

16.06.2025

Tom Sykes

Common Works

Architects for Communities

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architects and urban designers

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working with public sector organisations community groups

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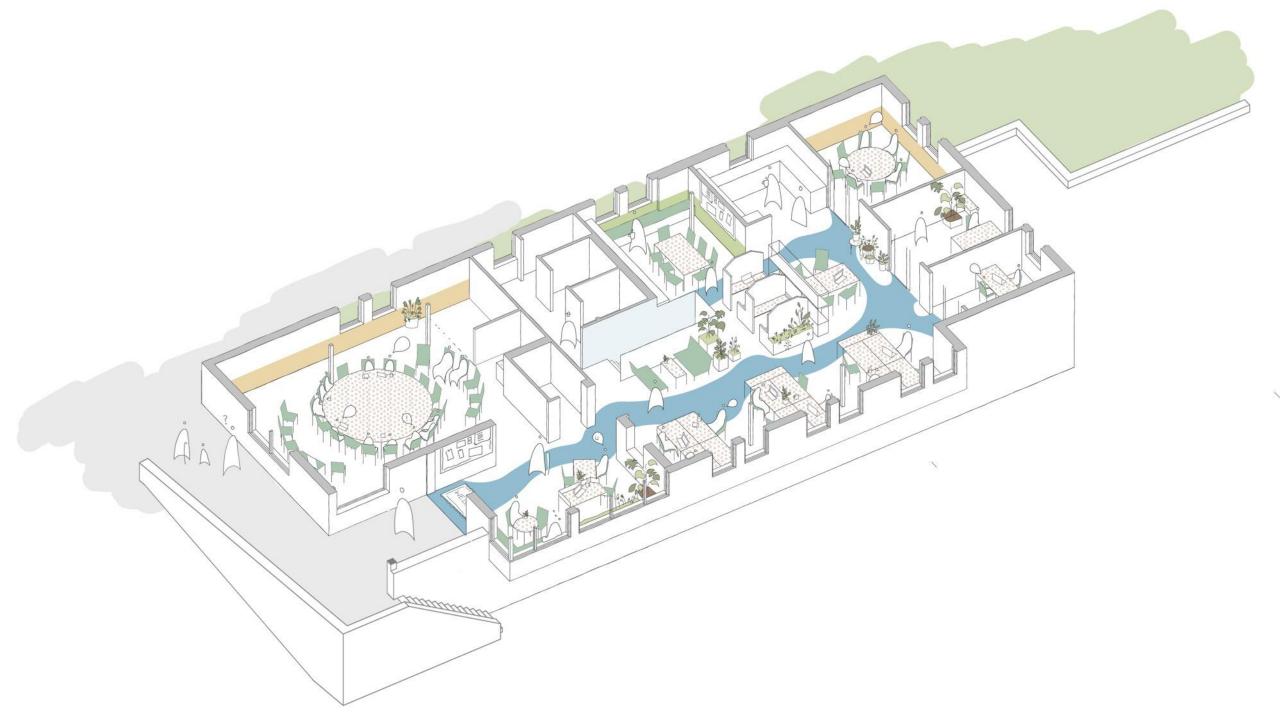
architects and urban designers

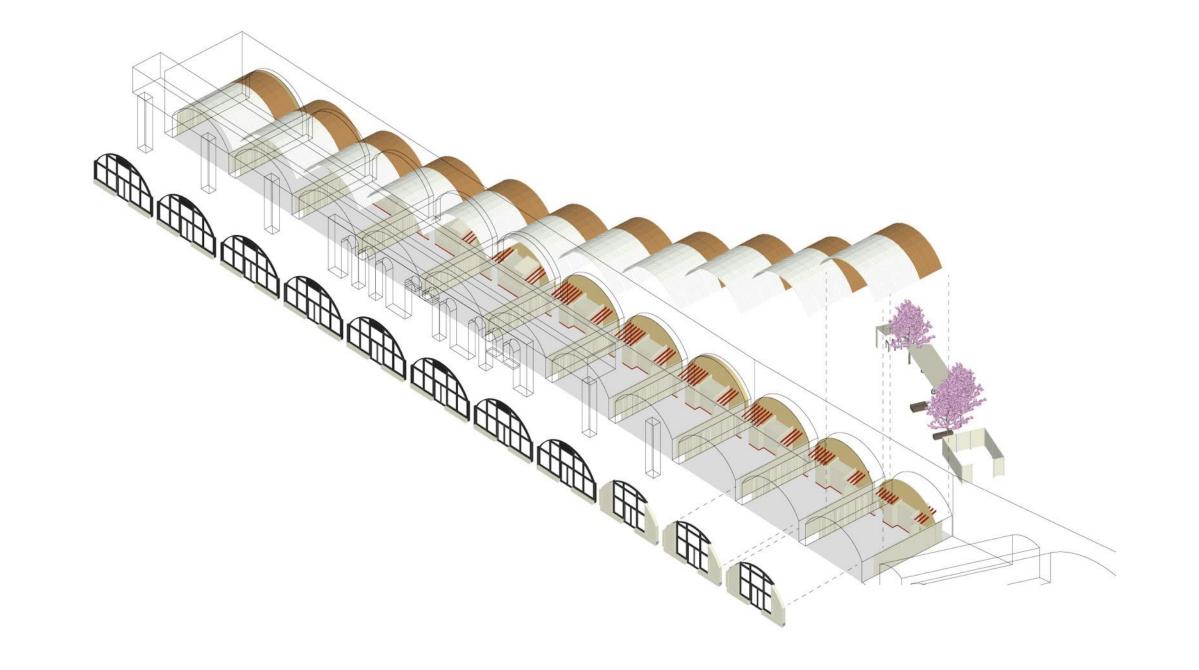
working with public sector organisations community groups

