

Committee(s): Planning & Transportation – For Information	Date: 30 October 2018
Subject: Bloomberg European Headquarters wins the 2018 Stirling Prize	Public
Report of: The Chief Planning Officer and Development Director	For Information
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Summary

Bloomberg's European headquarters at 3 Queen Victoria Street has won the 23rd RIBA Stirling prize for architecture.

Recommendation

Members are asked to: Note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. Every year the Royal Institute of British Architects (RIBA) awards the Stirling Prize for excellence in architecture to the UK's best new building.

Current Position

2. This year's prize was awarded to the Bloomberg European headquarters.
3. The design by Foster & Partners was described as having a "restrained exterior and dynamic interior to encourage collaboration".
4. RIBA President, Ben Derbyshire, said: "After vigorous debate, the jury reached a unanimous decision - Bloomberg's new European HQ is a monumental achievement. The creativity and tenacity of Foster & Partners and the patronage of Bloomberg have not just raised the bar for office design and city planning but smashed the ceiling".
5. The architects created an exterior that fits respectfully into its surroundings while adding to its character and giving back to the community. The building is the world's most sustainable office and in October was awarded the highest BREEAM rating of any major office development in the world at design stage, with a 98.5% score. It delivers a 73% saving in water consumption and a 35% saving in energy consumption and associated CO₂ emissions.
6. The scheme, the largest stone building in the City, occupies 3.2 acres between Queen Victoria Street, Cannon Street and Walbrook and provides approximately 1.1 million square feet of sustainable office space. It is comprised of two buildings

connected by a bridge which sit on either side of a new public arcade, which re-establishes the Roman Watling Street.

7. The interior of the building has a central spiral ramp designed to bring people together and encourage chance interactions.
8. A retail area of restaurants and cafes has been created along the Bloomberg Arcade and there are three new public spaces – two featuring a specially commissioned artwork which subtly incorporate security features.
9. It provides a new access to Bank Underground station and a free museum displaying the Roman Temple of Mithras, restored to almost its original site following a major archaeological excavation which revealed hundreds of artefacts, in particular the first written reference to London.
10. The building has attracted a number of awards including the London Planning Awards 2018 for the Best Mixed Use Scheme and the British Council for Offices Corporate Workplace of the Year 2018.

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