

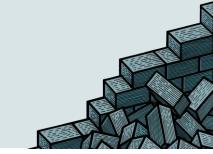
#### **TCPA Webinar**

# Securing healthy homes locally – a webinar for local government

24 September 2024



## Agenda



Welcome and introductions	Rosalie Callway, Projects & Policy Manager, TCPA (chair)
Overview of the Healthy Homes guide	Rosalie Callway, Projects & Policy Manager, TCPA Sally Roscoe, Projects & Policy Officer, TCPA
BRE Homes Quality Mark – operationalising the Healthy Homes Principles	Jennifer Dudley, Product Manager – Residential Housing, BRE
Lewes District Council – housing and planning work	Emily O'Brien, Green Party Councillor for Ouse Valley & Ringmer Nathan Haffenden, Assistant Director – Property and Development
Tibbalds – Northstowe and design code for Bradford	Katja Stille, Director Planning and Urban Design, Tibbalds
Ω&Λ	Event chair



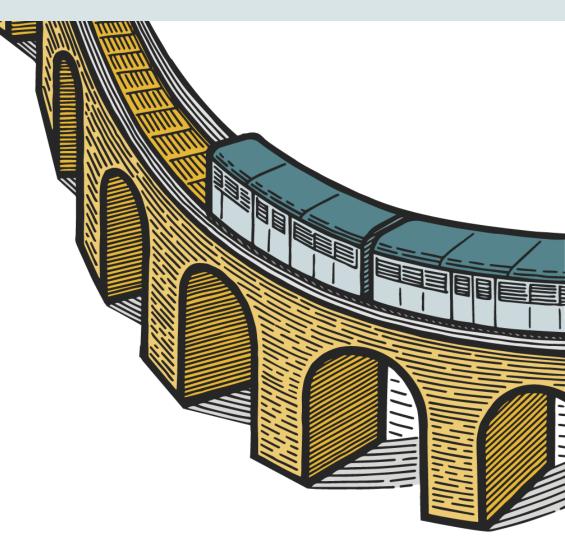
Q&A

## **Town and Country Planning Association**

The **TCPA's vision** is for homes, places and communities in which everyone can thrive.

Our mission is to challenge, inspire and support people to create healthy, sustainable and resilient places that are fair for everyone.





## Campaign for Healthy Homes

www.tcpa.org.uk/collection/campaign-for-healthy-homes

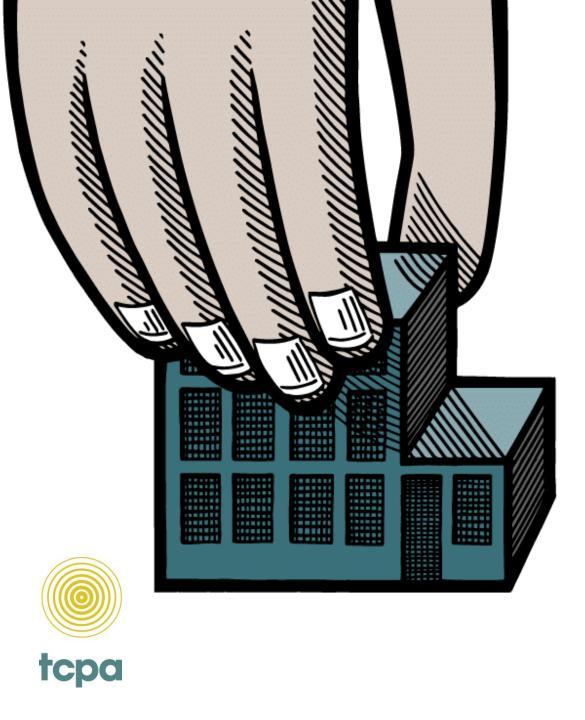


Healthy Homes Pledge



Funded by





Rosalie Callway, Projects & Policy Manager, TCPA

Sally Roscoe, Projects & Policy Officer, TCPA



Town and Country Planning Association Working to secure homes, places and commu 17 Carlton House Terrace London, SW1Y 5AS

a A guide for local government in England on adopting the Healthy Hymas Principles

