

[Prime Minister's letter to President Donald Tusk: 28 October 2019](#)

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[Dame Judith Hackitt named as government adviser on the new Building Safety Regulator](#)

- Dame Judith Hackitt will advise the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government on the most effective way to deliver a powerful new Building Safety Regulator
- The Regulator will have the power to apply criminal sanctions to those flouting the new rules

A respected expert in building safety, Dame Judith Hackitt will provide independent advice to the government on how best to establish the powerful new Building Safety Regulator, Housing Secretary Robert Jenrick announced today (28 October 2019).

The appointment follows Dame Judith's [Independent Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety](#), in which the government committed to take forward all of her recommendations and go further, by forming a new national Building Safety Regulator.

The Regulator will oversee the design and management of buildings, with a strong focus on ensuring the new regime for higher-risk buildings is enforced effectively and robustly. It will also have the power to apply criminal sanctions to building owners who do not obey the new regime.

The Communities Secretary, Rt Hon Robert Jenrick MP said:

I am grateful that Dame Judith has agreed to advise my department on the new Building Safety Regulator.

Her expertise will be essential to forming a strong Regulator with teeth to ensure all residents are safe, and feel safe, in their homes both now and in the future.

Dame Judith Hackitt was commissioned by the government to review building regulations and fire safety following the Grenfell Tower fire. Dame Judith published her [Independent Review of Building Regulations and Fire Safety](#) in May 2018 and the government committed to take forward all of her recommendations.

The government published the consultation on its reforms, [Building a Safer Future](#), in June 2019 and is currently analysing the responses.

The government's proposed new legislation will ensure building owners and developers prioritise residents' safety over profit and will:

- provide clearer accountability for, and stronger duties on, those responsible for the safety of high-rise buildings throughout design, construction and occupation
- give residents a stronger voice in the system, ensuring their concerns are never ignored and they fully understand how they can contribute to maintaining safety in their buildings
- strengthen enforcement and sanctions to deter non-compliance with the new regime in order to hold the right people to account
- require that developers of new build homes must belong to a New Homes Ombudsman

[Three Trustees appointed to the National Gallery](#)

Catherine Goodman

Catherine Goodman (b.1961) is an artist, educator and the Founding Artistic Director of the Royal Drawing School, which she co-established with HRH The Prince of Wales in 2000. She trained at Camberwell School of Arts & Crafts and at the Royal Academy Schools for her MA. In 1987 she won the Royal Academy Gold Medal and in 2002, she won First Prize in the BP Portrait Award at the National Portrait Gallery. She was made Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order for services to the Royal Drawing School in 2014. Goodman is represented by Marlborough Fine Art and has had numerous solo exhibitions including Portraits from Life at the National Portrait Gallery in 2014 and the last house in the world at Marlborough Fine Art London in 2016; in 2019

she exhibited at Hauser & Wirth Somerset following five months as Artist in Residence, and at Marlborough Gallery New York with her solo exhibition, the light gets in. Goodman's paintings are held in numerous private and public collections including the National Portrait Gallery, the Fitzwilliam Museum Cambridge and the Royal Collection Trust. Goodman is included in 'Great Women Artists' published by Phaidon Press in 2019.

Lord Anthony Hall of Birkenhead CBE

As Director-General, Tony Hall is the editorial, operational and creative leader of the BBC. He is responsible for the BBC's public service, as well as its commercial operations, in the UK and around the world. He took up the post in April 2013. In January 2019, Tony was also appointed President of the European Broadcasting Union. Tony was Chief Executive of the Royal Opera House from 2001-2013. It was a period of innovation and transformation, financial growth and creative excellence. Prior to that, he was Director of News and Current Affairs at the BBC establishing new services for the digital age, including news online, the BBC News channel, Radio 5 Live, and BBC Parliament. He was previously a non-executive director, and Deputy Chairman, of Channel 4. In 2012, Tony chaired the Cultural Olympiad Board and also joined the board of the London Organising Committee for the Olympic and Paralympic Games. He is a Trustee of the Paul Hamlyn Foundation, was a Board Member of 14-18 Now, set up to commemorate the centenary of World War I. He is an Ambassador for the Creative Industries Federation and a Vice President of the Royal Television Society. He was made a life peer in 2010, and sits on the crossbenches in the House of Lords.

