09:04.340 --> 00:09:09.050

Tim Clark

And and then you could you could you do a few drawings for me? Please could you do?
Could you draw this up for me?

00:09:09.650 --> 00:09:09.930

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:09:10.190 --> 00:09:10.770

Tim Clark

Typical.

00:09:11.980 --> 00:09:15.150

Tim Clark

The action and that you you are seen as a kind of.

00:09:16.160 --> 00:09:25.890

Tim Clark

Almost like a sort of like a robot. And you know if the client knew how to articulate it and the robot was available, you probably get the robot to do the drawing without an architect.

00:09:18.930 --> 00:09:19.190

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:09:26.510 --> 00:09:26.830

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:09:27.430 --> 00:09:29.850

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, I I think that's massive, UM?

00:09:31.410 --> 00:10:00.970

Aneurin James (1901128)

And I think you know, especially moving forward with with the problems such as climate change and and it's and it's. And I've added discussions with Ian and some other lectures and it's it's almost the question whether the client understands that you know they're paying for your thought process. They're paying for your seven years of education and the application of knowledge and and you were sort of expertise and the way you apply it, sort of. It goes beyond.

00:10:01.080 --> 00:10:08.580

Aneurin James (1901128)

That's when the standing up of the client and and I. I think it's it's something that's really important.

00:10:03.180 --> 00:10:03.500

Tim Clark

That's right.

00:10:08.740 --> 00:10:17.470

Tim Clark

It is it is. Yeah so it's so I just wanted to pick up on that, but that's that's really important that if the client knows, for example, that they can get points for.

00:10:09.260 --> 00:10:09.620

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uhm?

00:10:10.800 --> 00:10:11.220

Aneurin James (1901128)

And.

00:10:12.910 --> 00:10:13.190

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:10:18.650 --> 00:10:21.290

Tim Clark

Being good at climate change.

00:10:22.940 --> 00:10:52.720

Tim Clark

Measures that they might take. Then our IPA can, or an African can actually step in there. There's another one which has to do with with safety as well and access and you know, fire and stuff like that. You know, do you want to have your house or your your office in the hands of somebody who doesn't understand the whole situation? No, then you have to look at using an architect and then you come to the other thing, which is what what's happening currently, which is that the.

00:10:24.150 --> 00:10:24.430

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:10:35.570 --> 00:10:35.820

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:10:54.060 --> 00:11:02.600

Tim Clark

Function of an architect, whatever that is. And I just said that, you know, we can. I challenge you as well to define what a function of that thing architect is.

00:11:04.130 --> 00:11:25.060

Tim Clark

It is is is not well understood, but if if it were understood then then I think that that you'd need to have better training in in the in the whole career I'm gonna architect to be able to to to perform that function because there's now moves to regulate the function.

00:11:25.750 --> 00:11:33.260

Tim Clark

That's not protecting its regulating, so that means when you're an architect, you're supposed to do these things, and nobody is actually said that yet what what they are.

00:11:25.930 --> 00:11:26.160

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:11:33.150 --> 00:11:33.470

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:11:34.070 --> 00:11:34.390

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:11:34.290 --> 00:11:46.660

Tim Clark

And I can send you a copy of that response I just made to a ARB inquiry about the initial education of architects, and that might tell you a few more things about how I see that situation.

00:11:46.920 --> 00:12:09.810

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, yeah, that'd be brilliant. Thank you and it and it's it's that sort of the topic of protection

of the title or protection of the function as well. And I think that you know. And I completely agree. You know, perhaps regulate in UM and architects performances is a way to sort of better drive standards then.

00:11:48.890 --> 00:11:49.150

Tim Clark

Yeah.

00:12:10.350 --> 00:12:13.750

Aneurin James (1901128)

And and and, and likewise I suppose.

00:12:14.200 --> 00:12:43.980

Aneurin James (1901128)

And some sort of professionals might be, UM, producing or performing and and producing these sort of outputs that are sort of worthy of the title and the function of of an architect, but they haven't necessarily completed their seven year education process, so they can't call themselves an architect. And I think you know for me, for as someone who's sort of moving into the profession, you know with an early stage now, I think it's it's.

00:12:44.030 --> 00:12:46.260

Aneurin James (1901128)

This is quite the Gray area and especially.

00:12:46.990 --> 00:13:02.390

Aneurin James (1901128)

I think it does all sort of tie back to this public perception and where the clients and and and they understand the importance. And I think I think it's massive and the effect that can have on actually what architects are doing day in day out.

00:13:04.030 --> 00:13:22.530

Tim Clark

Yeah, yeah, I, I think that's absolutely right, you're you're. You're really in the middle of a or you're writing sitting in the middle of them. Really important theme for the whole profession and as soon as we start to articulate what we're supposed to do as a function and what other people can't do as well.

00:13:15.010 --> 00:13:15.310

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:13:23.700 --> 00:13:48.350

Tim Clark

Then we'll be able to reinforce that with proper mid career training, lifelong training, not just the initial training. I think we should. We don't need a lot of initial training. We need a lot of lifelong training and we should be on the path. And then this whole business of our Ewan architecture. One particular stage or not, I don't know. I, I think that that that shouldn't really be the main issue. The main issue is can you perform as an architect.

00:13:49.270 --> 00:14:02.000

Aneurin James (1901128)

Then that's some of the written feedback I've heard from my survey suggests that people think, UM architecture education should run partly as more of an apprenticeship type.

00:14:02.680 --> 00:14:24.370

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uhm, scheme where then? You know having these connections with practice and they suppose you in a way you probably learning more and another sort of question that I asked in the survey and they haven't brought it up. I don't think on this PowerPoint but it it asked do they think I'm architecture should be introduced at secondary school level?

00:14:25.530 --> 00:14:44.960

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uhm and 60% said yes. So I I I'm just. I'm just wondering whether you think there's something there's this sort of realistic sore. The secondary school education and the apprenticeship sort of scheme idea. Whether you think that will have a positive impact on the profession as a whole.

00:14:25.650 --> 00:14:26.000

Tim Clark

Yeah.

00:14:29.130 --> 00:14:29.540

Tim Clark

Good.

00:14:45.900 --> 00:15:10.830

Tim Clark

Well, I think that that would that would be really good. I'm just thinking you know we we know a lot about doctors when we're at school 'cause they they they, you know, do things to keep as well. And we know a bit about lawyers. 'cause there's usually a lot of lawyer sort of

programs on TV, but not a lot about architects because they're. They're sort of like, you know, you know hidden behind that title.

00:15:11.980 --> 00:15:20.520

Tim Clark

In the 1960s, there was a series on TV called The Invaders, which is all about an architect in America.

00:15:21.110 --> 00:15:51.230

Tim Clark

Who was who be working very late at night and then he he? He witnessed what he was driving home. The landing of some some extraterrestrials and and he he followed them and he realized that they were adopting human form and they were they were to be watched out for. And it was kind of funny because he was an architect and that's the only thing that people thought the architect does. You know lookout for extra stress yours but but I mean it's.

00:15:49.850 --> 00:15:50.190

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:15:51.310 --> 00:16:23.220

Tim Clark

You know the public has very little grip on on what it is that we're we're doing. Anyway. I think that the quality was schemed isn't quite compromised by the vision of the client, and a lot of architects believe that it's better not to involve the client in in decisions on what you're doing. I mean, this is ridiculous, so it's a bit like a doctor saying, never mind what you think. I know what I'm doing when I do your whatever it is operation, I'm going to take your appendix out and I don't need you to tell me how to do it.

00:16:11.730 --> 00:16:12.070

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:16:19.880 --> 00:16:20.250

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:16:23.290 --> 00:16:33.380

Tim Clark

That kind of stuff, you know so so there are there is that kind of drift and residue of of attitude which I think is the wrong way to go about it.

00:16:24.490 --> 00:16:24.790

Aneurin James (1901128)

Did.

00:16:34.030 --> 00:16:39.050

Tim Clark

And then the public accurately understand. I don't think that they at all.

00:16:34.210 --> 00:16:34.530

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:16:39.820 --> 00:16:40.240

Tim Clark

Some.

00:16:40.860 --> 00:16:42.140

Tim Clark

Understand accurately.

00:16:41.870 --> 00:16:59.950

Aneurin James (1901128)

Do you two think the way that we design can sort of better educate the public, and so if I give an example, UM, maybe designing with exposed structure in schools then and and maybe with the UM?

00:17:00.660 --> 00:17:11.570

Aneurin James (1901128)

You know there are many exposed and and the kids can see these things. Do you think that's sort of indirect way of educating the younger generation or or or not so much?

00:17:11.580 --> 00:17:13.190

Tim Clark

Nice idea but but I think.

00:17:15.220 --> 00:17:15.740

Tim Clark

Uhm?

00:17:16.820 --> 00:17:31.020

Tim Clark

No, not really. I think there was a kind of puppet that somebody invented some years ago of Richard Rodgers, where he had all of his internal organs on the outside. Because, you know, he was always doing that to, you know, Pompidou center and stuff like that.

00:17:28.550 --> 00:17:28.980

Aneurin James (1901128)

Here.

00:17:30.700 --> 00:17:31.300

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:17:32.330 --> 00:17:51.920

Tim Clark

I mean, I think it it starts to be a bit ridiculous. I I was very much sort of encouraged in that direction and I I did buildings that did have exposed services and structure. There are problems to that because you have to protect them and from fire and stuff like that which is not impossible but.

00:17:53.100 --> 00:18:06.750

Tim Clark

And it's also potentially more economic. You don't have to box them in, you know that nothing is hidden, so so that's that's also OK, as long as they're not gonna be fiddled about with by uninformed users.

00:17:58.840 --> 00:17:59.180

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:18:09.480 --> 00:18:10.830

Tim Clark

But that's that's all I can.

00:18:10.010 --> 00:18:16.350

Aneurin James (1901128)

So, so you think she think in terms of schools and education that that it's a better idea to.

00:18:14.340 --> 00:18:14.700

Tim Clark

Yeah.

00:18:17.160 --> 00:18:24.020

Aneurin James (1901128)

To introduce him and to directly sort of educate people about architecture at that young age. Or maybe not so much.

00:18:24.770 --> 00:18:27.200

Tim Clark

Well, I I think sorry please sorry.

00:18:24.790 --> 00:18:25.270

Aneurin James (1901128)

Or

00:18:26.820 --> 00:18:30.830

Aneurin James (1901128)

or do you think sort of TV programmes have a bigger part to play?

00:18:31.420 --> 00:18:48.320

Tim Clark

I did TV programs and online stuff. You know YouTube and stuff like that have a huge amount play, but the main thing is finding a way to the right sort of location. I mean, even within our Abbie as I say, there's a lot of stuff that's available, but how you actually click on the right button?

00:18:49.160 --> 00:19:19.280

Tim Clark

Come and go there is is is very difficult. There are many, many services offered by RBA that you can't get to or you don't know how to get to. Even if you know where they are. Because the the the the the ID is too too complex and so so we need to get our platform and access arrangements improved. But to answer your question about secondary school, I think that there is a kind of educational process which is driven by.

00:19:19.340 --> 00:19:23.100

Tim Clark

Need if you like uhm driven by design.

00:19:24.260 --> 00:19:53.420

Tim Clark

The the people could go through and they could say what you could say. Well this is how architects do things and it's a great way of learning because when you design as you know you're sucking in knowledge around your wishes and undo or intentions. Like I I wanna I wanna have that cantilever. How? How much can I go out from the building with the cantilever before it becomes uneconomic or unstable and all that kind of? It's a very simple example, but you know there are many, many.

00:19:53.790 --> 00:20:01.350

Tim Clark

Dimensions to the size was space and the shape of a space and what kind of things, if any, that go into it.

00:20:01.410 --> 00:20:18.300

Tim Clark

Uhm, in terms of use, those sorts of things are, I think, ways to introduce as in exercises in school design, LED learning that would actually probably impact and help other subjects as well.

00:20:13.870 --> 00:20:14.170

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:20:19.020 --> 00:20:34.200

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, definitely, and that's some of the the written fee feedback I've added and and this sort of suggests that maybe introducing architecture as a subject in secondary schools is maybe not the best thing to do. But to sort of.

00:20:35.060 --> 00:20:44.570

Aneurin James (1901128)

And incorporate architecture into other subject areas and to make it part of the curriculum where pupils are away that.

00:20:45.290 --> 00:21:03.610

Aneurin James (1901128)

Architecture and design can have an effect on many different things, so you know it might be a bit of biology and design engineering and and but, but to have this a greater way in this

end of the of the subject and it's just it's supposed to stop people falling through the neck because I think.

00:20:59.610 --> 00:20:59.910

Tim Clark

Yeah.

00:21:04.570 --> 00:21:10.370

Aneurin James (1901128)

A lot more people or pupils then would pick up architecture had they been aware of it.