Securing Healthy Homes at the local level

A guide for local government in England on adopting the Healthy Homes Principles

June 202



## **Securing Healthy Homes Locally**



1. Overview

2. The case for healthy homes

3. Implementation approaches

4. Managing housing quality from permitted development

5. Resources and references

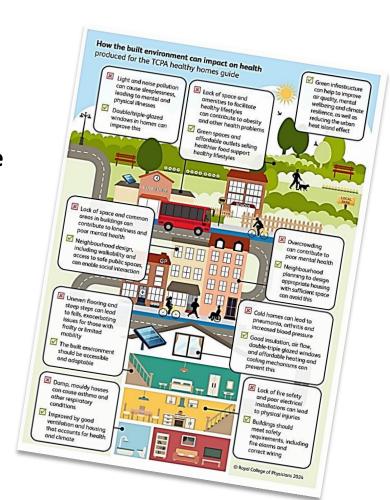


## 1. The Case for Healthy Homes

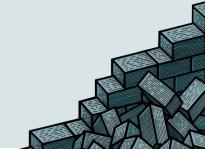
### Housing and health disconnect

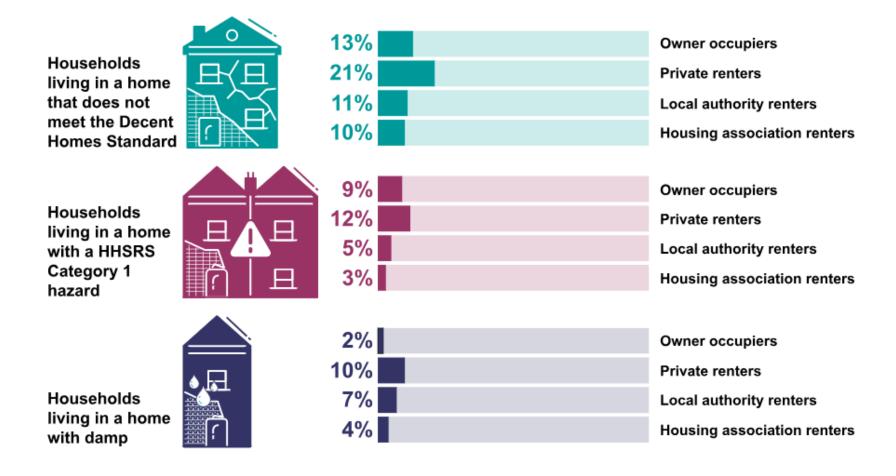
- Over one in ten people in the UK live in homes that are not 'decent' (4 million homes)
- Those living in poor-quality homes are twice as likely to have poor health - 700,000 'excess deaths due to cold, poorly insulated homes and 15.7 million UK homes fail the bedroom overheating criterion
- Poor housing costs society £18.5bn annually, and the NHS at least £2bn a year to treat <u>preventable</u> illnesses – e.g. respiratory and cardiovascular diseases, mental health, and mortality.
- Deregulation of housing through 'Permitted Development' risks poor health outcomes – e.g. structural safety, accessibility, overheating rules don't apply.





## 1. The Case for Healthy Homes



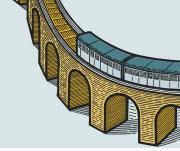


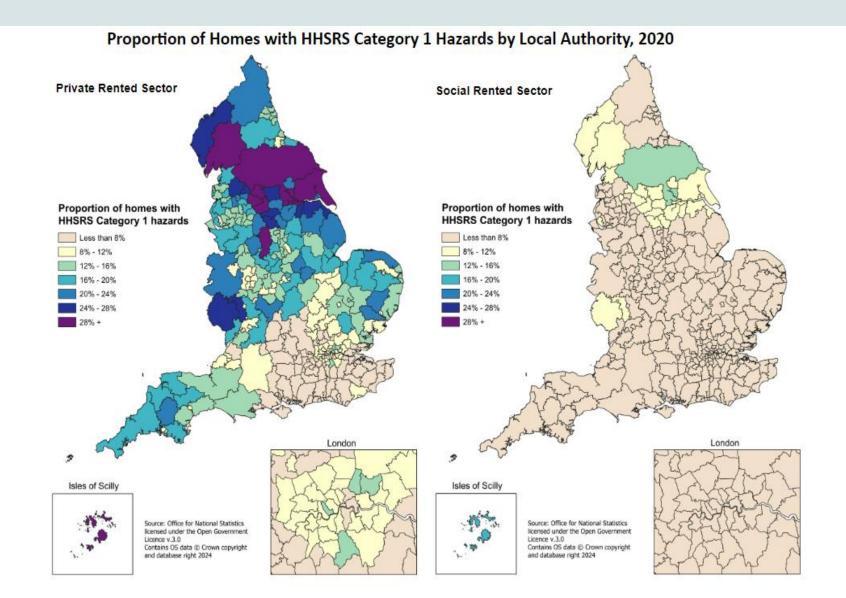


More than 1 in 10 dependent children in England live in non-decent housing.

