



## Design Code Options

07.12.2022

- **Apply BIDEN.** Demonstrate consideration of the LURB's reference to the BIDEN principles: Beauty, Infrastructure, Democracy, Environment, Neighbourhood. How does your design code reflect these principles?
- **Distinguish clearly between codes and design/planning guidance.** Design codes are set to hold the same weight as Local Plans and, as such, clear distinctions must be made in terms of what is addressed within design codes and what is further design/planning guidance.
- **MUST, SHOULD, COULD.** Consider what elements within your codes are 'must-haves' and make these aspects clear – set a very clear quality standard.
- **What is your primary axis of distinction?** Codes can be established at multiple scales. Remember you don't have to code for everything! You can decide the way that your codes are grouped – this may be parish boundary, geography or any grouping factor – what works best for you?
- **Codes as an opportunity for community input and community benefit.** An effective design code will convert popular local ideas and community aspirations, that align with local planning policy, into the code. Utilise local knowledge!
- **Design coding as an opportunity for upskilling.** Producing design codes in-house can be challenging with regards to resourcing, however, Local Authorities working in collaboration with local communities through engagement to establish key parameters thereby shaping futures of development can be rewarding for all involved. As such, design coding is an opportunity to harness local talent, aspirations and knowledge through a collaborative approach.
- **'Comply or justify'.** Codes are not aimed to restrict innovation – often, from challenges/constraints, the greatest, most innovative projects emerge. If a project is looking to deviate from local design codes, then allow it to justify this deviation, all the while prioritising quality above all.

**Speakers:****Bookings: 270**

Nicholas Boys Smith, Director, Create Streets

Daniel Bulmer, Associate of Place, Capita & Member of South Woodford Pathfinder

Rebecca Coley, Head of Planning & Development, Trafford Council

Jessica Slater, Principal Planning Officer, East Riding of Yorkshire Council

Pearl Arbenser-Simmonds, Driving force at South Woodford Pathfinder

Paul Cutler, Head of Design & Masterplanning, Urban & Civic