00:21:11.510 --> 00:21:12.140

Tim Clark

That's true.

00:21:11.540 --> 00:21:12.590

Aneurin James (1901128)

If that makes sense.

00:21:12.820 --> 00:21:43.330

Tim Clark

That's true, but I think in terms of learning oh, there's another aspect. I I'd. I'd studied education after I did architecture and I mean it. It's of dubious value. I mean this is this is amorphous and and you know difficult to grip as architecture itself is because you know when people talk about education. It's a very vacuous kind of subject, and I think that when you get behind you, it's all about learning. But then once learning learnings about ultimately it's about performance. If you if you can.

00:21:35.570 --> 00:21:35.810

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:21:43.700 --> 00:22:04.390

Tim Clark

Perform something, then you're kind of you know you're externalizing what you've learned. Or you might learn as you perform those kinds of things, that that a lot of people don't seem to appreciate even within the world of education. And there's still into kind of you've got to listen to this, and you know, do it this way. And so on. And that's no way to learn.

00:22:05.630 --> 00:22:06.710

Tim Clark

You you probably know that.

00:22:07.420 --> 00:22:08.420

Tim Clark

You remember?

00:22:09.110 --> 00:22:10.430

Tim Clark

90% of what you?

00:22:11.320 --> 00:22:12.580

Tim Clark

Do and say.

00:22:13.310 --> 00:22:18.620

Tim Clark

And only 10% of what you see in here. That's more or less kind of rough rough guide to.

00:22:19.310 --> 00:22:19.770

Tim Clark

Old people.

00:22:19.820 --> 00:22:20.110

Tim Clark

Cool.

00:22:21.490 --> 00:22:28.760

Tim Clark

Do how they learn and there's. There's now even the new Board of Education is now. I'm very top level of.

00:22:29.700 --> 00:22:31.460

Tim Clark

The pyramid, which is all about.

00:22:32.150 --> 00:22:32.740

Tim Clark

Uhm?

00:22:33.400 --> 00:22:51.730

Tim Clark

Uh, it's actually designed. It's actually application and implementation. Once you. Once you're at that level, you're you're really flying. You know, when you're at the bottom of the pyramid, you're you're sort of building up the foundation of of knowledge and experience, but then you get higher up within your.

00:22:52.470 --> 00:22:54.970

Tim Clark

You actually demonstrating if you like.

00:22:57.280 --> 00:23:00.170

Aneurin James (1901128)

And I'm I just want to show this.

00:23:00.890 --> 00:23:29.020

Aneurin James (1901128)

Slide release it was quite striking, uhm, I suppose this slide and the next slide. So to the 58 responses I've had from Welsh based architects, 35 of those say they do not conduct post op and see valuations or client satisfaction surveys. And I know that UM funding is potentially and and finances is potentially.

00:23:18.190 --> 00:23:19.600

Tim Clark

Yeah, yeah.

00:23:27.620 --> 00:23:33.560

Tim Clark

But my wife is sitting next to me, but she just put her head into the chat. That's OK, just so you know.

00:23:29.710 --> 00:23:30.130

Aneurin James (1901128)

That's OK.

00:23:31.430 --> 00:23:32.240

Aneurin James (1901128)

That's no problem.

00:23:33.380 --> 00:23:36.240

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, that's great. Yeah no problem then.

00:23:34.420 --> 00:23:34.860

Tim Clark

OK.

00:23:35.490 --> 00:23:35.790

Tim Clark

Yeah.

00:23:37.080 --> 00:24:03.450

Aneurin James (1901128)

And and it was like oh, in a yeah. So I, I understand that the the financial side is is potentially a problem. It just I was wanted to ask really if you thought the the profession and or maybe ARB or RIBA should be subsidizing these latter stages of works to ensure that we continue to learn and and that we're doing everything we can as a profession to evolve.

00:23:41.000 --> 00:23:41.260

Tim Clark

Yep.

00:24:05.550 --> 00:24:11.720

Tim Clark

I I think it's essential actually, and I think it's actually a very interesting opportunity for learning.

00:24:12.890 --> 00:24:36.630

Tim Clark

At at, at every level the client can can do that evaluation, and so can the architect, and I'm not sure whether it you know our ABA should be funding it, and I think this has to be self standing. It's a bit like you know, the value of an architect as a whole. You can't get the RBA to subsidize the value of an architect.

00:24:22.630 --> 00:24:22.930

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:24:37.650 --> 00:25:01.640

Tim Clark

Have you called? You know, be when you don't actually say what the architect does, or when you don't. You know properly kind of convey the value of it. Then people aren't going to pay for it. And and that's the same with the client satisfaction surveys. Posts often popular and see evaluations that we refer to there. But I think that post occupancy and experience from.

00:24:58.750 --> 00:24:59.030

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:25:03.140 --> 00:25:04.030

Tim Clark

Previous work.

00:25:05.050 --> 00:25:17.790

Tim Clark

It's very important, but I don't think it's a bit like history really. You you have World War One and then you do another one in in 20 years later. So it's like how much did we learn from the first one not?

00:25:19.150 --> 00:25:26.010

Tim Clark

That kind of situation, so I think we have to not just learn from evaluation, but we need to kind of.

00:25:26.810 --> 00:25:57.310

Tim Clark

Regulate it in a in a continuous way, which I think is the value of regulation in in a process that the ARB is about to start to implement. That once you regulate, then you're committed to training or committed to maintaining quality assurance and and then you you, you get into all these questions that you're asking right now. But what worries me is that on our end is that there are people who aren't architects that won't be subject to these.

00:25:57.630 --> 00:26:23.590

Tim Clark

Evaluations, so I think that that that's where I think we're we're losing out. We, we're we're, we're very expensive. We have to pay for insurance, so we have to take responsibilities or in all sorts of ways. And yet other people who aren't registered are not subject to the code that we have to comply with and are not subject to those those judgments that that clients are likely to make of an architect.

00:25:58.650 --> 00:25:59.030

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:26:18.570 --> 00:26:18.870

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:26:24.210 --> 00:26:31.310

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, let's yeah I I completely agree and I think it's by regulating architects you sort of.

00:26:31.890 --> 00:26:49.980

Aneurin James (1901128)

Paul in the non sort of qualified and the qualified architect the part and I think it's it's potentially problematic. As you said where and are an architect. Obviously is that sort of more expensive. Of course we can offer a greater sort of.

00:26:51.850 --> 00:27:14.100

Aneurin James (1901128)

Like a better sort of design or the design application then and pulling on their knowledge and their education. But but I think the danger point is that the client would just opt for the non qualified just because they're cheaper and and and it's it's to somehow Edu better educate people on what service is an architect and can provide.

00:27:06.110 --> 00:27:06.430

Tim Clark

Yeah.

00:27:14.470 --> 00:27:21.760

Tim Clark

Absolutely, I think that's that's why I think your work is is very important, and I think you can only encourage you to go further with it.

00:27:23.070 --> 00:27:24.950

Tim Clark

We should get a PhD, not part one.

00:27:27.400 --> 00:27:29.880

Aneurin James (1901128)

Now we finish this one first, I think.

00:27:29.940 --> 00:27:30.630

Tim Clark

Yeah, yeah, sure.

00:27:32.060 --> 00:27:32.430

Tim Clark

Good.

00:27:32.620 --> 00:27:34.800

Aneurin James (1901128)

And then there's just one more sort of.

00:27:36.010 --> 00:27:54.050

Aneurin James (1901128)

Question anyone asked? Well, two really, but I I brought these are dumb. So 44 to 58 think that fire safety or from their experiences. Fire safety is inadequately taught at schools of architecture and OK, granted, UM.

00:27:55.350 --> 00:28:15.000

Aneurin James (1901128)

Now, the majority of these architects, you know I've been practicing for 20 years or more, but the reason I show this is I just wanted to ask whether you think the profession is is doing enough in terms of are we evolving, adapting especially to to the likes, a fight, fire, safety and climate change.

00:28:16.170 --> 00:28:17.110

Tim Clark

Yeah no.

00:28:16.320 --> 00:28:19.230

Aneurin James (1901128)

It is the profession evolving and adapting fast enough.

00:28:19.790 --> 00:28:39.020

Tim Clark

Right, it's not enough. Not at all enough, and I think it's done in a hit and miss way. And because there's no check if you like on how it would apply in practice, but it's all very abstract in the college studio and and now even more at home. So I had a.

00:28:39.980 --> 00:28:42.230

Tim Clark

Actually, could you turn that radio off in this code or?

00:28:44.970 --> 00:28:49.560

Tim Clark

Sorry, it's the last two minutes will be without a radio, sorry it's music in the.

00:28:48.910 --> 00:28:51.520

Aneurin James (1901128)

It's OK, I can't. I can't hear it. Anyway, let's this.

00:28:51.010 --> 00:28:52.900

Tim Clark

Oh, that's good. I'm the.

00:28:53.880 --> 00:28:56.710

Tim Clark

The fact is, it's not really understood that world 2.

00:28:57.990 --> 00:29:11.510

Tim Clark

Uh, in in a school of architecture as to how this this actually would would play out in practice, so I think you you need to and I I had this experience when I first worked as an assistant on the Isle of White in my year out.

00:29:12.170 --> 00:29:42.630

Tim Clark

My my, my, my mentor. My boss was he was over 67. I was really like an old lease periods guy but he wasn't like old. You know he was kind of a lively group. Good humored guy and he actually led me through a lot of situations. Which were you know, much more informative than I ever could be. A at architecture school I met the education client, I met the visors on physical education and on you know, domestic.

00:29:24.590 --> 00:29:24.850

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:29:42.720 --> 00:30:13.720

Tim Clark

Client so used to call it and and I also met the fire officer who was a tremendously

impressive character. Great big sort of dark blue uniform with loads of medals on it. Used to come in and and advise on on smoke detection and on intumescent strips and all that kind of stuff that you know. You know a lot of people don't even know exist in in schools of architecture. Of course you get building technology teachers and you get experienced shooters but but that's very hit and miss and and.

00:30:13.760 --> 00:30:26.690

Tim Clark

And when you come out with your part one or Part 2, nobody knows what lies behind that. And I think that needs to be much more specifically defined. So what you say about the core curriculum? It's an opportunity, but I think it's.

00:30:19.570 --> 00:30:19.890

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:30:27.650 --> 00:30:49.740

Tim Clark

Uh, I don't know what the core curriculum is. I've never actually know if you've got a copy of it, please could you send it to me because I I I'd like to look at it. I I never really and and our Abbie is constantly saying this is all free free education, free CPD, anything on the core curriculum is free. I didn't even know what what it was, where, how to get hold of it. So another access problem.

00:30:50.240 --> 00:30:50.600

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:30:50.470 --> 00:30:52.390

Tim Clark

But you know, so it's to do with.

00:30:53.010 --> 00:31:04.440

Tim Clark

Credibility and it's to do with access to that relevant core knowledge, and I think fire safety has to be a a core discipline. I I'm licensed in California.

00:31:06.010 --> 00:31:34.740

Tim Clark

Took me a long time to get through the course or the all the training again to become, you know, registered again in mid career and as an architect you are entitled to dry design

structures and do all the work with structural engineer because you're trained or your your knowledge levels being certified at that level. But you're not allowed to to certify fire, safety or structures in in.

00:31:13.530 --> 00:31:13.890

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:31:28.600 --> 00:31:28.900

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:31:35.030 --> 00:32:00.160

Tim Clark

In federal buildings, in other words, the sort of state or national buildings of of strategic importance, such as military hospitals. It is in the installations and police stations and stuff like that so, so there's kind of a little bit of a question about whether the architects got it or not, and I think we need to kind of assert that to be under someone without doubt, if you like.

00:31:48.970 --> 00:31:49.260

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:31:54.350 --> 00:31:54.730

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:32:00.140 --> 00:32:02.000

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, I mean, I think if it.

00:32:02.670 --> 00:32:20.170

Aneurin James (1901128)

Probably needs to be an international approach maybe, and there is an international standard because another question that I sort of forgot to ask is how how things internationally regulated country by country. But I think we've sort of spoke about that in a roundabout way and and.

00:32:05.980 --> 00:32:06.260

Tim Clark

Yeah.

00:32:20.820 --> 00:32:33.440

Aneurin James (1901128)

Things perhaps need to be internationally regulated and this is an architect. This is the the functions and the services they can provide and that's it. And there's no interpretation of that function.

00:32:35.600 --> 00:32:53.350

Tim Clark

I think it's interpreted in different ways in different countries. So for example in France you have to be an architect to do buildings of a certain size or function, and that's protected. So if anyone gets into that territory, they can be, you know, find for intruding on.

00:32:39.160 --> 00:32:39.420

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:32:45.500 --> 00:32:45.800

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:32:54.280 --> 00:32:55.520

Tim Clark

The architects territory.

