

LABC leads on sports stadia

LABC has unrivalled expertise in the realisation of major sporting venues and have established a specialist, locally based Building Control team to deal with the very high volumes of work anticipated in the Olympic Park area in the run up to London 2012

By Phil Harrison
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With planning for London 2012 rapidly approaching the detailed design and construction phases, the next few years will be an exciting time to be involved with the construction of stadia and other major sporting venues.

The many years' experience on such schemes, not only delivering Building Control but also ensuring that the Safety at Sports Grounds legislation is fully met, means that LABC is uniquely qualified to assist designers and contractors to efficiently deliver safe stadia for major sporting events. Recent projects include the Emirates Stadium, many other major

football schemes and the Commonwealth Games venues in Manchester.

A specialist, fully integrated building control team, JLAB, has already been established by LABC for the Olympic schemes, with resources drawn from the five Olympic Park authorities: Newham, Hackney, Waltham Forest, Tower Hamlets and Greenwich. They will be assisted, as necessary, by the secondment of further specialist staff from other authorities.

JLAB will also benefit from advice from their colleagues in Manchester, based on the experience gained during the Commonwealth Games.

Some of the design teams and contractors may,

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however, choose to work with their existing LABC partner authority, who will work in close liaison with the JLAB team for the plan checking element of that package of work.

The LABC partnership scheme enables any LABC customer to work with their preferred local authority for Building Control approval for projects anywhere in England or Wales.

Other national initiatives also continue to be developed to add value to the delivery of the LABC service and the most recent of these, the LABC New Homes Warranty, was launched in January 2007 (see article page 11).

Latent Gold, the latent defects warranty for new build commercial projects, continues to go from strength to strength, with more than £1.5bn of projects now on cover. This unique, affordable warranty is only available in conjunction with LABC because the Underwriter relies on LABC plan checking and inspections to manage the risk.

To find out more, please speak to one of the LABC Business Development Team (details below) or contact your nearest Local Authority Building Control office.

Further information is also available at www.labc-services.co.uk



The Hockey Centre will be located in the heart of the new Olympic Park in east London

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