Source: MHCLG 2024

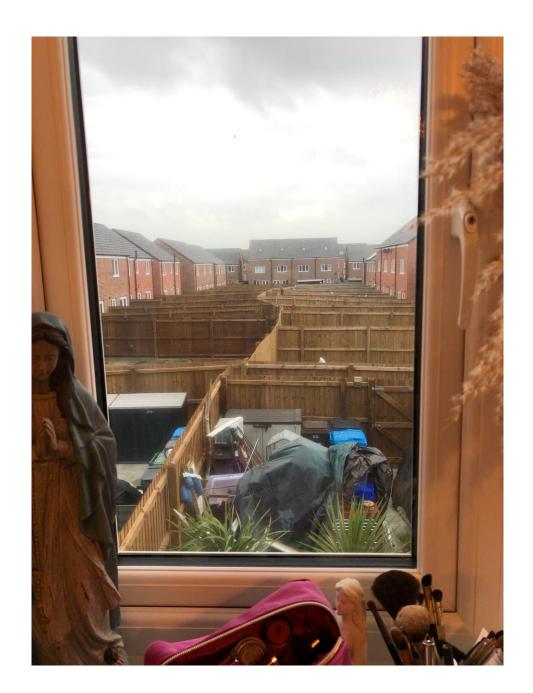
## 1. The Case for Healthy Homes







Source: MHCLG 2024

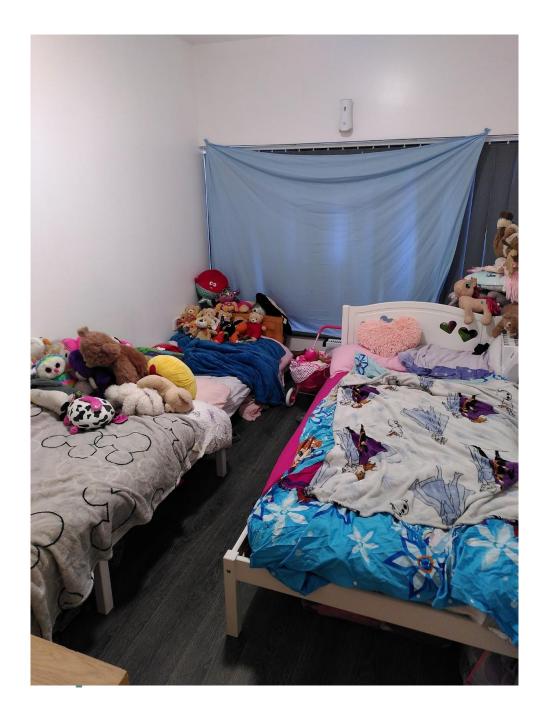


## Woolwich: Developers ordered to demolish 'mutant' apartment blocks

© 27 September 2023







## Shock as Joseph Rank House residents told they must leave today following "significant fire safety concerns."

General / Fri 28th Jun 2024 at 09:21am



## **Healthy Homes Principles**



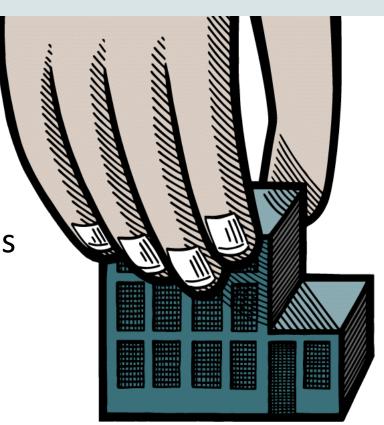




## 3. Implementation

- Council motion
- Corporate plan
- Local plan policies
- Healthy Homes Principles targeted local policies
- Supplementary Planning Documents
- Design codes
- Neighbourhood plans





## 3. Implementation – Development Charter



## **Hertfordshire**'s **Development Quality Charter**

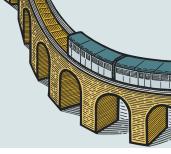
"This Charter has a simple ambition – to set and achieve a new benchmark for high quality and sustainable development."

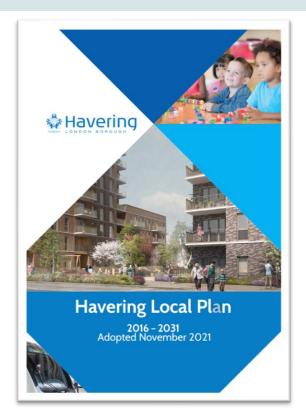
Prepared by Herefordshire Growth Board





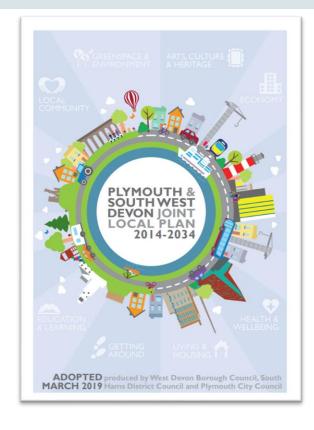
### 3. Implementation – Local Plan Policies





## London Borough of Havering LP P12 Healthy Communities

- Access to amenities, nature and transport
- Safety from crime
- Minimising exposure to pollutants
- Climate resilient and reductions in emissions
- HIA of major developments



## Plymouth and South West Devon Joint LP EV1 Protecting Health and amenities

- Access to natural light
- Limit noise pollution
- Inclusive, accessible and adaptable
- HIA for planning applications with a likely significant health impact



## 3. Implementation – specific HH principles



## City of Bristol – Net zero and climate topic paper

- NZC1: Climate change, sustainable design and construction.
- NZC2: Net zero carbon development operational carbon.
- NZC3: Embodied carbon, materials and circular economy.
- NZC4: Adaptation to a changing climate

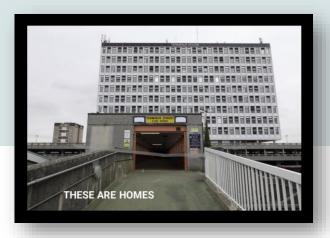
Bristol Local Plan (November 2023, amended April 2024) Net zero and climate topic paper

"Policy NZC2 requires that residential development achieves a maximum energy use intensity (EUI) of 35kWh/m²/year. This includes both regulated and unregulated energy consumption."

Prepared by Bristol City Council



## 4. Housing quality built under PDR



- Over 100,000 PDR homes between 2015 and 2023 (6% of total)
- Deregulation through PDR emphases quantity not quality of homes: Poor quality illustrated in the TCPA's photobook – These are Homes
- Many lack adequate space, security and fire safety, proper ventilation, excess cold and heat, and are noisy (due to poor insulation), damp, lack windows or natural light, poor access to green space and local amenities.
- PDR undermines developer S106 contributions, to affordable homes and amenities.
- Residents can have insecure 'licences to occupy' rather than tenancy agreements.