00:32:56.240 --> 00:32:56.560

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:32:56.850 --> 00:33:09.950

Tim Clark

That's not necessarily gonna make the result any better, because you know, as we talked about already, it's to do with regulation of function to do with supporting that function, and to do with.

00:33:10.510 --> 00:33:40.510

Tim Clark

Uh, making sure that the person is competent today, not just initially trained. So I I think that that that there are all sorts of experiences internationally that we could harness, and I think the United States is a very good example. They do things phrase systematically. You can't qualify as an architect and yet there until you become certified as having done three at least

three years and up to 8 years in turn development. Which means that you could do your hold architecture course.

00:33:40.570 --> 00:33:54.050

Tim Clark

In an office, as long as you take off all the boxes that were required to learn about different areas of practice and then at the end you still gotta take the architects registration exam, which is unlike hours.

00:33:54.670 --> 00:34:24.670

Tim Clark

Is not taught as an exam. I mean we we tend to teach the RBA one part one and Part 2 and part three exam and then you go into the exam room and you would basically answering questions that you've already been taught to answer. Whereas the United States that doesn't allow that. They just say, well, you gotta find out yourself and there's a fantastic amount of stuff you're gonna have to learn and then you go into this exam which is computer administrated on the screen. And then you have a deadline to finish it. Either design or technology or whatever.

00:34:06.060 --> 00:34:06.340

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:34:15.230 --> 00:34:15.610

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:34:25.050 --> 00:34:30.140

Tim Clark

And you've got, uh, you know, show that you can get more than 70% in every subject.

00:34:30.740 --> 00:34:31.100

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:34:31.890 --> 00:34:37.530

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, I'll scrape and just just lastly, sorry running. We've run a bit over and I hope that's OK.

00:34:36.590 --> 00:34:37.150

Tim Clark

That's OK.

00:34:37.850 --> 00:34:39.230

Tim Clark

That's my fault, yeah?

00:34:39.390 --> 00:34:41.040

Aneurin James (1901128)

I like you to sort of.

00:34:41.890 --> 00:34:43.770

Aneurin James (1901128)

Summarize them maybe.

00:34:44.570 --> 00:34:48.280

Aneurin James (1901128)

And a couple of sentences more. What is the value of an architect?

00:34:50.390 --> 00:34:54.970

Tim Clark

OK, it's just a do with identifying what the architect does and placing our.

00:34:55.040 --> 00:35:03.090

Tim Clark

Uh, we added value if you like onto each. Each of those aspects of what the architect does and it will vary from job to job.

00:35:04.760 --> 00:35:07.540

Aneurin James (1901128)

Brilliant thanks very much.

Appendix C: Transcript of interview with Adrian Dobson, Executive Director Professional Services RIBA.

This interview was conducted online by the author of this document on the 17th of December 2021.

00:00:00.000 --> 00:00:01.950

Aneurin James (1901128)

OK, I think I started.

00:00:02.930 --> 00:00:04.010

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, so dumb.

00:00:04.860 --> 00:00:16.660

Aneurin James (1901128)

And yeah, that that's the aim for my dissertation this year. And and the first the first steps.

And we're to conduct this survey among architects in Wales.

00:00:09.000 --> 00:00:09.660

Adrian Dobson

Sure, yeah.

00:00:17.100 --> 00:00:17.860

Adrian Dobson

Yeah, yeah.

00:00:17.350 --> 00:00:24.860

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uh, which? Which I've done and then speaking to my dissertation, tip the Ian Standen?

00:00:25.250 --> 00:00:26.870

Adrian Dobson

Yeah, yeah yeah, I know. Yeah yeah.

00:00:25.560 --> 00:00:33.220

Aneurin James (1901128)

And he recommended he recommended that I try and get in contact with you and discuss some of these findings.

00:00:29.190 --> 00:00:29.530

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:00:32.240 --> 00:00:33.460

Adrian Dobson

Sure, yeah, yeah.

00:00:33.880 --> 00:00:38.740

Aneurin James (1901128)

Case if if I share my screen I just picked out some.

00:00:40.750 --> 00:00:41.900

Aneurin James (1901128)

Alright, let me go.

00:00:44.300 --> 00:00:45.020

Aneurin James (1901128)

Can you see that?

00:00:45.630 --> 00:00:47.930

Adrian Dobson

Yeah no, that's fine. Yeah yeah.

00:00:47.510 --> 00:00:55.870

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, OK. And so as you can see if I had 58 responses, all of which are architect. So they're all ARB registered.

00:00:56.550 --> 00:01:15.940

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uhm, of that 5819 of them aren't members of the RCB 8. So the first question I sort of want to ask you is why do you think these 19 aren't members of of the RIBE and and what is the the value or?

00:01:04.330 --> 00:01:04.610

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:01:15.990 --> 00:01:20.100

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uhm, yeah. And and why is membership important?

00:01:22.140 --> 00:01:37.670

Adrian Dobson

Oh well, I mean, I suppose in there and I mean only about 2/3 of registered architects are members of the RCB. Aiden it's minutes about, but in terms of UK architecture and so the register is significantly bigger than the RIBA membership.

00:01:39.690 --> 00:02:10.440

Adrian Dobson

I mean, I suppose it it it, it's a question of what value and individual registered architect perceives being a member of the professional body is, you know. I mean, the RFA made the case. There's a lot of value and that it gives them access to the body of knowledge that underpins professional practice etc but but I mean, I guess you know, it may be that some some registered architects. Maybe they perhaps working a large practice and perhaps feel that they get the infrastructure of, you know information that they need from from the practice context so.

00:01:55.980 --> 00:01:56.230

Aneurin James (1901128)

Like

00:02:10.840 --> 00:02:41.260

Adrian Dobson

I think you do get some Members who, perhaps in that larger practice context to perhaps they might consider joining. They start up in a smaller business later on in their career, but think that they've got the infrastructure around them and you know that supports that practice while they're in a in a bigger employer. So yeah, so I suppose I mean but but there is no, you know, as you know, it's the. It's the registration board that regulates the profession and you just have to be on the register. Decrease, open architect. There's no obligation to be going chartered member of the IPA. It is a.

00:02:24.310 --> 00:02:25.310

Aneurin James (1901128)

yeah, 'cause.

00:02:41.550 --> 00:02:46.240

Adrian Dobson

Is pollen tree you know to voluntary membership? Body is not, so there's no compulsion, you know.

00:02:47.160 --> 00:02:59.360

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, I I find it couldn't just in that, you know, I understand how the the register and ROB membership. You know there's a bit of a Gray area where the are ABA perhaps?

00:03:00.150 --> 00:03:14.370

Aneurin James (1901128)

They are recommendations. Maybe don't align with some of the ARB requirements and I think that's a Gray area and maybe something that needs to be sort of, or a gap that needs to be bridged. And I wonder what your thought on that.

00:03:15.790 --> 00:03:45.310

Adrian Dobson

Well, I mean, I suppose the the issue is in there. In the you know the the regulators sets minimum standards, doesn't it? And they are IBA as an aspiration to set higher standards in some circumstances and that can be both an advantage and a disadvantage as opposed because it can be an advantage in you know how people market their services to clients etc because they they bring they implement here at the RI V8 with them. But I guess that can be a disincentive to membership as well.

00:03:24.470 --> 00:03:24.640

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:03:26.700 --> 00:03:27.040

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:03:45.670 --> 00:03:59.150

Adrian Dobson

Because, you know, for example, you know you have to complete or your CPD records for the RIPA. Currently the LP doesn't have a requirement to do that in quite the same way, so it's swings and roundabouts unit. But yeah, but inevitably.

00:03:55.980 --> 00:03:56.300

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:03:59.920 --> 00:04:20.630

Adrian Dobson

I think because they are obeys the professional membership body. It's inevitably may

impose some slightly different requirements. In some circumstances. You know it's kind of almost inevitable. I think that that's gonna happen to some degree. You know to mean. But what you don't want is presuming you don't want duplication between the two bodies, do. That's not, that's not helpful or or complete contradictions and Weiner.

00:04:11.740 --> 00:04:12.080

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:04:21.370 --> 00:04:21.700

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:04:22.750 --> 00:04:31.810

Aneurin James (1901128)

K So if I if I move on. Uhm, I found this quite interesting the the split between.

00:04:32.670 --> 00:04:44.100

Aneurin James (1901128)

Those who believe our IBM. Our ABA membership is is is extremely important and and those who who think it's not. And I think to have such a sort of big split it up.

00:04:45.430 --> 00:04:46.870

Aneurin James (1901128)

Sezzle off then.

00:04:47.480 --> 00:04:51.630

Aneurin James (1901128)

And in terms of how membership is perceived, and I wondered where the.

00:04:52.610 --> 00:04:53.240

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uhm?

00:04:53.940 --> 00:05:23.680

Aneurin James (1901128)

You know architects are less likely to to want to become our Abbie members because they feel as if the clients and and the the wider public then and not the way of of the importance and the significance of that. And I suppose that's shown in the the the data below. Then where the majority feel as if their clients aren't the way of the importance of our Iln, I suppose. More importantly they are B and and the significance of that.

00:05:25.380 --> 00:05:29.120

Adrian Dobson

Yeah no, I'm sure you're right. I mean, I mean, I guess.

00:05:30.440 --> 00:05:59.960

Adrian Dobson

I mean, I guess the figures on important and not important to some degree reflect those who choose to join only in there. And I mean presumably you wouldn't. You wouldn't really, you wouldn't. Really, you know, pay what. It's quite hefty membership subscription. You know, once you, once you five years qualified, it's talking about £450 a year. You're not going to make that investment if you don't feel that at membership is important. I, you know. I mean, that's quite. I mean, it's like a. It's like a holiday for somebody, isn't it? You know it's not. It's not silver. Spoke with him, and so I guess it's it reflects the, you know.

00:05:36.560 --> 00:05:37.800

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, definitely.

00:05:51.980 --> 00:05:52.240

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:05:55.270 --> 00:05:56.190

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, of course, yeah.

00:06:00.630 --> 00:06:12.480

Adrian Dobson

I think one is almost a proxy for the other, isn't it? If you consider it's very important to professional development and professional states, it's in your professional marketing. That's what's going to persuade it to part with their money, isn't it? And make the commitment you know so.

00:06:11.460 --> 00:06:12.160

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, of course.

00:06:13.010 --> 00:06:45.320

Adrian Dobson

And yeah, I mean in terms of clients, I would have thought they were innocent amongst Lance was quite high in reality because they are IBA runs. The fighting Architect services we

you know in all the award programs promote the our IPA. So I think probably awareness songs, clients of DRI BA is higher than awareness of the ARB and and that might be an area where you do get some confusion sometimes because you know people say is this person really an architect? Well the answer is yes if they're on the ARB registered. But then more people have probably heard DRI BA than the ARB so that it.

00:06:36.500 --> 00:06:36.780

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yep.

00:06:45.410 --> 00:06:47.750

Adrian Dobson

You know you can get some confusion around that, I think.

00:06:47.800 --> 00:07:05.870

Adrian Dobson

Yeah, but yeah yeah so. But I would have thought when it's yeah I. I would be surprised that I would be surprised at the numbers on awareness amongst clients. Have the role of DRI BA was as low as that number is suggesting but but that's the that's the figures that come back in in the survey so.

00:07:04.990 --> 00:07:05.290

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:07:06.910 --> 00:07:22.770

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, that's great I'm I think, sort of one of the main drivers in or or the the concepts and something they wanted to explore was the public perception of the profession. And for me personally I believe.

00:07:07.910 --> 00:07:08.210

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:07:23.480 --> 00:07:51.440

Aneurin James (1901128)

The better the public and the client understand profession in in the long term and overall the better the architectural output is. So I was wondering if you could maybe comment on whether as a profession holistically, whether the public sort of education and awareness and

and and the way the profession is seen by the public needs to change or or whether it's exactly where it is at the moment.

00:07:53.650 --> 00:08:13.460

Adrian Dobson

Well, I suppose it depends what your objectives are, and they're in a meeting. I mean, I suppose there's an argument. There's some argument for general public awareness, because architecture in the end is a. You know, it's a public profession and a public art, isn't it? And in fact, you know. So in reality it has an impact on the life of everybody, doesn't it? To some degree or other.

00:08:13.930 --> 00:08:27.240

Adrian Dobson

Uh, so that's a broader. A broader, you know, a broader awareness, which probably DRI BA works on more for its cultural programs and puts to some degree awards. You know things like Stirling Prize and the house is the year.

00:08:14.110 --> 00:08:14.390

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:08:25.650 --> 00:08:25.980

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:08:26.680 --> 00:08:26.980

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:08:28.010 --> 00:08:32.010

Adrian Dobson

If you're talking about, you know architects in their profession.

