

Mark Hansford - Commercial Property writer of the year

Why in 2019 is a brand predominantly focused on writing about infrastructure for a civil engineer audience starting to write about property? Quite simple: because where infrastructure investment goes, property investors go... and vice versa. This is a world where the property developer and the infrastructure provider have never been closer together. Whether it is existing infrastructure owner operators such as Network Rail selling property to fund other projects, or promoters of infrastructure projects such as Crossrail 2 and High Speed 2 using commercial property investment as part of the cost-benefit calculation, the two worlds have firmly collided. So as editor of *New Civil Engineer* Mark Hansford is determined make this collision as gentle as possible.

May 2019

Future of Cities | Follow the money

“My message to investors is invest in the big [urban] centres,” says Colliers head of Europe, Middle East and Africa research Damian Harrington. “And follow the infrastructure.”

This in-depth analysis set out to demonstrate that clear link between infrastructure investment and commercial property development. The feature uses as its key source research from Colliers’ adapted specifically for *NCE* into investment trends that shows that the big global cities dominate the deployment of capital in property with New York and London leading the charge, ahead of Los Angeles, Tokyo and Paris. A further four markets – Hong Kong, Washington DC, San Francisco and Chicago join the global gateway club of nine that have amassed more than £75bn of real estate investment since 2008. And these are all cities investing heavily in infrastructure. Link proven.

<https://www.newcivilengineer.com/the-future-of/future-of-cities-follow-the-money-26-03-2019/>

August 2019

Interview | Crossrail 2 managing director Michèle Dix on project’s fifth business case

Few infrastructure projects better demonstrate the connection with commercial property than Crossrail 2. Initially intended to be funded by the Mayoral Community Infrastructure Levy, these funds have been ripped away to complete Crossrail 1. This funding challenge has led to the project being required to submit its fifth business case to government – and is awaiting a response. It is a project keenly supported by commercial property investors but hangs in the balance and the MD offers frank views on the prospects of this project.

<https://www.newcivilengineer.com/latest/interview-crossrail-2-managing-director-michele-dix-projects-fifth-business-case-18-07-2019/>

October 2018

Civil engineers accused of ‘losing ability to do good design’

There is more connecting property and engineering – a requirement to focus on good design. This news story centres around former transport minister and long-term design critic John Hayes’ views that good design is lacking across buildings and infrastructure. It expands to look at the connection between good design and economic prosperity, driven by the public’s desire to engage with well designed spaces – be they public or commercial.

<https://www.newcivilengineer.com/latest/civil-engineers-accused-of-losing-ability-to-do-good-design-04-10-2018/>