Stuart Roden

Until January 2019 Stuart was Chairman of Lansdowne Partners and Chairman of the Management Committee having previously co-managed the Developed Markets funds since their inception in 2001. Stuart is non-Executive Chairman of Hetz Ventures, non-Executive Chairman of Tresidor Investment Management, Chairman of Unlockin Potential and a trustee of various third sector organisations including The Centre for Social Justice, Jewish Care and The Rabbi Sacks Foundation. He is also the non-executive Chairman of the Investment Committee of Marylebone Partners LLP and Chairman of the Jewish Care and Oxford Centre for Jewish and Hebrew Studies Investment Committees. Stuart started his career in the City in 1984, joining SG Warburg & Co, he worked at McKinsey and prior to joining Lansdowne in 2001, was a Managing Director of Merrill Lynch Investment Managers. Stuart received a first-class honours degree in Economics (BSc) from the London School of Economics, he is married with four children and lives in London.

These roles are not remunerated. These appointments have been made in accordance with the [Cabinet Office's Governance Code on Public Appointments](#) . The process is regulated by the Commissioner for Public Appointments. The Government's Governance Code requires that any significant political activity undertaken by an appointee in the last five years is declared. This is defined as including holding office, public speaking, making a recordable donation or candidature for election. Catherine Goodman, Lord Tony Hall and

Stuart Roden have made no such declarations.

Permit variation at Horse Hill oilfield: public consultation open

Horse Hill Developments Ltd has applied for a variation in its existing permit to develop its operations by drilling a further 4 boreholes and a reinjection borehole.

Public consultation on this new application is open from Monday 28 October until Monday 25 November 2019.

[View further information on the consultation.](#)

[View further information on how the Environment Agency consults on permit applications and standard rules for environmental permits.](#)

An Environment Agency spokesperson said:

In deciding whether or not to issue the permit, the Environment Agency will take into account all relevant considerations and legal requirements.

An environmental permit sets out stringent conditions that all oil and gas sites must adhere to. We will not issue an environmental permit for a site if we consider that activities taking place will cause significant pollution to the environment or harm to human health.

For further information, please email KSLES@environment-agency.gov.uk.

Dr John joins presenters from around the globe at conference in Australia

Dr John Shevelan flew the flag for LLWR at an international five day conference in Australia.

The Site Characterisation Manager spent 40 hours in the air in less than a week to attend a conference focusing on the LeTrench project, on the

outskirts of Sydney, which considered the remediation of legacy trenches containing radioactive waste.

The project has focused on producing a report collating information on these trenches and outlining aspects of the assessment, management and potential remediation of such sites.

John was among representatives from 12 different countries each presenting at the Australian Nuclear Science and Technology Organisation (ANSTO) Lucas Heights facility on their experiences of dealing with legacy sites.

"I presented on UK experience in assessing the best options for managing legacy sites and demonstrating how remediation had been applied to successfully allow the land to be reused, and how that planned end state for the site had a key role in assessing how the site should be managed," said John, who attended at the invitation of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

"This was well received and helped in the discussion of options for different sites around the world."

John was also part of a consultancy group providing an international peer review of ANSTO plans for the Little Forest legacy trench site used for the burial of low level radioactive waste from the research facilities at Lucas Heights in the 1960s.

"Both LLWR and ANSTO have extensive monitoring programmes but I'm glad we do not have to arrange our monitoring around the activity of highly venomous snakes. It was winter so apparently we were unlikely to step on one," John added.

"It's a very long way for a five day meeting but keeping abreast of developing thinking and influencing the outcome and conclusions of the meetings are particularly important to LLWR and the wider NDA estate."