## **PDR** policies



	Example
Article 4 Directions	<b>Richmond on Thames</b> : Article 4 Directions removes permitted development rights to change from B1(a) offices to C3 residential. Maps where this Article relates to within the Borough is listed.
Prior Approval Conditions	The scope of conditions is limited by central government, as defined by the <u>Town and</u> <u>Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015</u> .
Section 257	Harrow: Houses in Multiple Occupation Harrow has applied requirements for landlords of PDR HMOs to apply for an additional licence under Section 257.
Local Plan policy	Southwark Local Plan 2022: P15 Residential Design  2. All new build and conversions to residential development must take into consideration the site context, the impact on the amenity of adjoining occupiers, and the quality of accommodation as follows (tenure blind, space and window provisions, equal access to outdoor play space, mitigation of overheating and ensuring good ventilation)





Jennifer Dudley Product Manager – Residential Housing, BRE



## **BREEAM**®

WWW.BREEAM.COM

## BREEAM Home Quality Mark

Delivered by Jen Dudley





## Holistic sustainability framework, and third-party verified certification recognising and showcasing performance beyond regulatory minimums









#### **Our Surroundings**

My Home

**Delivery** 

Transport & Movement

Comfort

Quality Assurance

Outdoors

Materials

Energy

Construction Impacts

Safety & Resilience

Space

Customer Experience

Water





www.homequalitymark.com



**HQM ONE** has achieved: Outstanding My wellbeing My footprint My costs

has been assessed to:

© 815 CHEW UN 2023



### Who is using HQM?





#### **Dandara Living**

Dandara Living chose HQM as a solution to their sustainability challenges due to its standardised sustainability benchmarking, which resonated well with both investors and residents.

Lesley Treacy, Head of ESG, at Dandara Living said "HQM's holistic framework was instrumental in integrating our ESG strategy into our projects."

#### City of London Corporation

As early adopters of HQM, the City Corporation's approach serves as a model for sustainable urban development. Their commitment to high standards in social housing projects sets a benchmark for future endeavours.

"HQM's focus on aspects positively impacting health and wellbeing, particularly Post Occupancy Evaluation (POE) objectives, provided targeted solutions," Michael Gwyther-Jones, Head of New Developments & Special Projects

## **BREEAM**®

## Thank you

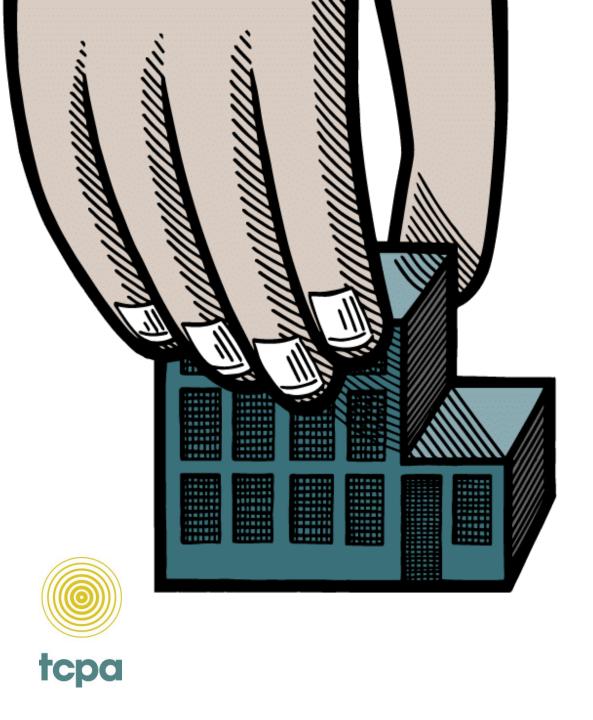
To discuss BREEAM further and begin your sustainability journey, please get in touch with us now.

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Website: <a href="www.breeam.com">www.breeam.com</a>
Twitter: @BRE\_BREEAM

Linkedin: https://www.linkedin.com/showcase/breeam-official/





Emily O'Brien Green Party Councillor for Ouse Valley & Ringmer

Nathan Haffenden Assistant Director – Property and Development





## The Journey

 May 2019 | new alliance took control of the council resulting in a big policy "shake-up".

November 2020 |
 Palmerstone House
 completed, the council's first
 modular development and
 commitment to sustainable
 housebuilding.

• July 2021 | the council approved a motion becoming one of the first councils to adopt Healthy Homes.

 May 2024 | the council signed-up to the TCPA Pledge.







- ☐ Strive to ensure that the principles of Healthy Homes and Places are met to create the highest quality places for residents which will be a fitting legacy for future generations;
- □ Review related policies, processes and procedures as part of current Local Plan review, and develop and adopt new policies, to ensure that all new development is in line with the Healthy Homes and Places Principles;
- Make the Healthy Homes and Places principles through policies and design codes an integral part of council decision making on housing and planning; and
- ☐ Ensure the next review of the Corporate Plan includes healthy homes and places as a priority.