00:08:32.660 --> 00:09:03.210

Adrian Dobson

I think that's probably where it gets harder in the sense of, I think amongst what I would call professional clients, you know so people professionally commissioned buildings, whether that's developers, public sector clients and housing associations. Whatever you know, there's probably a pretty high awareness of what the role of the architect is, and and you know, and they'll probably have a legal advisors advising him on professional services,

contracts, etc. I he gets much more complicated when you get into the domestic client, and that still makes up a good third of.

00:08:39.200 --> 00:08:39.640

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:08:50.930 --> 00:08:51.250

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:08:52.030 --> 00:08:52.850

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, that's right.

00:09:03.290 --> 00:09:11.460

Adrian Dobson

You know business for the UK profession and and there it becomes more complicated. I mean, I think one of the issues we see is that.

00:09:05.760 --> 00:09:06.060

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:09:13.500 --> 00:09:28.500

Adrian Dobson

It's quite hard for architects to compete because it's not a it's not a regulated function, it's only a regulated title, so it's quite hard for architects to compete at the smaller scale end of domestic house extensions, you know, because.

00:09:22.020 --> 00:09:22.320

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:09:37.830 --> 00:09:38.190

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:09:44.620 --> 00:09:44.890

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:10:00.540 --> 00:10:00.820

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yep.

00:10:00.870 --> 00:10:30.770

Adrian Dobson

They've got certain things cost that they can't avoid it, so I think there's a lot of work goes on that does raise awareness amongst the mod you know would be like the smallest gap domestic client, but I think there is a conundrum because probably an architect services aren't aren't the right go to place for every domestic client you know, and it perhaps is unrealistic to think that we would be unless there became some kind of regulation and function, but I suspect that that small domestic end, if there was some regulation and function.

00:10:31.070 --> 00:10:39.440

Adrian Dobson

The government would probably say, well, we can't just ring pens that solely to architects anyway, so I think it's still probably at the problem at the very small domestic ending, 'cause I think if there was ever any.

00:10:36.080 --> 00:10:36.420

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:10:40.110 --> 00:10:52.680

Adrian Dobson

If there was ever any regulation of function in the UK, it would probably be buildings above a certain size or complexity is you don't mean, it probably wouldn't encompass that the housing, the home extension and home improvement market. I don't. I don't think you know.

00:10:46.780 --> 00:10:47.080

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yes.

00:10:54.200 --> 00:11:25.680

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, and and and that's consistent with a lot of the written feedback that I've had as well. And I think one comment mentioned, the client struggled to see architecture is architecture and they see it more as a building, and that may be and and and especially at that lower end

domestic sort of residential stuff the the the OR swap speaking about. And I think it's maybe a lack of understanding way you know. And architects value with that scale.

00:11:08.100 --> 00:11:09.060

Adrian Dobson

Yeah, yeah.

00:11:10.120 --> 00:11:10.400

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:11:17.260 --> 00:11:17.620

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:11:25.730 --> 00:11:26.260

Aneurin James (1901128)

Is.

00:11:27.010 --> 00:11:45.720

Aneurin James (1901128)

You know they're ability to apply their knowledge in a way that someone who hasn't gone through the education process may not be able to do it. And and and I think that if you know we are trying to drive standard as the profession as a whole, it's hard to do that then when.

00:11:32.930 --> 00:11:33.430

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:11:35.540 --> 00:11:36.740

Adrian Dobson

Yeah, yeah.

00:11:47.600 --> 00:11:52.600

Aneurin James (1901128)

The non qualified designers at a competing with with architects if that makes sense.

00:11:52.840 --> 00:11:54.510

Adrian Dobson

Yeah yeah, yeah.

00:11:53.290 --> 00:12:03.920

Aneurin James (1901128)

And and it's hard and we talk about perfect protection of title and protection of the function. I think the protection of function could potentially be really important.

00:12:04.510 --> 00:12:10.610

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uhm, in terms of trying to drive standards holistically, then if that makes sense.

00:12:23.030 --> 00:12:23.430

Aneurin James (1901128)

Hello.

00:12:24.590 --> 00:12:25.470

Adrian Dobson

Hi there hi.

00:12:25.490 --> 00:12:26.690

Aneurin James (1901128)

Oh yeah, sorry.

00:12:30.300 --> 00:12:32.250

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, so I I I'm just.

00:12:33.020 --> 00:12:41.840

Aneurin James (1901128)

And wanted a query really in terms of the the protection of the function and the protection of the title and your annual thoughts on that.

00:12:43.860 --> 00:13:13.650

Adrian Dobson

Well, I mean. I mean, I think in there and then you know conventional wisdom post Margaret Thatcher in the UK was always that there would never be any regulation of function in the UK. You know that the UK controls UM controls development through primarily the planning laws and the and the building control system, you know and would not seek to regulate who could carry out planning applications and building control applications even though in a you know that is the dominant model in most of the world, in in more of the world.

00:13:13.950 --> 00:13:35.570

Adrian Dobson

Regulation and function that our model, I mean our model exists in Australia and New Zealand and various other places. But in most of the world, even in the United States above, a certain level of complexity, there's some restriction on which which professionals which are currently professionals can make those submissions. They might. It isn't always architect. So for example, in the US it's often engineers and architects, but but there is that regulation.

00:13:36.740 --> 00:14:06.720

Adrian Dobson

I think possibly because of some of the failures we've seen, you know, probably most notably granted filled, but also the Edinburgh schools and and concerns about quality in the industry. Perhaps that pendulum maybe swinging back a little bit and there might for the first time here, bit of an opportunity around regulation function. And there's certainly arivu being commissioned by one of the key government departments, or the RIB, as in putting two, and we've made the case for some regulation of function and we've used an analogy with the thing called the Legal Services Act, which.

00:14:06.770 --> 00:14:30.530

Adrian Dobson

Protect some some legal functions. Now it doesn't offer solicitors sole rights in every area of activity I mean. So for example conveyancing it, it talks about a series of different professions. But it does say that you know certain activities should only be undertaken by certified individuals. Now that's not something we have typically got in the UK construction industry. I think there are one or two exceptions. You know the the Gas Safe register.

00:14:31.020 --> 00:15:01.850

Adrian Dobson

Uh, on people who do work on on on Gus installations, but it's not generally in the UK model, so we'll have to see. But yeah, I think for the you know, conventional wisdom has always been there would never be regulation of function in the UK and therefore it was a bit of a bit of a waste of time trying to lobby for it. Perhaps you know the government is beginning to see we've had a long, long, long time of the deregulatory agenda going right back to the early 80s. Maybe the government's beginning to see that perhaps it needs a little bit of regulation and architects.

00:14:31.390 --> 00:14:31.670

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:14:48.050 --> 00:14:48.340

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:15:01.920 --> 00:15:14.520

Adrian Dobson

Although the form of regulation we have at the moment is slightly strange and a bit odd, this title thing it is a regulated profession so there is a there is a starting point, you know so and there is a regulator so so something they can consider you know.

00:15:08.110 --> 00:15:08.340

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:15:09.030 --> 00:15:09.500

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:15:11.270 --> 00:15:11.550

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:15:15.180 --> 00:15:17.420

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah K UM.

00:15:18.560 --> 00:15:22.570

Aneurin James (1901128)

If I just move on, I think this this was probably one of the more striking.

00:15:22.890 --> 00:15:28.930

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uh, so if Saturday then I suppose from my survey.

00:15:29.550 --> 00:15:56.060

Aneurin James (1901128)

And and that actually 35 over the 58 responses have said that they don't carry out post occupancy evaluations or client satisfaction surveys. And and we had a meeting at this. Well, uh, Dan, Dan Burnham from Burnham Architects did a talk with us last week and he said is Greenedge Pavilion was his first ever stage 7.

00:15:48.010 --> 00:15:48.870

Adrian Dobson

Yeah, yeah.

00:15:56.620 --> 00:15:57.090

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:15:57.590 --> 00:16:09.530

Aneurin James (1901128)

Which which I think is is crazy and basically it they did it because it was an external funding. For that I'm I'm I'm. I personally think it's it's.

00:16:10.650 --> 00:16:31.460

Aneurin James (1901128)

Is the post occupancy evaluations of a very very important, but without the subsidizing, it's hard for practices and architects are taking upon themselves to do to do them. I I wanted approach you really the question where the you think post log pants evaluations should be subsidized.

00:16:14.720 --> 00:16:15.480

Adrian Dobson

Yeah, yeah.

00:16:22.390 --> 00:16:22.710

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:16:34.670 --> 00:16:39.220

Adrian Dobson

Subsidized by who? Earned by clients? Or by architect so?

00:16:39.810 --> 00:16:41.820

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uh, I think weather.

00:16:42.980 --> 00:17:05.340

Aneurin James (1901128)

It's probably A2 fold thing whether they should be included in architects fees and it should be regulated that way, or whether the rabs or ARB should subsidise it too. And and they outlook

would be to increase the quality and increase an architect learning process and how we adapt and learn from previous projects.

00:16:44.740 --> 00:16:45.140

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:16:48.590 --> 00:16:48.970

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:17:03.340 --> 00:17:03.900

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:17:07.460 --> 00:17:28.250

Adrian Dobson

Well, I mean, I don't think a model that relied on an ARB in an RCB. A subsidy would probably fly because I mean essentially you'd have to raise the levy on the profession when you see you have to, you know, so in whether that would fly it, I'd have my doubts. I mean, I mean, I think I think it's a bit of a half glass full, half glass empty sort of equation in a way. And I mean, I mean.

00:17:17.700 --> 00:17:18.020

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:17:29.250 --> 00:18:00.310

Adrian Dobson

If you'd ask that question five or six years ago, you'd have gotten even lower percentage. You know to mean. I mean, I mean, perhaps not surprising. These it's surprising that so few. I mean, the numbers have gone up 'cause we asked this question in the RI Business Benchmarking Survey put. It's surprising that more practice don't do basic client satisfaction surveys, because that's just about improving their own service offer. And that's just, you know, that's that's not exactly an innovative business concept, is it? The fact that you might do some monitoring of client satisfaction so that that is surprising? I mean, I think post occupancy evaluation.

00:17:34.710 --> 00:17:35.040

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:17:47.610 --> 00:17:48.360

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, definitely.

00:18:00.960 --> 00:18:27.810

Adrian Dobson

The numbers are at least going in the right direction. I think you know one of the problems is the building regulations doesn't measure operational energy. It only measures design energy and I think something like that kind of legislative changes. Probably going to be important to really get people to take post occupancy seriously, because if you've got to submit actual energy performance data then you pretty one got to do some form of post occupancy anyway. It's certainly on energy, you know, but the numbers are going in the right direction.

00:18:04.130 --> 00:18:04.410

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:18:11.080 --> 00:18:11.360

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:18:24.830 --> 00:18:25.070

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:18:29.040 --> 00:18:58.670

Adrian Dobson

Yeah, I mean, I think it's difficult for practice because their fees are quite pressurized anyway. So to offer these things with no additional fee is probably difficult for them. And then you've gotta persuade clients that it's in their interest to to do it's a menu and there have been concerns in the past, sometimes about some of the insurance implications, and I think they're probably overblown, but it's still probably a inhibiting factor that worries some architects. I think you know that they're uncover new potential claims in their own projects. You know that kind of thing, but but I think actually, you know, probably those numbers are.

00:18:38.100 --> 00:18:38.480

Aneurin James (1901128)

Test.

00:18:42.210 --> 00:18:42.520

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yep.

00:18:59.150 --> 00:19:29.260

Adrian Dobson

You know you're getting again, not quite half, but maybe 40% of practices are doing some form of post occupancy that will be higher than I would imagine. Actually, you know that I suspect within that if you broke it down between client satisfaction and post documents, you might say that you might find the post occupancy bit smaller but but it is growing, you know, and the plan of work does now formally kind of recognize it so and and you know Arabic professional services contracts have a section where you can offer post occupancy services, so I think it's it's growing.

00:19:29.360 --> 00:19:31.370

Adrian Dobson

But it's a slow burn, isn't it? You know.

00:19:32.360 --> 00:19:32.540

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:19:33.070 --> 00:20:02.700

Aneurin James (1901128)

And that sort of follows into my next question. I know we mentioned Grenfell earlier and this question shows the 44 of those that answered the survey from their experiences. Think that fire safety was inadequately taught at schools of architecture and granted though the majority or big portion of those you know have come out of education along time ago, but the part, the point I wanted to.

00:20:00.690 --> 00:20:01.070

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:20:02.740 --> 00:20:20.050

Aneurin James (1901128)

Raise is whether you think the profession is doing enough. Are we changing quickly enough, especially in terms of climate change? Is are we reacting fast enough to these issues? And and is the profession adapting or DAP table?

00:20:17.780 --> 00:20:18.260

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:20:21.290 --> 00:20:29.530

Adrian Dobson

Well, I think I think you could be more generous to the profession on the climate change issue. Actually possibly in the fire safety issue. I mean I mean uhm.

