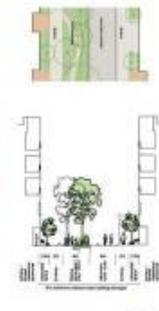
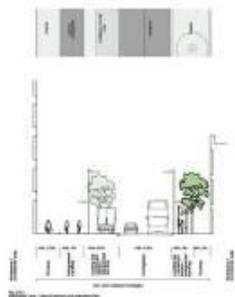


Courtesy: Carla Smyth, LLDC

Design Codes for Housing

14/10/2021

- **Design Codes for housing can be an effective tool to help create great places, and can bring payback later in the process by giving clear information up front.** Where communities are properly involved, codes can also show that local people are serious about development in their area and the minimum expectations that must be met.
- **However, codes don't guarantee good design, and can't be developed in isolation, they are part of an end process which includes the masterplan and parameter plans, setting out design principles.** They need to be tested by design review, and outcomes are key – set your vision at the start and check it at all stages of development and delivery.
- **Codes can work differently for different levels of quality – they need to provide a robust 'floor' which prevents poor quality development.** But they also need to provide a permeable 'ceiling', where exemplary innovative design can go further, challenging requirements where place-making outcomes will clearly be exceeded.
- **Codes can be produced at different scales – with less prescription and more principles and guidance that larger the scale.** Wider codes allow schemes to be bedded in an overall framework, so that the site-specific code can be more targeted and concise, saving time for individual sites.
- **A really important aspect of codes for housing is coherence – this allows you to also include aspects of variety.** Think of a development as a family of buildings, that also needs to be a good neighbour to surrounding schemes. To set code rules, you are taking on the role of the designer and so will need design skills in your team to ensure all aspects are carefully considered, to provide the best results and avoid unintended barriers elsewhere. It's really important to think about the whole journey as the home – from street through common parts or grounds and into the home.



Courtesy: Carla Smyth, LLDC

Speakers:

Paul Dodd, UDL

Laura Alvarez, Senior Principal Urban Design & Conservation Officer, Nottingham City Council

Trovine Monteiro, Team Leader, Built Environment for Cambridge City and SCDC at Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service

Graeme Phillips, Partner, JP Architects

Dhruv Sookhoo, Head of Research and Practice Innovation, Metropolitan Workshop

Alex Ely, Founder, Mae Architects

Ben Castell, Technical Director, AECOM

Carla Smyth, Head of Design, LLDC

Attendees: 72