## **New Homes Principles**

Principle 1: Creating places, communities, and homes that our residents need

Principle 2: Building quality and healthy homes

Principle 3: Maximising social value in housing development to benefit local people

**Principle 4:** Minimising environmental impact and making homes more affordable

**Principle 5:** Optimising location, sustainable transport, and connectivity

#### Principle 2

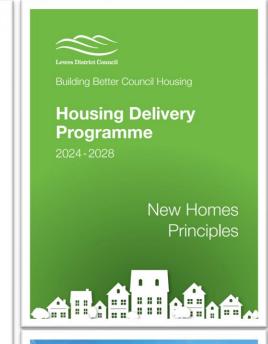
#### **Building quality** and healthy homes

#### We will...

- · Deliver all new homes in accordance with the council's Lettable Standard - ensuring high and consistent levels of property decency that will be easily maintainable.
- · Strive to ensure that the principles of Healthy Homes are met - creating the highest quality places for our residents and future generations.
- Develop new build homes to nationally described and technical space standards ensuring our homes are spacious, comfortable, naturally lit, and fit for purpose, including adequate storage provision.
- · Build new homes with exemplary levels of fire safety and in accordance with current regulations and statue.
- · Design homes for both current and future generations - promoting independence and considering the growth in multi-generational and co-living. Adherence to the nationally described and technical space standards as above may however need to be reviewed for 'non-traditional' housing types.
- New build homes should be designed with consideration of industry benchmarks and good practice in relation to safety and security, such as the Secure by Design standards designing out crime and ensuring our residents feel safe within their homes.

understands the value of living in a quality environment. It is important that our residents feel safe and secure in their homes, whilst also living in spaces that positively contribute to their health and wellbeing.

- Provide outdoor and open spaces wherever possible - incorporating planted areas, growing spaces, and new community and urban gardening initiatives. Where this is not practical within the parameters of the development site, we will work with partners to link new homes to other existing open spaces.
- Increase biodiversity on all new housing developments - in excess of planning requirements, where practicable.
- Monitor and evaluate our new communities and neighbourhoods - learning lessons to inform future housing developments.













Katja Stille Director – Planning and Urban Design, Tibbalds





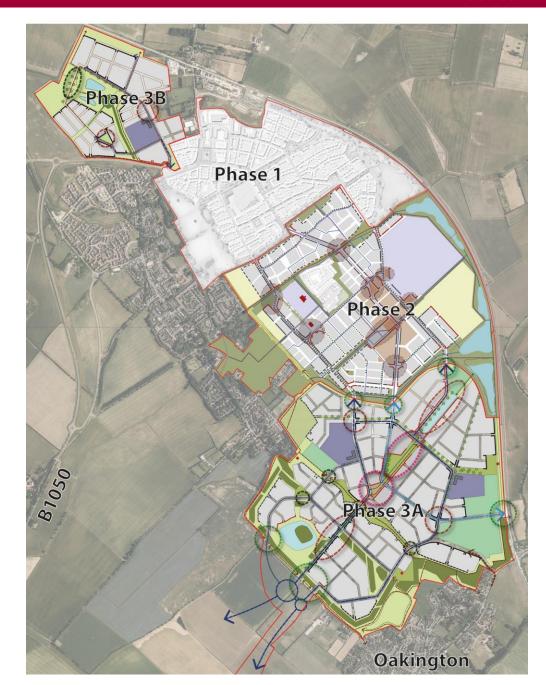
#### **Northstowe: A 'Healthy New Town'**

#### **Priorities:**

- Deliver a healthy community through a framework of interventions which can be applied as the town develops;
- Create a healthy town through infrastructure and place shaping; and
- Develop a new model of care for Northstowe.

'The delivery of open space, landscape, and green infrastructure to create nudge and pull factors and maximise opportunities for positive lifestyle choices around obesity.'

'The provision to cater for all ages and abilities with a focus on dementia and older people.'



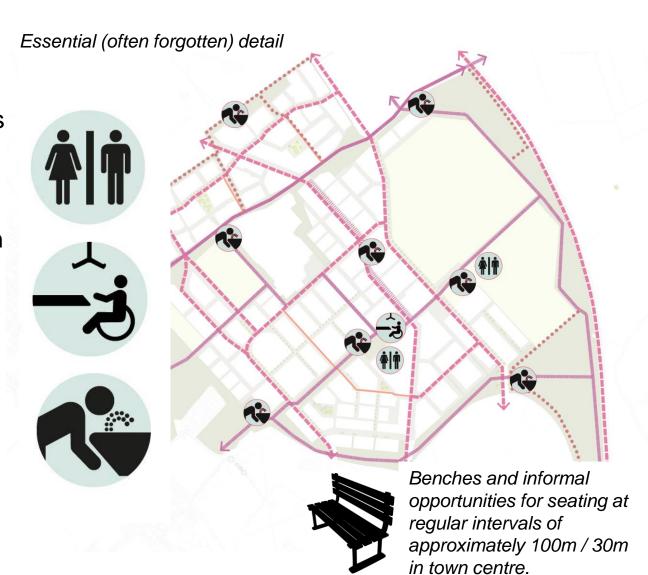
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## Northstowe: A 'Healthy New Town' Framework for Masterplans & Code

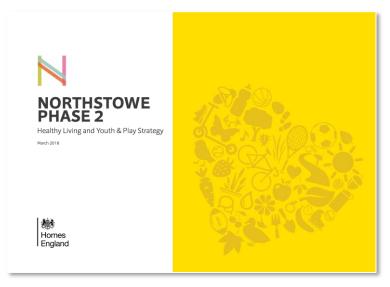
- Walking and cycle opportunities for all
  - variety of routes for all abilities: segregated routes, shared traffic free routes, quiet streets
  - networks of safe cycle routes every 250m
- Access to nature
  - all homes are within 300m from a public open space
- Play / Activity for All
  - focus on activity for all
  - one play streets per block
  - doorstop play / play on the way on routes to school
- Remember the 'small' elements that make a big difference.