00:20:28.760 --> 00:20:29.020

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:20:31.330 --> 00:21:01.500

Adrian Dobson

I think the profession is already been always been quite committed to sustainability and that I mean we go right back to the 70s and the oil crisis. They've been a lot of work around it. It's always had the same problem that you know it has an influence and it has a low cost but but it doesn't need clients. It's gotta persuade the clients of the value of of those kind of provisions. And that's not always easy. Which is why I think you do need some regulatory push as well as some clients and architect pull, you know then our regulations still remain.

00:20:36.000 --> 00:20:36.280

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yep.

00:21:01.550 --> 00:21:36.510

Adrian Dobson

Pretty lights, we don't have any regulation around embodied carbon whatsoever. Dinner to make so that there's an example you know, and and I think the other thing is, I think I think whilst operational energy is quite well understood and body carbon is actually quite complex equation, there's actually quite a lot of dispute. Still as to exactly, you know what metrics you should use, even down to what? What factors you should include for lots of embodied carbon is in the structural frame, but there's quite a lot of arguments over the relative carbon content of steel versus concrete versus timber, etc. You know, so it is quite complex, so I think you could probably give them profession.

00:21:36.570 --> 00:21:38.250

Adrian Dobson

Latitude, I mean I think.

00:21:40.290 --> 00:22:10.520

Adrian Dobson

I think it's a bit probably. We've made disappointing progress on fire safety. Given that we've had this real catastrophic loss of life, and I don't think it would be possible for anybody in the profession to not have their consciousness raised about the importance of fire safety, so I think it's slightly disappointing that you know, we're still not seeing. I don't think the change on the ground that perhaps people like Judy Packet were asking for. I mean, DRI base taken the view that we think there needs to be a clear regulation and a bit more prescription, and I think it's fair to make that.

00:22:10.570 --> 00:22:41.160

Adrian Dobson

You, but I think somebody like Judy Packet would push back the other way and say well I yeah, OK that's fair enough, but at the same time you as a profession must be aware of the problem. You know why you why you still not changing the way you design building. So for example, you know there is no regulation that moment that the change has been very minor, it just to limit on combustible materials above 18 meters and a recommendation on sprinklers of overlap meters. But there's nothing more hard and fast than that. And yet we're still seeing you know, quite tall buildings go up with.

00:22:41.320 --> 00:22:47.020

Adrian Dobson

Lots of combustible materials on the sprinklered, et cetera, et cetera. You know, so why is that happening, you know?

00:22:47.080 --> 00:22:56.670

Adrian Dobson

And and the excuse often is, Oh well, we build to the regulations, you know. And I'm not. And and that you would. You would hope that might be changing perhaps a bit quicker than it is, you know.

00:22:56.940 --> 00:22:57.210

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yes.

00:22:57.220 --> 00:23:00.410

Adrian Dobson

And all these things come.

00:23:01.360 --> 00:23:14.410

Adrian Dobson

All these things I dressed early enough in the education process I'm sure, probably not. I mean, the new validation procedures are trying to promote that. I think you know. Again, these things go on relatively long cycles, but.

00:23:15.030 --> 00:23:18.650

Adrian Dobson

I think there's been a fairly long cycle of architectural education.

00:23:19.580 --> 00:23:28.280

Adrian Dobson

Shine a little away from some of the technical and regulatory aspects of practice. Even though you know in reality that's the world in which architects operate, and I think.

00:23:28.400 --> 00:23:28.730

Adrian Dobson

You

00:23:30.070 --> 00:23:45.100

Adrian Dobson

I think it's gonna be quite challenge for the skills to recoup that expertise and to get it back in, you know. So I mean, you know, in fairness to the schools of architecture, welfare schools of architecture, they they can't do everything on their own. It requires practice is to be involved and you can't, you know.

00:23:34.360 --> 00:23:34.660

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:23:45.830 --> 00:24:01.160

Adrian Dobson

You can't change your direction of travel. That's happened over decades overnight, you know. So I think one of the challenges for for the skills will be where today themselves get the expertise to teach on aspects of fire safety aspects of climate change. You know that that's going to be one of the big challenges for them, yeah?

00:24:00.880 --> 00:24:01.200

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:24:01.870 --> 00:24:15.450

Aneurin James (1901128)

And I I mean, Oh yeah, without with our course being a new course and the lectures are very focused on delivering these and raising awareness about the like, you know, fire safety in sustainability is huge in terms of.

00:24:13.260 --> 00:24:13.570

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:24:16.150 --> 00:24:25.400

Aneurin James (1901128)

And the way we think about things and but also in terms of, uh, profession and business as well in terms of law and procurement and things which is is great. But.

00:24:22.330 --> 00:24:22.670

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:24:27.110 --> 00:24:37.650

Aneurin James (1901128)

To me it seems like there needs to be more widespread sort of approach across all the schools where at the minute you know if you've come out of 1 school.

00:24:37.700 --> 00:24:38.850

Aneurin James (1901128)

Will come.

00:24:39.740 --> 00:24:50.140

Aneurin James (1901128)

Your education might be very, very different, UM, to someone who's come out of another school. So do you think there needs to be more of a holistic approach in terms of how architecture is told?

00:24:52.090 --> 00:25:18.910

Adrian Dobson

Well, I'm I'm sure. I think there's probably a balance to be struck. Doesn't I mean? I mean the validation procedures and the old prescription procedures should provide a certain unified framework? I mean, I think at the same time you know, be careful not throw the baby out with the buffer we're doing because UK architecture education has benefited from

different schools with different strengths, different flavors. You know. As you know, students quite often swap school at part one, Part 2 because they.

00:25:13.380 --> 00:25:13.640

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:25:19.270 --> 00:25:48.870

Adrian Dobson

That you know by the time they get to them to palm, only prints carpet. More idea about what kind of career they'd like to pursue, what their interests are, and they perhaps try and find a school that they feel fit is a better cultural fit for that. So, so I think it's probably a balance, so I don't think the RCB would want you know to run a kind of a deck. That kind of sort of rigid national curriculum. Do that. So I mean, I think I think you know and and skills reflect their location, you know their, their geography, you know, you know, it's a you know, late Sept. If it, wouldn't it make sense for a.

00:25:38.760 --> 00:25:39.260

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, yeah.

00:25:43.860 --> 00:25:44.100

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:25:49.600 --> 00:26:04.770

Adrian Dobson

A school based out, say West Wales to do something different than school based in central Birmingham, doesn't it? Because the opportunities on their doorstep to look at issues a slightly different? Aren't they? So so you know, I think so. I think you wouldn't want to want to crop the school style too much, you know?

00:26:05.340 --> 00:26:17.450

Adrian Dobson

I don't think any of that prevents you laying down some minimum things and saying you know people shouldn't be graduating into the profession without a basic understanding of certain principles and what the regulatory framework that surrounds the machine that that that's a bit different, isn't it?

00:26:17.310 --> 00:26:34.370

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah yeah OK, great. And then I've just included this. I thought you'd be interested to see I'm about the CPD program there and the the consensus is you know about 60. Probably 65% think that the call, uh?

00:26:35.140 --> 00:26:38.050

Aneurin James (1901128)

Curriculum outlines are correct topics, which I think is great.

00:26:38.640 --> 00:26:41.670

Aneurin James (1901128)

And then actually they they, you know, believe that.

00:26:42.510 --> 00:26:46.960

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uhm, the CPD sort of program is something that that works.

00:26:48.660 --> 00:26:58.350

Adrian Dobson

Yeah, yeah, I mean, it's difficult to convict on that one without without knowing a bit about what people thought was missing, isn't it? You know, in the in the Nagas what what they what they felt was. Yeah yeah.

00:26:54.700 --> 00:26:55.070

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:26:56.020 --> 00:26:56.340

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:26:58.540 --> 00:27:17.000

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, but they have the written feedback. Sort of suggests that UM, and obviously these are coming from the No the the CBD is more of a tick box exercise and that and that excuse me and that maybe it should be experienced. The knowledge based.

00:27:09.410 --> 00:27:09.730

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:27:17.820 --> 00:27:30.450

Aneurin James (1901128)

And I know that's hard to do across a big group of people, but I think that's potentially those who say no, they believe it should be more Taylor sort of made for them then.

00:27:26.290 --> 00:27:27.390

Adrian Dobson

Yeah, yeah.

00:27:29.110 --> 00:27:29.570

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:27:31.430 --> 00:27:32.430

Aneurin James (1901128)

If that makes sense.

00:27:32.760 --> 00:27:34.380

Adrian Dobson

No, no, that makes sense, yeah?

00:27:36.640 --> 00:27:40.250

Aneurin James (1901128)

OK and lastly, then uhm. I just wanted to ask.

00:27:40.970 --> 00:27:43.750

Aneurin James (1901128)

What do you think the value of an architect is?

00:27:45.100 --> 00:27:51.150

Adrian Dobson

Well, I mean in a way, and that's the Holy Grail, isn't it? If I knew what that was and I could bottle it, I've easy if we do so.

00:27:52.940 --> 00:27:53.330

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:27:53.310 --> 00:28:22.270

Adrian Dobson

I mean, I mean, I mean, I think I think one thing that you know. I think I think the UK profession is and and in fact it's now enshrined in the Code of Conduct and one of the things that perhaps we should make more of an because an opportunity to do that is there is more than one kind of value, isn't it? So we're very fixated on financial value. I mean, the whole

development industries where it fixates on that. But in fairness to the UK profession, it's always seen you know a social purpose and then Environmental Protection has been.

00:28:16.260 --> 00:28:16.490

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:28:22.430 --> 00:28:53.060

Adrian Dobson

Part of it's part of its remit, and so I think it's about, you know, I think, where our value comes in is in being able to offer quality across the piece, isn't it? That we can give something that provides quality, not, you know in terms of the product. Yes it can enable people where it's necessary as part of the development industry to make money, but it also is a high Environmental Quality and you know, higher usability quality. So I think we've we've got to market the profession. If you'd like on on the quality agenda.

00:28:53.120 --> 00:28:59.310

Adrian Dobson

Really hoping we come and one of the difficulties is froze in the UK is that you know.

00:28:54.580 --> 00:28:54.840

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:29:00.380 --> 00:29:31.820

Adrian Dobson

You see some very very high quality work and you know, yes, it's great to see you know national award winners and all the rest of it each year. But we know that generally speaking there is a quality issue in the UK. I mean particularly in the housing sector, you know, and I mean the government just to back to establish new housing ombudsman and then new homes quality board. They're not doing that. If they think the quality of new homes is good enough, are they? You know that that's because the tech they're feeling is that you know people aren't satisfied with the quality of their product compared with say, what the car industry produces or something like that.

00:29:31.870 --> 00:29:53.450

Adrian Dobson

You know, so. So yeah, so I think it's around quality at the end of the day, isn't it? And you know that, and I think, as you say, probably though we need to do more work on quality of service because we do quite a lot of work in the RCB 8 client services team with market

research with clients we do not kneel client survey, you know. And typically what comes back is you know.

00:29:32.000 --> 00:29:32.240

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:29:48.340 --> 00:29:48.600

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:29:53.500 --> 00:29:57.490

Adrian Dobson

Uhm, domestic clients, particularly critical of.

00:30:03.620 --> 00:30:03.940

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:30:03.990 --> 00:30:36.150

Adrian Dobson

Look at a lot of criticism. Better that I think what I would call the professional client sector.

Generally speaking, I think it's quite satisfied with the product, but they used to managing, you know, I think they feel they have to sometimes manage architects quite a lot. I think the design and build market and you know we have to face the reality that for a lot of architects now, their primary client will be the contractor in a lot of instances they're still quite critical of the ability of Members to produce good quality and timely technical information.

00:30:27.700 --> 00:30:27.990

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yes.

00:30:36.190 --> 00:30:46.360

Adrian Dobson

You know, they think there's a I. They think there's a there's a technical knowledge deficit in the profession really. You know that's not good. So you know, with the best in the world.

00:30:43.390 --> 00:30:43.820

Aneurin James (1901128)

It.

00:30:48.390 --> 00:31:00.010

Adrian Dobson

We think we do on the whole, produce a good quality product, but there's not. There's there's. There's a gap to be made up in order to make that fully convincing argument isn't there, you know. And these surveys give you some indication of that, you know.

00:31:00.480 --> 00:31:05.730

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, definitely, and I think the sorry we've run over time a bit, but dumb.

00:31:04.890 --> 00:31:06.380

Adrian Dobson

Yeah, yeah.

00:31:06.440 --> 00:31:10.550

Aneurin James (1901128)

But I'm I think, uh, there's sort of some of the written feedback.

00:31:11.130 --> 00:31:37.230

Aneurin James (1901128)

Suggest the architects feel that they are. Value will be better applied if the sort of public or society then has a better understanding of the profession and that and the same thing goes with or goals for contractors, clients and and they're understanding and the dialogue. And if everyone is on the same page at the end of the day, the outcomes are going to be better. And I think, UM.