to create places that spark a sense of connection architecture and design that builds community













#### Guiding principles

This page illustrates a set of guiding principles that offer some flexibility to individual runs, customers and tenants, whilst staying true to a consistent, aesthetic approach across our portfolio:

- Street furniture should be durable and easy to maintain
- Establish permitted zones for temporary maintenance and repair equipment
- Consider secondary wayfinding signage for landlord assets and safety signs

the arch

- Consider a common services trench
  to avoid external tenant plant
- Include permanent furniture, including seating and cycle parking
- Use permeable paving and other sustainable urban drainage systems
- Encourage wildlife, rain gardens and ecology where possible

28

- 8 Integrate 'play on the way' trail adjacent to connecting routes
- Make an arch available for use as a shared or community amenity







### 1,500,000

### homes











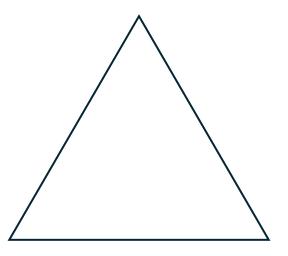




### 1,500,000

### homes

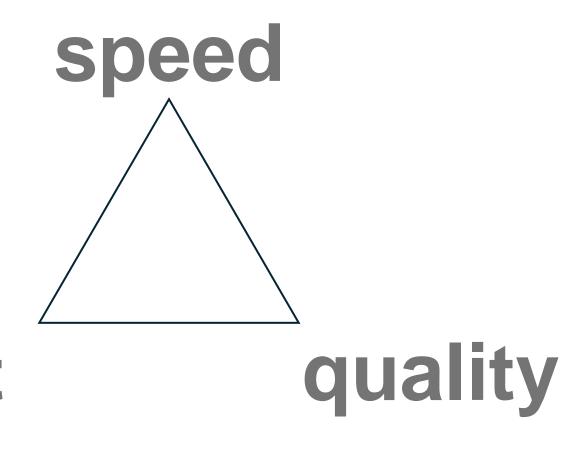
### 1,500,000 homes that we're proud of



## speed /

# speed /

cost



cost

### speed quality cost

## speed quality cost

# speed

cost

quality

# sped

cost

quality

