



# Mace beats rivals to prized £140m LSE job

Scheme will be built at former home of Cancer Research UK in central London

By Louise Dransfield

Mace has beaten four others to a high-profile job to turn the former home of Cancer Research UK in central London into a £140m academic centre for the London School of Economics. Building has learned.

It is the contractor's latest higher education win having also bagged a contract worth £100m to build a life sciences facility for the University of Sussex at the beginning of the month.

Building revealed in June that a number of contractors, including Mace along with Kier, Laing O'Rourke, Sir Robert McAlpine and Skanska were all in the running for the scheme at 44 Lincoln's Inn Fields.

Specialist contractor McGee is



Grafton Architects' Marshall Building for the LSE

already demolishing the site and is expected to complete the works by May next year with the project expected to complete by early 2021.

The new building (pictured above) has been designed by Irish practice Grafton Architects, which saw off a stellar shortlist to land the

commission last year including big names such as Herzog & de Meuron, the Swiss architect behind plans for a new Stamford Bridge home of Premier League side Chelsea, Amanda Levete's AL\_A, which carried out the V&A museum extension, and David Chipperfield

which is working on a scheme to turn the US embassy in London's Grosvenor Square into a hotel.

The new academic centre will be known as The Marshall Building - after hedge fund manager Paul Marshall, who two years ago handed the university £30m to set up the Marshall Institute for Philanthropy and Social Entrepreneurship.

It will house the Marshall Institute, as well as the university's accounting, finance and management teams along with a number of research centres.

The wider project team on the job includes structural engineer AKT II, project and cost manager Gardiner & Theobald, M&E consultant Chapman BDSP and planning consultant Turley.

## Interserve boss continues rejig of top team

Interserve boss Debbie White is bringing in a director of transformation as part of the ongoing rejig of her management team.

The firm is the latest high-profile contractor to create such a role after Carillion said in September it had hired Ernst & Young partner Lee Watson as chief transformation officer.

White, who has been in charge of Interserve since the start of September, said Sally Cabrini will join the troubled firm next month after carrying out a similar role at water firm United Utilities.

Cabrini, who will take a seat on the main board, joined the utility firm 10 years ago as its HR operations director.

White is shaking up her senior executive team as she gets to grips with near £200m losses at its energy-from-waste business, falling margins at its support services arm and a redundancy programme which is expected to see 200 posts go in a first wave.

She said: "Sally is an experienced senior leader who has a strong track-record of getting the best out of people and technology."

Two weeks ago, the firm said the boss of its support services business Bruce Melizan was leaving next month after 15 years at the company.

Cabrini's appointment comes as Interserve begins work next month to build a new £35m cancer centre in Liverpool's £1bn Knowledge Quarter.

The two-storey Rutherford Cancer Centre North West will be located within the Paddington Village area of the development and will house advanced cancer care treatments, including high energy proton beam therapy.

## Galliford Try picks development boss

Galliford Try Partnerships has appointed Jonathan Peasant as its new director of development. He replaces Darren Leary, who left the firm after seven years in August.

Peasant joins following an 11-year stint at Countryside Properties, where he was most recently associate director of development.

He will join Galliford Try's partnerships team in Warrington

and will oversee the progression of development across mixed tenure, affordable housing and extra care projects, as well as helping to secure new regeneration opportunities.

Peasant will also manage a team of development managers, bid co-ordinators and design staff through the complete process of development, from site identification and planning, to starting on-site.

## Celtic Manor firm blames EU vote for revenue tumble

Brexit and June's general election are being blamed for a reverse in turnover at architect Scott Brownrigg.

The firm said income slumped 14% to £23.3m from last year's record £27m.

It said: "Brexit and the general election contributed to a slowdown in the UK construction market, adversely affecting turnover." But it added that its order book was "in good shape" for 2018.

Pre-tax profit fell 47% to £1.7m but the firm said it had made a £1.5m saving on administration costs as its bill was cut after it moved more staff out of its office at Battersea into its Covent Garden headquarters. It also got rid of an office in Zagreb, Croatia.

The bulk of Scott Brownrigg's turnover is from the UK including a scheme to revamp the Celtic Manor resort in Wales.