00:31:35.310 --> 00:31:35.700

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:31:38.170 --> 00:31:54.860

Aneurin James (1901128)

You know, I think there might be loads of mechanisms to sort of better raise awareness of the profession. I was just wondering if you had any comments on actually how can we better educate the public? Whether that's introducing architecture and the schools at an early age.

00:31:42.020 --> 00:31:42.390

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:31:55.240 --> 00:31:57.780

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uhm, oh, you know maybe secondary schools?

00:31:56.610 --> 00:32:25.560

Adrian Dobson

Yeah, we you do. You do hear that argument made only. I mean, you hear an argument made that the Scandinavian countries over more, you know, a value play a deeper appreciation of design because it features more as a kind of elements of their education system from an earlier age you know. So and then they are. API is quite a big sort of schools education program, although that's increasingly focused on trying to widen access to the profession, 'cause there's no doubt about it that the profession as a a diversity issue to address, you know.

00:32:26.030 --> 00:32:26.350

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:32:26.460 --> 00:32:34.070

Adrian Dobson

But yes, but I mean, yeah, you could. You know that that arguments put forward. I think it may be to do with sort of.

00:32:34.930 --> 00:33:05.040

Adrian Dobson

It may be to do with government money, I mean so for example, not so much architects. But you know, for example, the French Government. There are lots of engineers in the French government that very few architects and engineers ever featuring UK government. I mean for a few years there was a quite elderly MP called Sydney Chapman and he was the only architect member of parliament and it being the only architect member of Parliament for about 40 years. You know to mean Parliament tends to be made up. People who are lawyers and all the rest of it you know. So maybe you know it's probably quite complex cultural question I mean.

00:33:05.100 --> 00:33:05.620

Adrian Dobson

I think.

00:33:06.960 --> 00:33:07.700

Adrian Dobson

I think.

00:33:09.200 --> 00:33:18.620

Adrian Dobson

Media coverage has raised awareness. You know that there's there's much more television coverage than they used to be in that kind of thing you know. And so so I think.

00:33:16.170 --> 00:33:16.490

Aneurin James (1901128)

That's.

00:33:16.540 --> 00:33:16.850

Aneurin James (1901128)

Not really.

00:33:20.200 --> 00:33:31.770

Adrian Dobson

I think probably there is more general awareness of the role of architects. Then there was probably 20 years ago, but I think there's also quite a lot of misconceptions and I think I think after people would be quite shocked at how.

00:33:32.250 --> 00:33:33.260

Adrian Dobson

Uhm?

00:33:34.220 --> 00:33:41.310

Adrian Dobson

How little authority architects have in the construction and procurement process nowadays? You know to mean I think. I think people would perceive that they had more.

00:33:39.540 --> 00:33:39.820

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:33:42.030 --> 00:34:03.060

Adrian Dobson

More control like, well, maybe not control, but they were more directing in orchestrating the process than their reality that many architects find themselves in, you know. So there's a danger of miss selling it as well and saying that we occupy a role that perhaps we did

occupy in 1960, but we don't occupy any more units. I mean in that menu into a different debate, which is, how do you best?

00:33:47.250 --> 00:33:47.530

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:33:48.350 --> 00:33:48.670

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:33:57.580 --> 00:33:57.840

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:34:00.080 --> 00:34:00.500

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:34:03.830 --> 00:34:22.350

Adrian Dobson

And get back to that. And probably I mean ironically, although having been a bit self critical about as a profession in terms of how are we responding to the health and safety agenda, an opportunity has been opened up for is that there will be at this new principle designer roll and it will be interesting to see, you know, I mean.

00:34:22.410 --> 00:34:52.170

Adrian Dobson

And the fear will be that our profession tends to not be regulation as an opportunity, but as a problem in a risk and to shy away from it and let somebody else pick it up. And the risk is somebody else will pick up that, and the fee that goes with it under control that goes with it. And really, the profession, in my view, or to take on that principle designer roll, you know, instead of seeing it as a threat, we really ought to present this a fantastic opportunity to make sure that quality in every aspect is put at the top of the agenda, you know.

00:34:32.660 --> 00:34:32.980

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:34:38.050 --> 00:34:38.350

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:34:44.180 --> 00:34:44.460

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:34:52.760 --> 00:35:03.080

Adrian Dobson

And you know that old time cost, quality triangle bring quality back up. But it will mean as they have to be confident in taking the role on, you know, can't shy away from it, you know.

00:34:52.920 --> 00:34:53.630

Aneurin James (1901128)

Absolutely.

00:35:03.380 --> 00:35:03.650

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:35:04.170 --> 00:35:21.110

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, definitely. I think that's a great way to drive standards across all sectors. I think we really need to take responsibility and drive these things it at the end of the day, it's our sort of responsibility.

00:35:08.790 --> 00:35:09.150

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:35:09.840 --> 00:35:11.950

Adrian Dobson

Yeah yeah, yeah.

00:35:21.670 --> 00:35:21.960

Adrian Dobson

Yeah.

00:35:21.730 --> 00:35:27.020

Aneurin James (1901128)

And I think the sooner the responsibility is sort of taken on and and.

00:35:27.930 --> 00:35:31.560

Aneurin James (1901128)

And when we see it as a an opportunity then the better ready.

00:35:32.630 --> 00:35:33.710

Adrian Dobson

Yeah, yeah.

00:35:35.460 --> 00:35:38.630

Aneurin James (1901128)

And so if I stop the recording.

Appendix D: Questionnaire responses by Sandra Hedblad, Head of Learning RIBA.

Questionnaire conducted online by the author of this document.

1.1. WJEC now run a level 2 qualification in construction and the built environment in Wales. How do you feel architecture can be best introduced to secondary schools throughout the UK, if at all?

The incredible thing about teaching architecture is that it can be taught from so many perspectives. RIBA's National Schools Programme is cross curricular and we work with schools and our Architect Ambassadors on topics as broad as maths, geography, literacy, history, DT, art or science. But many schools uses projects more broadly and to develop students soft skills, such as problem solving, critical thinking, communication and team work.

Architecture can be used to make all those topics relevant and connect students' learning with the real word, something that is likely to make the students understand and appreciate architecture's impact on society and its importance.

1.2. Can the introduction of architecture and the built environment within schools better the wider perception of the profession? Does it stop pupils from 'falling through the net'?

I have no doubt that it could. Increased understanding of something often leads to an interest and further appreciation. Most of us don't reflect on the buildings we see around us and how they contribute to or change how we feel and how we interact with our local environment. Architecture can also play a part in tackling the climate emergency, and there is a lot of exciting work taking place at the moment linked to that. I think many young people will be interested to hear how architects can be a force for good.

Appendix E: Transcript of interview with Dr Jenny Russell, Interim Director of Education RIBA.

This interview was conducted online by the author of this document on the 21st of March 2022.

Aneurin James (1901128)

Just double check. Yeah, great. I'm OK. So just to give you a background, I'm I'm right to make this attention on the value of an architect in Wales.

00:00:26.200 --> 00:00:41.990

Aneurin James (1901128)

And the sort of primary part of my research has been a survey among Wales based architects, so I usually Abbie register to send the survey out. Then I've received 61 responses and part part of our survey.

00:00:38.390 --> 00:00:38.960

Jenny Russell

Brilliant.

00:00:44.020 --> 00:00:48.160

Aneurin James (1901128)

Is sort of centered around dedication and so.

00:00:48.900 --> 00:00:56.800

Aneurin James (1901128)

Hopefully today, now I can share with you some of my findings and and discuss some of those with you. And so if if I just share my screen.

00:00:53.940 --> 00:00:54.350

Jenny Russell

Yep.

00:00:57.980 --> 00:00:58.690

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uh.

00:00:59.810 --> 00:01:02.140

Aneurin James (1901128)

There we go. Can you can you see that?

00:01:02.460 --> 00:01:02.830

Jenny Russell

Yeah.

00:01:03.860 --> 00:01:05.560

Aneurin James (1901128)

Is it? That would be great.

00:01:05.310 --> 00:01:06.430

Jenny Russell

Yeah, I can see it.

00:01:07.140 --> 00:01:28.860

Aneurin James (1901128)

Prince. OK, so I'm the first sort of topic I want to discuss with you is the introduction of architecture to secondary schools as a Level 2 qualification. So 61% of the architects that responded to my survey believe that introducing architecture at this level would be a good thing.

00:01:17.520 --> 00:01:17.910

Jenny Russell

Uh-huh.

00:01:29.480 --> 00:01:45.570

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uhm, and in Wales? And I think there's, there's now a Level 2 qualification construction. So it's just my question to you is should it be introduced architecture and and why might this be important?

00:01:37.160 --> 00:01:37.450

Jenny Russell

Yeah.

00:01:48.400 --> 00:01:48.850

Jenny Russell

I'm.

00:01:50.950 --> 00:02:01.140

Jenny Russell

So I suppose just to give you a little bit of background to me, because I think that makes sense in terms of the questions that you're asking.

00:02:01.700 --> 00:02:04.380

Jenny Russell

I uh.

00:02:01.900 --> 00:02:02.110

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:02:05.150 --> 00:02:28.220

Jenny Russell

I was particularly interested in architecture and children and young people from when I was a student and and my my dissertation and then my I did a PhD looking at how children perceive architectural space and so did a number of UM did a number of kind of projects with young people that were engagement projects.

00:02:17.190 --> 00:02:17.520

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:02:28.560 --> 00:02:43.060

Jenny Russell

I am primarily working with children on teams and so it's a topic I think that's really close to my heart, really. And I I think teaching architecture and.

00:02:28.690 --> 00:02:28.970

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:02:44.000 --> 00:02:59.470

Jenny Russell

In secondary, but not just in secondary. Also in primary would be a very very valuable thing and it's but hi, it's taught. Uhm, I think is of importance, that.

00:02:49.600 --> 00:02:49.920

Aneurin James (1901128)

1st.

00:03:00.570 --> 00:03:03.760

Jenny Russell

To just to to teach UM.

00:03:05.260 --> 00:03:09.680

Jenny Russell

I I know that there are I'm kind of secondary level.

00:03:10.270 --> 00:03:16.920

Jenny Russell

Uh qualifications in construction or in the built environment and in different ways, but I think.

00:03:17.650 --> 00:03:24.290

Jenny Russell

From my perspective, teaching of architecture needs to be about understanding 3 dimensional space.

00:03:24.840 --> 00:03:25.160

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:03:24.990 --> 00:03:54.800

Jenny Russell

And that comes from my background when I was a child, so I my dog's going mad when children are young, they engage with space really three dimensionally because of how they're using their brains as we get older, that shuts down and we start to become much more logical and try to apply logic to it. But there's something about our creative brains that using architecture architecture actually.

00:03:30.870 --> 00:03:31.300

Aneurin James (1901128)

I see.

00:03:40.200 --> 00:03:40.580

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:03:47.050 --> 00:03:47.350

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:03:55.120 --> 00:04:16.800

Jenny Russell

Engages our thinking and lots of different ways. It makes us have to think 3 dimensionally,

which is using that that part of our brain which we don't we we tend to lose as we go grow, we grow up and and so I think from my perspective teaching architecture across disciplines.

00:04:01.260 --> 00:04:01.540

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:04:09.140 --> 00:04:09.500

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:04:17.400 --> 00:04:17.820

Jenny Russell

Uh.

00:04:17.430 --> 00:04:17.790

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:04:18.760 --> 00:04:42.650

Jenny Russell

At secondary level is really important and would be really useful, but it needs to be done in such a way that it's about the three dimensional quality of space as opposed to another learning exercise. You know that you know that is So what that comprises off is is really important, that it's not just a man.

00:04:23.590 --> 00:04:23.890

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:04:29.800 --> 00:04:30.070

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:04:33.660 --> 00:04:34.680

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, yeah.

00:04:43.610 --> 00:05:02.090

Jenny Russell

Thinking about construction or thinking about sustainability in the built environment or thinking about the history and theory of architecture, it's actually much more integral to all of

those things. Would it mean to CreateSpace for people? So that personally it would be where I stand on it.

00:05:02.280 --> 00:05:04.500

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah. I mean, I think that's sort of.

00:05:05.160 --> 00:05:13.910

Aneurin James (1901128)

Approach all that thinking is consistent with a lot of responses that I've had as well, and we're architects believe that.

00:05:14.610 --> 00:05:44.620

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uhm, children or people should be made aware of the value of designing spaces and also how we sort of runs across other disciplines and specially the humanities, and how things sort of a tie together to become architecture and the children are at all should be aware of the importance of architecture. And so two think that a better sort of introduction then act either secondary school all throughout the education can.

00:05:29.870 --> 00:05:30.180

Jenny Russell

Yeah.

00:05:44.890 --> 00:05:45.650

Aneurin James (1901128)

Stop.