## if they aren't good

## if they aren't good don't fit in

if they aren't good don't fit in don't contribute

# if they aren't shaped by the place they're in

## if they aren't shaped by the place they're in and they people they are for

## homes should be shaped by the place they're in and they people they are for

## a home is more than a house

# a home is more than a house it's a whole place

## set a manifesto

Thermal envelopes

Acoustic separation

Form factor

**Urban integration** 

**Swift bricks** 

**Material choices** 

**Cycle infrastructure** 

**Sustainable locations** 

**Shading** 

**Energy generation** 

**Front doors** 

Internal daylight

Orientation

**Layout choices** 

**Parking** 

**Street scenes** 

**Connections** 

Walkability

Flooding and attenuation

**Trees and planting** 

Window sizes

Wall thicknesses

Roofscapes

Bins and bikes

Water use

**Land audits** 

**Urban** grain

Social infrastructure

Public realm

Land value capture

**Affordability** 

Private amenity space

### Thermal envelopes

**Acoustic separation** 

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**Private amenity space** 







### the front door





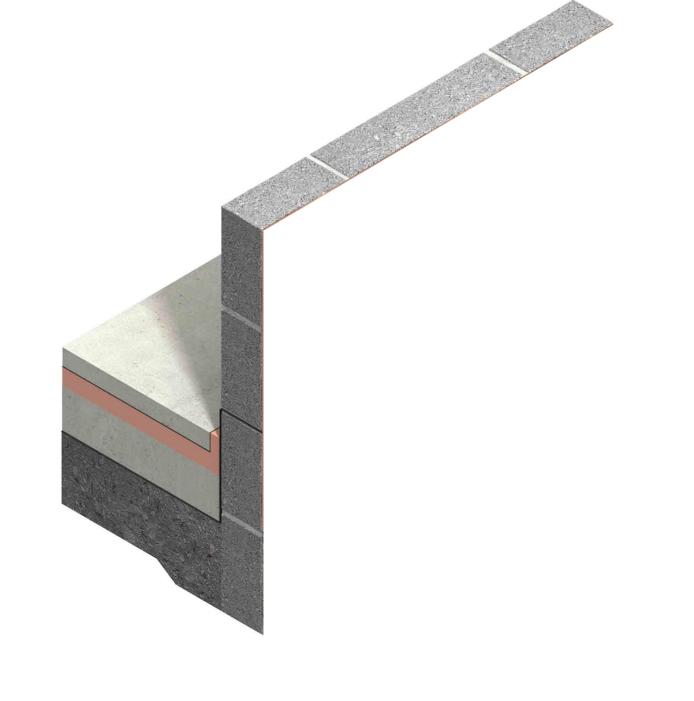


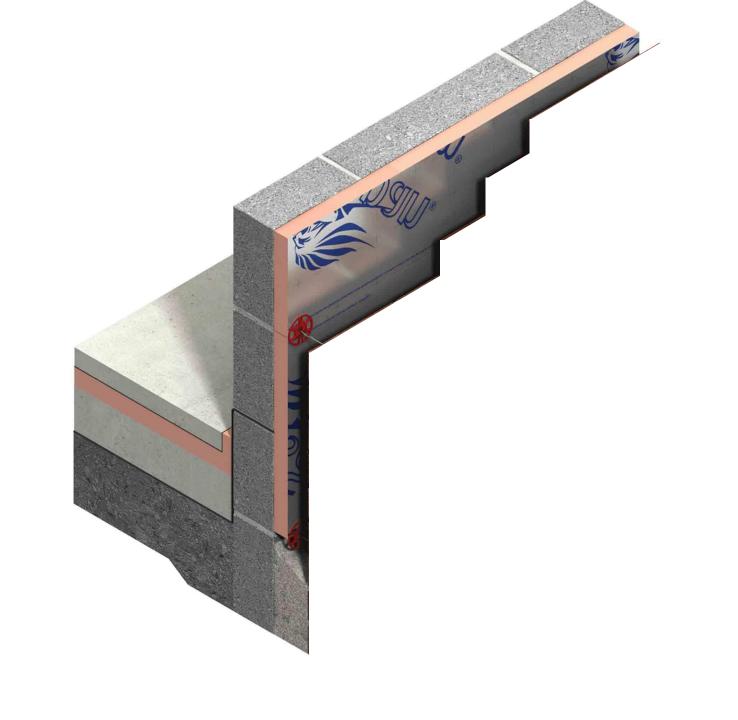
### materials

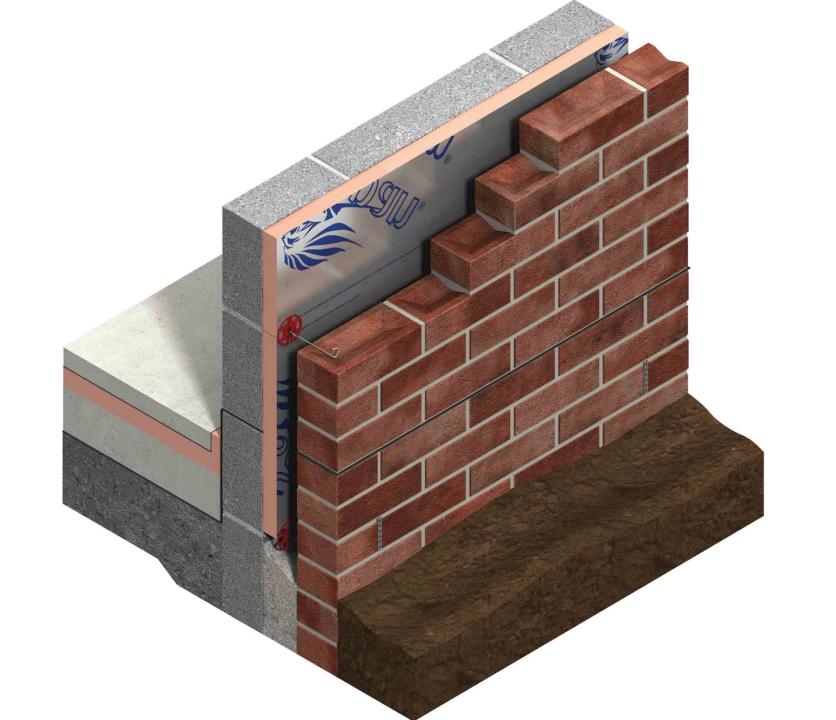












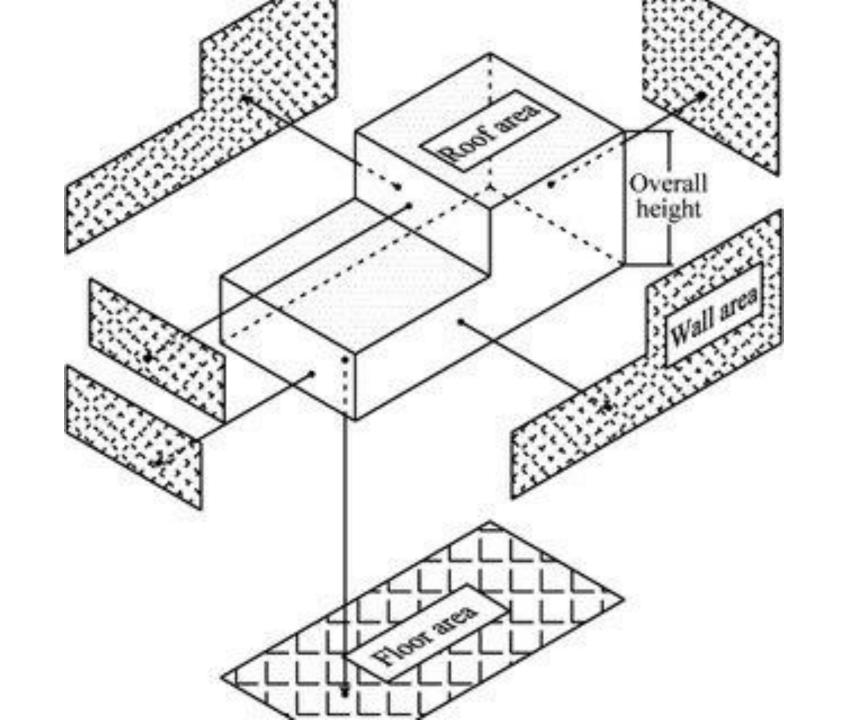








