

# THE EARLS COURT DEVELOPMENT COMPANY APPOINTS PHILIPPA ILLINGWORTH AS NEW INFRASTRUCTURE DIRECTOR



10/02/25

Today, The Earls Court Development Company (ECDC), who are responsible for bringing forward the redevelopment of the former Earls Court Exhibition Centres site, announced the appointment of Philippa Illingworth as their new Infrastructure Director.

Philippa Illingworth joins from Old Oak Park Royal Development Corporation (OPDC) where she had been Head of Infrastructure since May 2022 and was responsible for the planning, co-ordination and delivery of the project's infrastructure.

Illingworth joins at a crucial juncture for the Earls Court project. As the company begins to mobilise for an anticipated start on site in 2026, 2025 will focus on preparing to commence major design work around the site's infrastructure. The site has a number of complex challenges, and the masterplan has been designed accordingly, including navigating subterranean railway lines and tunnels, significant level changes, and retaining existing infrastructure.

Her appointment also coincides with ECDC starting conversations to appoint an Energy Services Company to deliver the innovative ambient heat network. This will service the entire site to generate zero carbon energy from day one, and is a fundamental part of the Earls Court sustainability strategy.

Last summer ECDC submitted a hybrid planning application for the c.44 acre masterplan, and are now midway through the planning determination process.

**Philippa Illingworth, Infrastructure Director at The Earls Court Development Company, said:** "Joining The Earls Court Development Company to lead the infrastructure team is an exciting opportunity to tackle the complex engineering challenges of this iconic site. From coordinating development alongside operational rail assets, substructures, and bridges to delivering the new infrastructure needed for the proposed development and green spaces, this role offers a chance to contribute to the transformation of Earls Court.

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**Philippa Illingworth**

Infrastructure Director  
ECDC

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**Rob Heasman, CEO of The Earls Court Development Company, said:** “We are delighted to welcome Philippa to the team at this exciting time for the Earls Court development. Her expertise in the delivery of large scale infrastructure and engineering projects will be invaluable as we progress with our ambitious plans for the site. Philippa’s appointment underscores our commitment to delivering a world-class destination that not only respects the area’s rich heritage but also embraces innovative and sustainable solutions for the future.”

To find out more about Earls Court, visit [www.earlscourt.com](http://www.earlscourt.com)

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**Rob Heasman**

CEO  
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