



january 2012 newsletter

...MTT pipes up

...a positive start to 2012

January has been a flying start to the year for MTT with a number of significant new projects confirmed including the following;

Full design duties for a mixed use scheme in Islington, approved at planning, comprising commercial units with 72 apartments and townhouses.

Full design duties for a prominent 150,000 sq ft office refurbishment in Midtown

A 140,000 sq ft mixed used scheme in the London Borough of Hackney comprising residential, commercial and student accommodation.

A major refurbishment of an office building in the City of London increasing from 250,000 to 350,000 sq ft.

A change of use and office refurbishment for a major retailer in London's West End.

On top of these we have seen an increase in the requirement for our Expert Witness skills with 5 new appointments this month.

...RHI – an update!!



On the 28th of November 2011 the Renewable Heat Incentive (RHI) opened for applications from non-domestic generators.

The tariffs provided apply to biomass, ground source heat pumps, solar thermal and biomethane installations for a period of 20 years.

Crucially, for commercial developers and end users, the inclusion of air source heat pumps has been delayed whilst further research is conducted on the costs of air to water commercial equipment and the ability to meter the air to air systems. There is also debate over how the cooling element can be separated. It is expected that air source heat pumps will be included some time in 2012, however the tariff is as yet not determined. For those interested in the domestic sector the RHI currently only provides a premium payment, currently set at £950 for biomass, £1250 for ground source, £300 for solar thermal and £850 for air source and this will continue until the 12th of March 2012.

There are no premium payments beyond this date, however the RHI tariff payments will commence later in 2012 when launched alongside the Green Deal, effectively meaning a gap between schemes. For more information please contact Jodi Willis or Martin Lawless at MTT.

"...we are an enthusiastic team of professionals dedicated to delivering flexible, practical and cost effective sustainable building services designs". Paul Mott

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...new look website

As mentioned in December's newsletter the new look MTT website is now live – we hope you like it!

...technology

The use of new technology has always been fundamental to MTT's approach and in anticipation of the widespread adoption of Building Information Modelling (BIM), we are stepping up our investment in AutoDesk Revit software and training our team in the practical use of these tools.

BIM is the process of generating and managing building data in a single database across a project – typically a three-dimensional, real-time, dynamic building model shared across a team. The model incorporates building geometry, spatial relationships, services information, and quantities and properties of building components, allowing commercial and technical decisions to be made rapidly with full understanding of their implications. It also enables coordination issues - often only discovered during the construction phase - to be identified and fixed during the design phase.

In 2001 the UK Government's announced a requirement for collaborative 3D BIM (with all project and asset information, documentation and data being electronic) on all its projects by 2016 - the Chief Construction Advisor advising construction professionals to adopt BIM or "be Betamax'd out".

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Whereas implementing BIM is often seen as a software solution, at MTT we see BIM as a co-ordinated set of processes, supported by technology, that will add value by creating, managing and sharing building data throughout the project lifecycle.

...mbc



2012 sees a busy calendar for the MBC with lots of interesting events in the pipeline.

Following an extremely successful and well attended first event Thursday 26th January sees the 2nd MBC Young Professional Networking event, kindly hosted by the Crowne Plaza City. It will be well attended by MTT's Young Professionals!

On Friday 24th February the MBC are running a London 2012 Transport Workshop to help us plan for the challenges we will inevitably face during the London Olympic Games.

Should you or your colleagues wish to attend either of these events please visit the MBC website www.londonmidtown.org or contact Amy at MTT on astewart@mttconsultants.com.

If you would like any more information about anything mentioned in this newsletter please contact Amy Stewart.

www.mttconsultants.com