

**** NEWS RELEASE ****

Green roofs go public in Architecture Week

Three of Brighton & Hove's best green roofs will open to the public during Architecture Week, 15-24 June this year.

Brighton & Hove Building Green has set up Green Roof Tours to promote eco-friendly architecture to the public. Visitors will be able to see the roofs close up, hear a talk from an expert, and ask questions.

Green roofs are planted with wild flowers and other plants, and are becoming established across Brighton & Hove. Already a common feature of towns and cities in Germany and Switzerland, green roofs improve our views across rooftops, provide a home for wildlife, absorb rainfall, and can help buildings stay cool in summer.

James Farrell, Chair of Brighton & Hove Building Green said: "Green roofs can help make our city a better place to live for people and wildlife. These tours are a great opportunity to learn about their benefits."

The timetable for the Tours is:

- Monday 18 June, 3.30pm – Downs Junior School, Preston Park
- Tuesday 19 June, 4pm – Downs View Link College, Varndean
- Wednesday 20 June, 4pm – Roundabout Children's Centre, Whitehawk

Places can be booked through Brighton & Hove Building Green by emailing adam@biggreen.eclipse.co.uk.

[Ends]

Editor's notes

1. Brighton & Hove Building Green is a community group promoting green roofs and walls for a healthy city. It includes green roof experts, architects, landscape designers, artists, ecologists, Council officers, students and others who live or work in Brighton & Hove.
2. In addition to the above sites, green roofs are already established across Brighton & Hove for example at the Crew Club (Whitehawk), Hedgehog (Bevendean), Diggers (Hollingdean), and Atlanta (Bevendean).
3. Down's View Link College received the Green Apple Award for sustainable design. Roundabout Children's Centre was visited by the Queen in March 2007. Both buildings boast natural ventilation systems and wind turbines in addition to green roofs.

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