#### Northstowe: A 'Healthy New Town'

- Better together: higher densities allow walkable neighborhoods
- Positive choices: allowing behavior change
- Play and activity for all ages and abilities
- Everything matters: strategic to detail





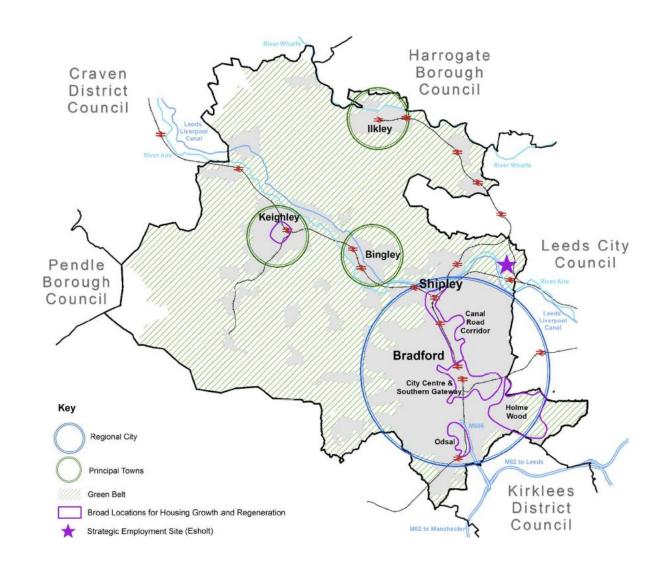
Healthy Living Youth and Play Strategy © CBA





## Bradford Design Code Pathfinder Bradford District context

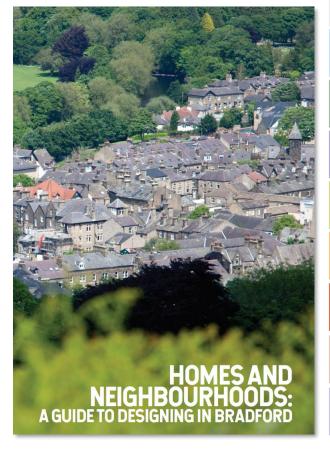
- Large and fast-growing metropolitan district
- Very diverse in terms of population, settlements, landscape and topography
- A need for 30,000 new homes in the District by 2040
- The majority of new homes (about 80%) proposed to be located in main urban areas
- Big disparities across the District one third of wards are within 10% most deprived in the country



## Bradford Homes and Neighbourhoods Guide Planning and regeneration context

"The district is facing significant health challenges, including some of the highest rates of childhood illness in the UK and serious concerns over air quality in certain areas. And Bradford is the 11th most deprived district in England.

There is overwhelming evidence that the environment in which we live affects our health and well-being. The Council is seeking to tackle these issues to resolve the underlying causes of illness, inequality and short life expectancy."



#### OUR VISION IS FOR GREEN, SAFE, INCLUSIVE AND DISTINCTIVE NEIGHBOURHOODS THAT CREATE HEALTHY COMMUNITIES FOR ALL

CHOICE

A broad variety of adaptable and efficient homes that are affordable to build and run



2 GREEN

Green streets and spaces and connected networks of green infrastructure



**3** INCLUSIVE

Accessible, inclusive and connected places with clear pedestrian routes



4 HEALTHY

Healthy and connected neighbourhoods that promote wellbeing and community life



5 DISTINCTIVE

Neighbourhoods with identity, reflecting the district's varied character



6 SLOPES

Opening up views and designing to make the most of the topography and ground



**7** EFFICIENT

Using resources efficiently to achieve climate resilient development



8 PROCES

Making design and planning processes work together



#### **Bradford: Engagement (Guide and Code)**

#### **Most popular responses:**

- New homes should be easier and cheaper to heat
- Better sound insulation is needed
- Streets should have wider/clutter-free footpaths and be safe for children to walk/cycle
- No.1 priority for new development in Bradford is energy efficiency
- 80% of people think net zero / low carbon development is important

"THE LOBBY IS WHERE
I'M MOST LIKELY TO MEET
MY NEIGHBOURS, SO I'M
HAPPY TO HELP LOOK
AFTER THE PLANTS"



"DO YOU KNOW WHAT MAKES ME HAPPY? LIVING SOMEWHERE WITH BIG WINDOWS AND LOTS OF LIGHT"



"IS IT TOO MUCH TO ASK TO HAVE A HOUSE WHERE YOU CAN'T HEAR THE NEIGHBOURS' CONVERSATION THROUGH THE WALLS?"



"I'VE ALWAYS WANTED
TO LIVE SOMEWHERE
LIKE THIS THAT LOOKS AS
THOUGH IT WAS DESIGNED
BY A REAL HUMAN BEING"



#### **Tibbalds**

#### From principle to code

#### From Guide to Code

Design
guidance
section

#### Summary of the section's contents

's ts

What design topics does it contain?

#### DEFINING A BRIEF

This section sets out a method for thorough site and context analysis. This is critical to understanding key opportunities and constraints, such as local character, identity and topography, before moving on to design. It also sets out the key ingredients that make a successful place for people.

### 1.1 Establish a project bri 1.2 Site and context analy

- 1.3 Responding to character
- 1.4 Making places for people
- 1.5 Prioritise the environment

### 2 CREATING A NEIGHBOURHOOD

Using the brief created in Section 1, this section explains how to define the strategies for a robust and justified concept, masterplan and neighbourhood. This section considers the macro scale, encouraging applicants to resolve the issues here, before designing the home in Section 3.

