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# Designing Buildings Wiki

The construction industry knowledge base

## Featured articles and news

### This week's featured article - COP21 in Paris



Read about the aims and objectives, the financial implications as well as the likely outcomes of the COP21 climate change conference in Paris.

### Email us your questions

Designing Buildings Wiki will be interviewing Labour's Shadow Minister for Housing and Planning, Roberta Blackman-Woods in the New Year.

Following Jeremy Corbyn's example, we're asking you for the questions you want to see asked. Just click on the link above to send us an email.

### In conversation with Owen Hatherley

Designing Buildings Wiki met with the polemical built environment writer Owen Hatherley to discuss his new book 'Landscapes of Communism', as well as the problems with UK housing policy, the current social cleansing of London, and more.



### Ageing population

CIOB report finds awareness of the ageing population has decreased despite changes in legislation.



### Heat interface units

BSRIA launch new guide to heat interface units for residential and small commercial applications within district and communal heat networks.



### NPPF consultation

Proposed changes to the NPPF include a presumption in favour of brownfield land.

### New infrastructure planning survey

Survey highlights the challenges faced by the newly-formed National Infrastructure Commission in terms of public attitudes.

### Big data

BSRIA report 'Convergence and big data, the impact on structured cabling' suggests the number of devices connected to the internet of things will rise from 4.9 billion now to 50 – 200 billion by 2020.

### Bulking of the week - The Thames Barrier



As sea levels rise, the presence of the Thames Barrier as a means of preventing London from flooding is increasingly vital.

## Around the web

### GCR 10 December

The world's tallest timber tower is under construction in Vancouver.

### The Guardian 10 December

Council tenants lose lifetime right to live in property, with new five-year limits on secure tenancies.

### BuroHappold 10 December

BuroHappold win 'Engineering Company of the Year' at the Middle East Architect Awards, for fifth year in a row.

### U and I 9 December

Peter Williams appointed as Non-executive Director and Chairman Designate at U and I.

### FMB 9 December

New research finds UK homeowners spend a surprising amount to salvage their home from DIY work.

### Glenigan 9 December

A warning sign for the construction industry as figures show a contraction in the value of new projects.

### GCR 8 December

University of Nottingham teams up with China Railway Group to develop satellite-based monitoring of the structural integrity of bridges.

### Dezeen 7 December

Architects unveil plans for 1 Undershaft, the tallest building in the City of London.

### The Observer 6 December

Is up the only way to go for London and its built environment?

### RIBA 4 December

Over 50% of new-build homes are too small according to new research from RIBA.

### Construction Index 4 December

English Heritage reveal shortlisted concept designs for Tintagel Castle bridge in Cornwall.

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