



## North West Brownfield Regeneration Forum

# “Achieving Sustainable Brownfield Development”

**Date:** Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> March 2010

**Time:** 14:00 tea and coffee networking, 14:30 start, with wine reception from approximately 18:15

**Location:** The Castlefield Rooms, 18-20 Castle Street, Castlefield, Manchester, M3 4LZ - [www.thecastlefieldrooms.com](http://www.thecastlefieldrooms.com)

The first NWBRForum seminar for 2010 takes a slightly different format and slant than our previous seven events, with an afternoon seminar that aims to widen the perspective of the forum into sustainable brownfield regeneration. Our first event, therefore, aims to promote how to achieve sustainability through public open space. The event is kindly sponsored by the Land Restoration Trust.

Brownfield targets for residential have been set at 60% for several years and most areas achieve the targets, with some places reaching 100%. Higher residential unit densities have been promoted in national, regional and local planning policy. However, threats from flooding and climate change, together with sometimes uneconomical remediation of contaminated land, mean that there are ever greater demands on the urban environment and some sites cannot be redeveloped.

Therefore, residential end use may not always be the most suitable – or desirable – choice for a site. Public open space, if done correctly, provides an alcove for both humans and nature in the urban environment. It is possible to have several functions being served at different times, depending upon the conditions, such as for recreation, leisure, wildlife and flood alleviation. However, even with all the benefits, ‘setting aside’ land for such use is not easy, either in the planning regime with pressures on hard development, or actually paying for it.

Within this seminar, we aim to show how high quality public open space is of crucial importance to the region, what issues you need to consider for multi-functionality and how this can unlock other urban areas. Funding and softer, less expensive, approaches are also considered. As a result, this seminar is aimed at a wide range of stakeholders, including town planners, environmental and engineering consultants, Environment Agency and Local Authority regulators, as well as clients and public funders.

We have a wide range of speakers, including:

- Euan Hall, Chief Executive, Land Restoration Trust
- Martin Moss, Delivery Leader – Green Infrastructure, Natural England
- Sarah Dack, Principal Risk Assessor, Mouchel
- Kieron Hyams, Associate, Arup

The event is after lunch (not provided) with networking with tea and coffee from 14:00, with a 14:30 start, finishing with a wine reception at approximately 18:15.

If you are interested in attending, please register via our website at [www.nwbrforum.org.uk](http://www.nwbrforum.org.uk) by clicking on ‘Upcoming Events’.