



Understanding Plans & Drawings

16/01/2020

- **If in doubt – don't worry and ask.** Plans and drawings can be complex and confusing; don't be embarrassed to ask the obvious questions if you don't understand and give yourself time to check details.
- **Scale and north points are very important.** These reference points will help you understand what is being proposed and how the scheme will fit within its wider context; the neighbouring buildings and streets and spaces beyond the 'red-line'.
- **Be careful when considering different plan types together.** A 'floor plan' of a building is actually a section; it shows a slice through the building at 1m above floor level. Whilst 'landscape' plans show the ground plane.
- **'Walk' the scheme as a resident would.** Imagine how you would get from a flat to a lift, entrance, refuse area or bus stop. Considering plans at a 'pedestrian scale' often reveals problems with the designs.
- **Take care with CGI mock-ups.** They can be useful in giving a flavour of what is proposed but they can skew dimensions, perspectives, distances, sun penetration etc. Seek Accurate Visual Representations, photo montages and scale models to really understand and interrogate proposals in 3 dimensions. Ensuring that what is shown at planning is implemented by making the desired materiality and detailing of a scheme subject to planning conditions.

Speakers:

Paul Dodd, Urban Designer, UDL
Esther Kurland, Director, UDL

Attendees: 70