- 2.1 Define a concept
- 2.2 Density and scale
- 2.3 Movement
- 2.4 Green streets
- 2.5 Safe and characterful streets
- 2.6 Open space
- 2.7 Water and drainage
- 2.8 Landscape
- 2.9 Biodiversity
- 2.10 Play
- 2.11 Housing mix
- 2.12 Topography and ground conditions
- 2.13 Roofs and building forms
- 2.14 Key buildings and corners
- 2.15 Parking
- 2.16 Waste
- 2.17 Making inclusive places

### MAKING A HOME

This guidance sets out the detail design guidance for homes. The design should respond clearly to the design brief created in Section 1, and develop from the scheme concept, masterplan and neighbourhood principles in Section 2.

- 3.1 Flats and apartments
- 3.2 Internal layout
- 3.3 Storage
- 3.4 Light and ventilation
- 3.5 Outdoorspace
- 3.6 Privacy
- 3.7 Elevations
- 3.8 Materials and details
- 3.9 Energy efficient



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#### Successful front gardens

#### **Design Code**

Measurable requirements to address:

- Anxiety Sense of safety
- Loneliness
- Inactivity
- Obesity

In addition to providing activity and passive surveillance onto streets and surrounding spaces, a building's entrance must feel safe for its user/s at all times.

#### REQUIREMENTS

- Front doors and building entrances must be visible with a clear line of sight from the street/public realm and be clearly identifiable as entrances.
- Communal entrances (e.g. for flats) must provide two-stage entry for security - for example, initial entry to mailbox/delivery area and secondary entry to access building circulation.
- Communal circulation within flats (including the entrance lobby) must provide some amenity for residents, e.g. seating, planting, shared outdoor terraces, child-friendly spaces, etc.
  - Providing circulation via covered outdoor decks can be a healthier, safer, and more convivial solution whilst also allowing dwellings to be dual-aspect (refer E.1).
- Ground floor flats must have their front door accessible from the street.
- In mixed-use buildings, the entrance to apartments must be separate to those for commercial uses, so that they are still highly visible and secure. Access via service yards and the back of buildings is not acceptable.



A well-defined entrance with canopy to provide shelter, and a contemporary interpretation of a low stone wall boundary with planting.





A simple bench provides basic amenity within the entrance lobby of flats.

(left) Colourful doorways and a playful treatment to entrances creates a pleasant feel within the generous circulation space for flats at Park Hill Estate, Sheffield

#### **Streets**

Streets are important areas of public space and must be designed to support public life for all including the mobilityimpaired, families, and the elderly. By making streets inclusive with places to rest and meet neighbours, handrails (where necessary), and wide, clear footpaths, they become safe, inviting and friendly places and subsequently encourage active travel.

Seating should be located to support other activities, and designed and positioned to limit anti-social behaviour and potential noise disturbance to residents. For example, seating could be co-located with bus stops, near building entrances and shops, next to trees for shade, or adjacent to play.

#### REQUIREMENTS

- Streets must provide formal seating (e.g. with backrests) made of robust materials
- no less than every 50m on all streets with gradients over 5%, and
- no less than every 150m on all streets generally.
- Informal seating must be provided on all streets, and may double as doorstep play (refer A.3).
- All seating must be located outside of the clear footpath width (refer B.2) or in dedicated public open space (refer A.2).



Formal seating provides a place to rest and contribute to the overall attractiveness of the street.



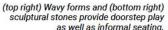
Formal and informal seating in the form of benches, boulders, and tree stumps are located in front of flats, providing amenity and doorstep play. (Photo © Peter Landers, Architect: Karakusevic Carson Architects)

 Handrails must be provided at the back of the footway on all sloping streets with a gradient of 12.5% or greater over a distance of at least 50m.

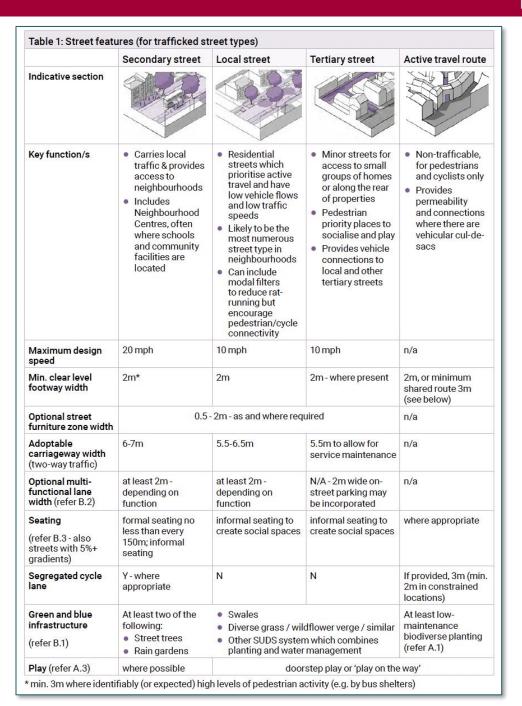


#### **DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED**

Street plans indicating seating type/s and location/s, street furniture details







#### **Play**

The design of public open space must be informed by community consultation and engagement with those specifically who are likely to use the spaces, including children and young people. They must be well-maintained and designed to create safe environments according to guidance provided in Safer parks: Improving access for women and girls. This includes providing clear wayfinding with paths and signage, suitable lighting, and good visibility and openness.