00:05:46.280 --> 00:06:01.300

Aneurin James (1901128)

So I've I've I've worded as falling through the net they and what I mean by that is people or pupils who might be perfectly suited to architecture in terms of their skill sets and interests. But due to a poor understanding.

00:06:02.240 --> 00:06:06.120

Aneurin James (1901128)

They they can't see architecture as a viable option.

00:06:06.820 --> 00:06:22.950

Jenny Russell

I I think they're, I think one of the reasons and it's a very it's complex because, UM, finance, UM, diversity. So many things come into it. But I think that.

00:06:23.900 --> 00:06:32.460

Jenny Russell

A better education of those who are actually teaching and talking about architecture in secondary schools is required.

00:06:32.950 --> 00:06:33.580

Jenny Russell

Uhm.

00:06:35.010 --> 00:07:04.860

Jenny Russell

You know from from my perspective as someone who's done admissions for a long time for institutions and so many students don't think they can because they don't have physics or they don't have art or they don't have miles, or would ever subjects their careers. Teacher has told them and and and often. And what we're hearing more and more from universities is that it doesn't really matter what subjects have started. It's the fact that you can think 3 dimensionally.

00:06:53.540 --> 00:06:53.830

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:07:05.280 --> 00:07:05.600

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:07:05.500 --> 00:07:08.910

Jenny Russell

And you know, so so I think.

00:07:09.690 --> 00:07:22.280

Jenny Russell

And then an introduction of architecture and the built environment within schools coming from members of staff who who know what they're talking about on why they're talking about it. I think that's what's required.

00:07:19.630 --> 00:07:19.930

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:07:23.410 --> 00:07:27.520

Aneurin James (1901128)

OK, brilliant. I'm my next question.

00:07:27.790 --> 00:07:58.540

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uhm, is around the recent report by the RB, and it's called modernizing initial the initial education and training of architects, and this report is based on a survey by SQW, if I'm not mistaken, and they response rate is a 10% architect response rate and they've sort of spoke with six out of the 64 UK Architecture school so.

00:07:58.900 --> 00:08:03.770

Aneurin James (1901128)

My question is, is this and you know and it's it's 10% which is?

00:08:04.620 --> 00:08:16.160

Aneurin James (1901128)

The same, if not, maybe a lesser response here than I've had with my survey. And in terms of Welsh based architects. So my question is whether you think this response rate?

00:08:16.730 --> 00:08:25.570

Aneurin James (1901128)

Is big enough and and you know, can that sort of 10% of people or six architecture schools, BIC on behalf of the rest of the UK?

00:08:27.350 --> 00:08:52.560

Jenny Russell

I think the short answer to that is no, you can't just consult with six kills. But what they've done is consult with six kills as the starting point to then offer something which is then going out to a much broader consultation, which is then being an open consultation. And I know that two that open consultation they are IBA has put in a response.

00:08:52.880 --> 00:09:12.750

Jenny Russell

The professional studies advisors have put in their joined up response. The Heads of Schools of Architecture have put in their joined up response and other academics and skills of architecture have also put in their own individual and independent responses. So uhm.

00:09:14.030 --> 00:09:37.880

Jenny Russell

I I yeah, I I know the concerns that you have when you kind of read the document talking about the six architecture skills and I share them but but it's but I understand that they've shared those that they've started their consultation and that way. But my hope would be that the responses that come in come from.

00:09:39.330 --> 00:09:50.720

Jenny Russell

That they've gathered for the wider consultation will actually have a, you know, I'm much more rounded, UM response and answer and.

00:10:05.710 --> 00:10:06.010

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:10:06.050 --> 00:10:08.380

Jenny Russell

You reflect the majority suit, yeah.

00:10:08.010 --> 00:10:08.420

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:10:09.070 --> 00:10:21.740

Aneurin James (1901128)

Choosing a survey of this type could be built into the renewal of edge of registration every year for architects, and that may be upon registration.

00:10:22.230 --> 00:10:28.100

Aneurin James (1901128)

And they would be required to fill in a small survey. And I means then obviously we've got the complete picture.

00:10:28.760 --> 00:10:33.900

Jenny Russell

It's a really interesting idea. And Iran it's UM.

00:10:34.670 --> 00:10:36.550

Jenny Russell

I think that definitely has scope.

00:10:38.050 --> 00:10:40.360

Jenny Russell

I think it has potential as an idea.

00:10:41.130 --> 00:10:43.320

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, 'cause it because to me, I I.

00:10:41.940 --> 00:10:47.260

Jenny Russell

You know that might be something, but that might be something that you could come.

00:10:48.560 --> 00:10:50.900

Jenny Russell

It's probably is, is Ryan your Twitter.

00:10:51.760 --> 00:10:55.190

Aneurin James (1901128)

And yeah, Ryan and Ian Standen as well.

00:10:55.310 --> 00:11:25.830

Jenny Russell

Like they're both brilliant. They're both absolutely brilliant guys and you know, that might be a I don't know if you've discussed that with them, but there might be something in that that's worth having a conversation about, you know, to say to kind of say, is this something you think between us because by having their backing and doing it together, you've probably got a better, a better grinding and working with their names as well. And to push it forward as a suggestion.

00:10:56.780 --> 00:10:57.200

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:11:07.330 --> 00:11:07.630

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:11:13.760 --> 00:11:14.120

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:11:16.990 --> 00:11:17.310

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:11:20.520 --> 00:11:20.880

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:11:23.810 --> 00:11:24.490

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, yeah.

00:11:26.250 --> 00:11:32.370

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, I know we end definitely shares the opinion that you know there there needs to be a greater sort of.

00:11:29.670 --> 00:11:30.050

Jenny Russell

Yeah.

00:11:34.310 --> 00:11:37.220

Aneurin James (1901128)

Account of peoples opinions UM.

00:11:36.400 --> 00:11:48.390

Jenny Russell

Yeah, absolutely. But I think that's a really interesting, but, but also then the schools also put in an orb submission. And so you could actually then tie it in with that as well.

00:11:44.930 --> 00:11:45.250

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:11:48.950 --> 00:11:54.470

Jenny Russell

And so maybe there's some, maybe there's something in that. I think it's definitely worth pursuing.

00:11:49.270 --> 00:11:49.550

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:11:52.890 --> 00:11:53.180

Aneurin James (1901128)

Correct.

00:11:55.070 --> 00:11:55.480

Aneurin James (1901128)

Great.

00:11:56.280 --> 00:11:57.710

Aneurin James (1901128)

Thank you. UM.

00:11:57.110 --> 00:11:57.460

Jenny Russell

Yeah.

00:11:59.720 --> 00:12:14.830

Aneurin James (1901128)

OK. And so the next set of questions still surrounding that document. Really uhm, and the the document states that integrated approach is important in terms of a man.

00:12:15.720 --> 00:12:34.820

Aneurin James (1901128)

Like an apprenticeship apprenticeship scheme within architecture, and I think that's consistent with the responses that I've had as well and that there should be a better sort of tie between academia and practice to ensure that graduates are practice ready. I was just wondering.

00:12:35.480 --> 00:12:41.170

Aneurin James (1901128)

Where you stand on and and how maybe an apprenticeship scheme would fit within the current system.

00:12:41.830 --> 00:13:04.460

Jenny Russell

So the apprenticeships have been running for a number of years and now we've got primarily Level 7, which would be the equivalent of Part 2 and part three together. And there are there are a couple of Level 6 apprenticeships running and but they are a bit more difficult because really those mean that means that.

00:12:50.790 --> 00:12:51.180

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:12:53.440 --> 00:12:53.800

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:13:05.180 --> 00:13:17.120

Jenny Russell

Those who are undertaking them are coming straight from school into architecture practice so so they are they have been more difficult. I think it's a really excellent way of studying.

00:13:10.320 --> 00:13:10.600

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:13:17.600 --> 00:13:44.520

Jenny Russell

And it's really hard work from students are doing all of the university work while also working in practice and so that it brings with it difficulties. But I think being able to apply what you're learning in practice as you go through is fantastic. And because there's so much financial benefit to doing it. And I think it's a a great scheme if it's the way that people choose to go and.

00:13:23.570 --> 00:13:23.830

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:13:27.310 --> 00:13:27.580

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:13:34.900 --> 00:13:35.200

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yep.

00:13:45.680 --> 00:14:02.710

Jenny Russell

I mean, you, you you kind of talked about, UM, the relationship between practice and

education, the difficulty that we face in architecture is that while it's one of the the kind of professions that we talk about.

00:14:03.380 --> 00:14:03.930

Jenny Russell

Uhm.

00:14:04.860 --> 00:14:05.740

Jenny Russell

There isn't.

00:14:07.470 --> 00:14:32.820

Jenny Russell

We base our our our system is based on practices. Private practice is taking on students, whereas if you look at medicine or dentistry or something like that, it's based on a public service. So the NHS&R and medical education or tide together. So the placements are there already, but are we are based on.

00:14:16.490 --> 00:14:16.790

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:14:29.130 --> 00:14:30.190

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, yeah.

00:14:33.170 --> 00:14:40.700

Jenny Russell

Uhm, the economy and whether there are jobs or not, were based on private practice knowing.

00:14:41.630 --> 00:14:42.920

Jenny Russell

Kind of ticking.

00:14:43.760 --> 00:14:55.380

Jenny Russell

It's the best way of respecting the education system and recognizing their place in the education system in being part of that training process.

00:14:55.920 --> 00:15:10.380

Jenny Russell

Come and that's what. That's what makes our education system really difficult at times. And so because apprenticeships are tide between practice and education, that's it's a really good way of dealing with that.

00:15:02.130 --> 00:15:02.480

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yep.

00:15:10.850 --> 00:15:21.930

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, and this this document speaks a bit about and being able to bypass part one of education. If you've had sort of.

00:15:22.620 --> 00:15:46.250

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uhm, adequate experience or training? Or you've, I don't know. You've worked in the construction industry, or maybe I was just just wondering what your thoughts are on that and obviously it's going to be a difficult thing to weigh up where there's someone who's been working and they're skill set actually do marry up with loss expected of of apart one graduate.

00:15:47.410 --> 00:16:05.900

Jenny Russell

Yeah, I think again, none of these are black and white because it's hard to know what somebody's experiences and then how do you measure that? And so they're, they're the the suggestions also have lots of questions. I think if you put it in the context.

00:15:52.230 --> 00:15:52.570

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:16:03.600 --> 00:16:03.960

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:16:06.650 --> 00:16:17.320

Jenny Russell

Uhm, for example of somebody coming in from a different country who's been practicing as an architect for 10 years.

00:16:17.550 --> 00:16:17.890

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:16:18.340 --> 00:16:25.970

Jenny Russell

They still need to do part three over here and we need to set the program they need to do the course, but they then also need to.

00:16:21.330 --> 00:16:21.670

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:16:26.720 --> 00:16:57.920

Jenny Russell

Go back and get a part one and Part 2. So whether or not you know an architect with ten years experience who's decided to, you know, immigrate to this country and and start working here that maybe maybe that's not the best use of their time and having to prove both part one and Part 2 when they've already graduated and been working in a different country. So there's it covers an awful lot of different things.

00:16:31.260 --> 00:16:31.610

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:16:58.260 --> 00:17:07.250

Jenny Russell

But I think one of the things that they ARB document is talking about is whether or not, for example, somebody who has been working in architectural technology.

00:17:07.310 --> 00:17:20.650

Jenny Russell

We could potentially then move straight to Part 2, and I think there's a lot of stuff within that which needs a quest which has questions over it because.

00:17:12.600 --> 00:17:12.960

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:17:20.030 --> 00:17:20.330

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:17:21.460 --> 00:17:52.650

Jenny Russell

Within your part one, you aren't just dealing with the issues that arise in architectural technology. There are things that come to do with design and understanding of three dimensional space. The theory of things, how all of those different elements of an architectural education that together. So I don't. I don't have an answer, but I think that it's a uh, it's something that needs questioned because what we want to do and what I think we should be doing is trying to.

00:17:52.700 --> 00:17:59.620

Jenny Russell

Open up routes into architectural education that make it more accessible to more people than.

00:18:00.210 --> 00:18:16.380

Jenny Russell

And then those who only can afford to keep themselves in education for the length of time that that, that we have. And so I think it's important that we are reflecting on what that is because we need to look at how do, how do we come.

00:18:08.600 --> 00:18:08.880

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:18:17.180 --> 00:18:41.100

Jenny Russell

Make it those people that you talked about at the start who are who may have a gift or some really good abilities at architecture, but they don't manage to get their way to that education. So. So I think I think there is potentially opportunity for it, but there's an awful lot that needs to be considered.

00:18:26.060 --> 00:18:26.370

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:18:31.820 --> 00:18:32.980

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, yeah.

00:18:41.670 --> 00:18:42.010

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yep.

