



BFLA



PLACE

16 November 2016

PLACE Design + Planning Incorporating Bell Fischer Landscape Architects

PLACE Design + Planning and Bell Fischer Landscape Architects (BFLA), two award-winning London-based landscape architecture practices, announced their amalgamation at the beginning of November. The three directors of the enlarged company are Tony Edwards, Gordon Bell and Giles Hopgood. Tony is also a Design Council/ CABE Built Environment Expert.

PLACE became an Employee Owned Trust (EOT) in July 2016; it is the first independent UK landscape practice to be structured in this way. By giving all the staff a stake in the company's success the directors believe that they will deliver an even better service for current and prospective clients, as well as operating more efficiently and profitably.

Commenting on the amalgamation the directors said: "We have known each other and the respective design teams for many years. The skill set and experience of the combined practice gives us the capacity to deliver a greater diversity of projects from a wider client base. The timing is extremely beneficial for the two companies, with an increasing requirement for residential and education projects - fields in which we both have extensive experience. We are already collaborating on new projects, so anticipate that this joint working will provide a smooth evolution for the expanded team in forming the enlarged company."

Initially the amalgamated practice of 14 staff will operate from two existing offices, but BFLA staff will join PLACE's office in Wimbledon later next year.

Further information:

Tony Edwards DipArch DipLA RIBA FLI	Tel: 020 8944 1940
Giles Hopgood BA(Hons) DipLA CMLI	Tel: 020 8944 1940
Gordon Bell DipLA FRSA CMLI	Tel: 020 8390 6477