

British experts offer solutions for development of Andrejsala

In cooperation of Embassy of the United Kingdom, UK Trade&Investment department and "Jaunrīgas attīstības uzņēmums" Ltd. on June 6 and 7 seminar of British town environment and regeneration experts took a place in Riga. Its participants not only shared their experience with Latvian colleagues but also took a look ahead by developing succession of suggestions for development of Andrejsala territory.

Experts emphasized that the ones who develop Andrejsala detail plan should especially think about accessibility of Andrejsala, how it fits in overall town environment as well as they should implement necessary preconditions so that in future there could be an active social life.

The main attention in the development of Andrejsala should be paid to future traffic model where in the first place would be foot-passenger and public transport as well as it is necessary to develop transport system that would reduce islands isolation from city life. To this effect should be developed foot-walker, cyclist and probably also tram bridge, i.e., Hanza bridge across Daugava that could serve as an interesting architectonic accent and could help city dwellers to get in the district. Experts suggest to allocate part of the islands territory only for foot-passengers, shops, and restaurants and to consider possibility to develop tram traffic that would create more public and people friendly atmosphere.

Participants of the seminar complimented proposal to establish Museum of Contemporary Art in Andrejsala, finding it potentially internationally recognized visitation place with strong identity. Experts suggested developing green zone that would be freely accessible to all inhabitants in waterfront of Daugava.

From building angle of vision experts thought that it is necessary to envisage several accents (maximum six) in the territory, that could overreach average high of buildings as well as pointed out that in overtaking the best world solutions developers should also try to preserve character and identity of the Riga.

Valters Māziņš, chairman of "Jaunrīgas attīstības uzņēmums" Ltd. comments seminar process: "We are very satisfied with achievement of British and our own experts. Especially worthy was a fresh point of view and many, sometimes even untraditional ideas, for example, to develop drifting helipad. By all means integrating experts' creative suggestions with economically thought-out planning, we will be able to develop Andrejsala as special, and attractive for people district."