00:18:42.050 --> 00:18:44.410

Jenny Russell

In in answering that question.

00:18:44.810 --> 00:18:45.100

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:18:45.330 --> 00:18:47.840

Jenny Russell

That was a very political answer was not as well.

00:18:48.910 --> 00:18:51.110

Aneurin James (1901128)

No, I I understand the sort of.

00:18:50.580 --> 00:18:51.130

Jenny Russell

Not me.

00:18:52.240 --> 00:19:04.240

Jenny Russell

It's complex. I think that's great, but I think there should be an I think we need to have an ambition to open up architectural education to more people, to make it more accessible.

00:18:52.730 --> 00:18:53.210

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, I.

00:18:53.800 --> 00:18:54.480

Aneurin James (1901128)

It is, yeah.

00:18:55.810 --> 00:18:56.420

Aneurin James (1901128)

It is.

00:19:04.720 --> 00:19:05.040

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:19:05.680 --> 00:19:35.860

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, I I I completely agree. UM. And then following on from that then and 77% of the responses that I had. So I'm architects based in Wales think that or they from their experiences fire safety is inadequately taught at universities. So OK, granted there's a majority there that have been out of practice out of university for 20 plus years and I understand that, but I think.

00:19:36.480 --> 00:19:39.360

Aneurin James (1901128)

The question I want to ask is.

00:19:40.200 --> 00:19:47.460

Aneurin James (1901128)

Whether you think the arc, the current architectural system is nimble enough to adapt to come.

00:19:48.070 --> 00:19:56.590

Aneurin James (1901128)

Sort of incidental changes in legislation, you know, such as Grenfell at it, you know, I understand that education is.

00:19:57.250 --> 00:19:59.010

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uh, like a texture advocacy is.

00:19:59.720 --> 00:20:06.920

Aneurin James (1901128)

Is rooted in history where the the modern day system is nimble enough to adapt to these changes.

00:20:07.880 --> 00:20:11.820

Jenny Russell

I it is. It's a really good question.

00:20:12.280 --> 00:20:33.300

Jenny Russell

Uh, so with the RIBA recently we have moved away from the ARB criteria. We've shared criteria when we validated programs and have introduced themes and values which tried to pick up on some of these areas that you've talked about not to try and.

00:20:24.320 --> 00:20:24.590

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:20:32.040 --> 00:20:32.340

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yep.

00:20:34.310 --> 00:20:34.840

Jenny Russell

Uh.

00:20:35.590 --> 00:21:05.850

Jenny Russell

Say we're doing something good and you're not. You know, it's not like that. It's actually we're trying to drill into the qualitative aspects of the education process and look at these things, which for us as the professional body, are really important to us, including climate literacy and and uh, climate literacy and design for fire, health and life safety, really. And so. So it's really important. And and.

00:20:38.060 --> 00:20:38.400

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:21:06.090 --> 00:21:07.120

Jenny Russell

If you.

00:21:08.270 --> 00:21:34.920

Jenny Russell

Go to the ARB website. They actually have new advice for schools of architecture, which is

very, very detailed on some of these aspects that you're talking about. So it's, it's there. They may not and perhaps the the document, the consultation didn't mention these things as they should have in terms of modernizing education, but they are asking schools for these things and.

00:21:15.610 --> 00:21:15.910

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:21:35.820 --> 00:21:39.880

Jenny Russell

I think you you talk about being nimble enough I think.

00:21:41.190 --> 00:21:48.550

Jenny Russell

It's quite reflective of our of our education system in institutions as a whole.

00:21:49.190 --> 00:22:19.080

Jenny Russell

And it takes a long time for courses to be changed within an inch and then implement it within an institution. We're talking potentially two years. And so when you talk about being nimble, we can only be as nimble in within the profession. We can only be as nimble for education as the educational institutions are able to contain. Now I know that staff themselves can then evolve.

00:21:49.440 --> 00:21:49.780

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:21:51.850 --> 00:21:52.230

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:21:53.780 --> 00:21:54.080

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yep.

00:22:00.050 --> 00:22:00.430

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:22:13.680 --> 00:22:14.120

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:22:19.130 --> 00:22:32.690

Jenny Russell

The modules that they're teaching to try to start to deal with this, but we need to as a profession and as an education system, haven't renewed emphasis on these areas.

00:22:22.270 --> 00:22:23.460

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah, yeah.

00:22:31.620 --> 00:22:32.020

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:22:32.750 --> 00:22:33.870

Jenny Russell

Yes. Uh.

00:22:33.500 --> 00:22:33.800

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:22:35.270 --> 00:22:40.500

Jenny Russell

I'm not shy away from getting drilling into technology.

00:22:39.900 --> 00:22:40.200

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:22:41.300 --> 00:22:55.080

Jenny Russell

Uh, my professional skills and ethical practice, which includes health and life safety and then climate literacy as well. And so we we have to we we need to refocus.

00:22:45.580 --> 00:22:45.910

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:22:50.960 --> 00:22:51.280

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yep.

00:22:55.750 --> 00:23:11.130

Jenny Russell

Uhm, and it's lovely to sit in university and to do theoretical projects and to, but we need to ensure that there is a an understanding of all of these things that you've talked about within that.

00:22:55.900 --> 00:22:56.290

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:23:08.680 --> 00:23:09.040

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:23:09.690 --> 00:23:10.010

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:23:11.020 --> 00:23:24.030

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah. Yeah. And I think from my experience and I will actually have a great hope. You know they, they brilliant. And if something happened or something changed or whether it's professional practice or.

00:23:16.500 --> 00:23:16.950

Jenny Russell

Yeah.

00:23:24.520 --> 00:23:27.990

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uh building ranks or whatever it may be, they will.

00:23:28.630 --> 00:23:53.380

Aneurin James (1901128)

Take it upon themselves in a way, because they know that it's important to to, uh, not so much to adapt the structure of of of our course, but to make sure that they're feeding in practice relevant information. And I think that's great. And I think the problem is or the

problem I, you know, obviously speaking from my experience, but the problem might be that that doesn't happen every way.

00:23:32.320 --> 00:23:32.720

Jenny Russell

Yeah.

00:23:43.370 --> 00:23:43.700

Jenny Russell

Yeah.

00:23:54.000 --> 00:23:54.240

Jenny Russell

Yeah.

00:23:54.330 --> 00:24:04.660

Aneurin James (1901128)

And that and that the sort of lag in terms of as you spoke about changing courses and it might take two to three years or whatever it may be that way then?

00:24:05.560 --> 00:24:11.760

Aneurin James (1901128)

You know courses and maybe not as current orders practice relevant as they as they could be.

00:24:13.530 --> 00:24:13.890

Jenny Russell

Yeah.

00:24:14.920 --> 00:24:15.390

Jenny Russell

Yeah.

00:24:16.310 --> 00:24:18.830

Aneurin James (1901128)

K and then just lastly then.

00:24:19.590 --> 00:24:28.760

Aneurin James (1901128)

Uhm, I did quite a lot of feedback about CPD and that that respond to the top they where someone said that.

00:24:29.360 --> 00:24:34.810

Aneurin James (1901128)

I'm CPD is more with tick box exercise and that UM.

00:24:35.470 --> 00:24:51.220

Aneurin James (1901128)

CPD should be more sort of experience based and tailored to that sort of individual. And so the question I want to ask you is firstly, how important is this idea of lifelong learning within architecture?

00:24:52.270 --> 00:25:22.540

Aneurin James (1901128)

And and can the core curriculum do more to ensure that the CPD is experience based, whether that's a database where people input, you know, if they're conservation architect and they've got really sort of in depth knowledge about that subject matter, that they're not sort of fed stuff that they've known for 10 years. If if that makes sense, maybe that's an extreme. But I I'm just sort of query and whether you think there can be more sort of specified.

00:25:22.600 --> 00:25:23.570

Aneurin James (1901128)

In knowledge.

00:25:24.700 --> 00:25:25.810

Jenny Russell

Yeah, I think.

00:25:26.870 --> 00:25:30.150

Jenny Russell

And so I think the 1st.

00:25:31.110 --> 00:25:37.650

Jenny Russell

The first part of it, how important is CPD and lifelong learning? I I think it's really important I think.

00:25:38.860 --> 00:25:40.640

Jenny Russell

In terms of what it means to.

00:25:41.720 --> 00:25:47.130

Jenny Russell

Follow lifelong learning. We have to we have to make sure we are up to speed with what?

00:25:45.260 --> 00:25:45.500

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:25:47.580 --> 00:26:03.520

Jenny Russell

Come with the regulations of the day with what is going on and we need to be able to actually go deeper into certain areas of architecture which whatever they are or the the choice is there. I think that's really important too.

00:26:04.470 --> 00:26:04.770

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:26:04.480 --> 00:26:04.940

Jenny Russell

And.

00:26:06.160 --> 00:26:17.720

Jenny Russell

What isn't necessarily always useful is CPD, which is a carpet company coming in and doing a one hour presentation and giving a free lunch.

00:26:17.760 --> 00:26:18.230

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:26:18.440 --> 00:26:29.880

Jenny Russell

Unless you really need to learn about carpet in it. So. So I think it has its place and don't get me wrong, but.

00:26:24.850 --> 00:26:25.110

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:26:30.630 --> 00:26:32.360

Jenny Russell

Uhm, actually.

00:26:33.020 --> 00:26:34.800

Jenny Russell

CPD and what is?

00:26:35.410 --> 00:26:38.580

Jenny Russell

Of core relevance. UM.

00:26:39.490 --> 00:26:47.440

Jenny Russell

At that, that's the bit that's important. It's of the stuff that's really, really relevant to working in today's society.

00:26:42.740 --> 00:26:43.050

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:26:48.030 --> 00:26:48.670

Jenny Russell

Uhm.

00:26:49.730 --> 00:26:54.770

Jenny Russell

Can the core curriculum do more to ensure CPD is experience based?

00:26:55.350 --> 00:27:12.180

Jenny Russell

And I don't think that I am in a place to properly answer that question. And if you wanted to talk more about CPD, UM, Junie, Junie Tyler, who runs? I was gonna say Joni Mitchell, but she's a singer.

00:27:13.270 --> 00:27:42.380

Jenny Russell

Johnny Taylor, who runs his head of CPD at the RCB, would be a really good person too, and I can send you her email address to speak to her, but just to to to talk about what it's trying to do and and how that's being developed. So CPD and that core curriculum, it all

came under the umbrella of the way ahead, which is trying to look at education as a journey as opposed to being.

00:27:16.980 --> 00:27:17.390

Aneurin James (1901128)

OK.

00:27:22.680 --> 00:27:23.630

Aneurin James (1901128)

Really. Thank you.

00:27:28.950 --> 00:27:29.320

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:27:38.240 --> 00:27:38.580

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:27:42.510 --> 00:27:48.490

Jenny Russell

This is what you do university. Then take some boxes for CPD. So it's trying to actually.

00:27:44.590 --> 00:27:45.020

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:27:49.170 --> 00:28:09.100

Jenny Russell

Provide topic areas within which architects then have to at least touch into to different things, so I see what it's trying to do and it does make sense, I think within the the the, the broader umbrella of that will be flown learning and yeah.

00:27:57.550 --> 00:27:57.930

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yeah.

00:28:06.080 --> 00:28:06.460

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yep.

00:28:08.290 --> 00:28:08.720

Aneurin James (1901128)

Yep.

00:28:10.240 --> 00:28:21.270

Aneurin James (1901128)

That's great. Now, thanks. Eight. Yeah, I understand a lot of these sort of easily talked about and basalt complex. It's hard to sort of suggest ways in which to change things.

00:28:19.310 --> 00:28:19.720

Jenny Russell

I know.

00:28:21.710 --> 00:28:22.070

Jenny Russell

Yeah.

00:28:22.850 --> 00:28:29.050

Aneurin James (1901128)

But but yeah, I I really appreciate your time this afternoon. Thank you very much.

00:28:27.990 --> 00:28:33.840

Jenny Russell

No, not at all. And I am so sorry that it's taken us so long to actually tap.

00:28:33.490 --> 00:28:34.110

Aneurin James (1901128)

No, it's OK.

00:28:35.370 --> 00:28:49.100

Jenny Russell

But I I I hope that all goes well with your dissertation and and and and Aaron, if you would be willing to share it up when you're finished, I would really be interested in reading it and read it.

00:28:35.560 --> 00:28:36.430

Aneurin James (1901128)

It's no problem.

00:28:40.930 --> 00:28:41.530

Aneurin James (1901128)

I don't care.

00:28:58.610 --> 00:29:00.020

Jenny Russell

No problem at all.

00:29:00.340 --> 00:29:03.780

Aneurin James (1901128)

Brilliant. All the best. But bye bye.

00:29:01.480 --> 00:29:02.990

Jenny Russell

Bye. Thank you. Bye.