Where developments have more than 300m² of public open space overall, this will be expected to be delivered in at least one large space (meeting requirements below). Multiple small spaces are less usable and more expensive to manage.

#### REQUIREMENTS



Public open space smaller than 300m<sup>2</sup> must include:

- doorstep play;
- at least one formal seating type (e.g. benches);
- access to direct sunlight for at least 3 hours of the day over 80% of the area;
- where boundaries are used, they must be no taller than 1m to allow for natural surveillance of the space; and
- planting.

#### DOCUMENTATION REQUIRED

Open and play space strategy, including layout design, sunlight studies, and management/ maintenance plan



A small area of public open space includes natural elements for doorstep play, such as balance beams and boulders, alongside formal bench seating.



Fagley play area in Bradford was co-designed by local teenage girls to create a safe and inclusive space for the community.

Public open space 300m<sup>2</sup> and larger must include all of the above, and:

- at least two informal seating types (e.g. steps or boulders); and
- at least two elements from 'Make Space for Girls' guidance, e.g:
  - a stage-like area,
  - social exercise spaces,
- social seating.
- swings separate from those provided for young children, and
- low gym bars (not high enough for adult exercise).



Sculpture at Beech Grove, Bradford inspiring playful interactions. (Photo © Better Start Better Place)



Community growing areas are one way of including planting whilst also providing social benefits. (Photo © John Englart)

Bradford-based child and youth research and initiatives including Born in Bradford JU:MP, Act Early and Better Start Better Place have all highlighted the need to improve access to play in the District, particularly in the most deprived wards where there is less safe and well-maintained public play space.

Play can be inspired in many ways. From more traditional equipment, like swings, to simple, robust and low-maintenance features such as boulders, coloured paths, and anything that sparks the imagination. Informal play is encouraged to be inspired by local communities and landscape. Better Start Better Place have installed several successful examples of 'playlets' and doorstep play within Bradford (see images, right).

Dedicated 'formal equipped play' areas must be located outside of the adopted highway. Please refer to the Council's Open Space Audit for these requirements.

#### REQUIREMENTS



All major developments, and minor developments which include areas of public realm, must provide:

- doorstep play, and/or
- 'play on the way' elements on at least one local or tertiary street, or active travel route.



Open and play space strategy, including layout design and management/maintenance plan





Sensory paths and naturalistic features in low-maintenance, robust materials creates attractive areas that invite play within Folkestone Street. (Photos © Better Start Better Place)



(left) Speaking tubes are playful installations that attract interaction from all ages.

(Photo © CatalyticAction charity)

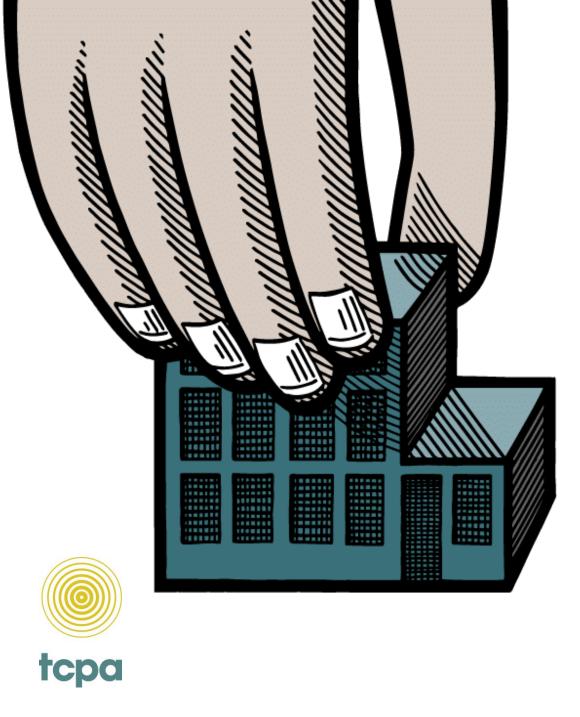


A colourful surface treatment being installed alongside wavy railings provides a 'playlet' for doorstep play along the Canterbury Estate school route. (Photo © Better Start Better Place)

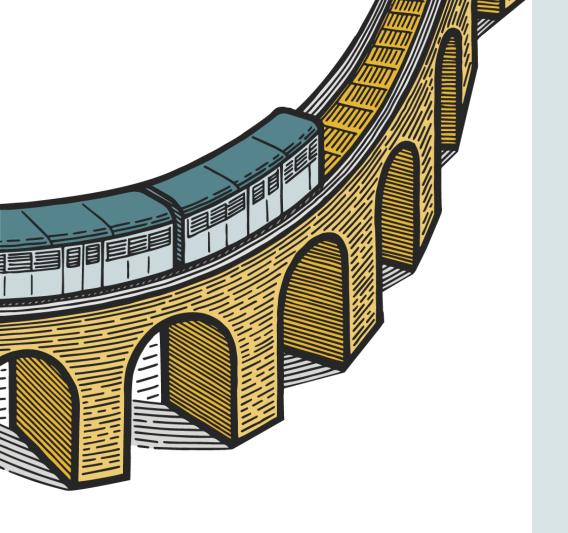


(right) In consultation with girls from the Hollings Youth Association, a well-used snicket in Manningham was upgraded with colourful interventions to make it safer and more inviting. (Photo © Alex Fisher for Street Space)





Q&A





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