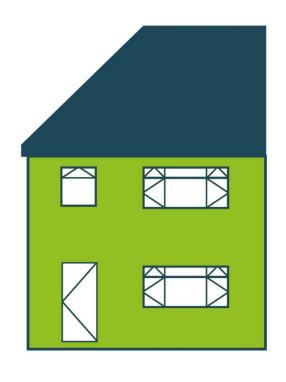
### form factor











BUNGALOW FORM FACTOR 4

3 STOREY MID-TERRACE TOWNHOUSE

**FORM FACTOR 1.8** 

2 STOREY SEMI-DETACHED FORM FACTOR 2.8



### solar gains

















## thermal losses

### Barratt set to build 728 Passivhaus homes across London

By Alex Funk | 20 May 2025













#### Proposed rollout spans two schemes in partnership with Places for London

Barratt London has announced plans to build an initial 728 sustainable homes across two schemes in what is believed to be the largest Passivhaus rollout in the country.

The developer said its Lo-E Homes will meet and exceed Passivhaus, a standard for comfortable, climate-resilient and low-energy buildings.

Barratt will begin its rollout in its upcoming developments in High Barnet and Acton's Bollo Lane. both of which are being delivered in partnership with Places for London, which is Transport for London's property and development arm.

The Lo-E home was created by a team of experts, including Passivhaus designers and building physicists Beyond Carbon, to be able to handle future heatwave conditions like those experienced in the capital in July 2022.



Barratt's Bollo Lane scheme in Actor

### **Barratt Commits to Making Every London Development Meet Passivhaus** Standards



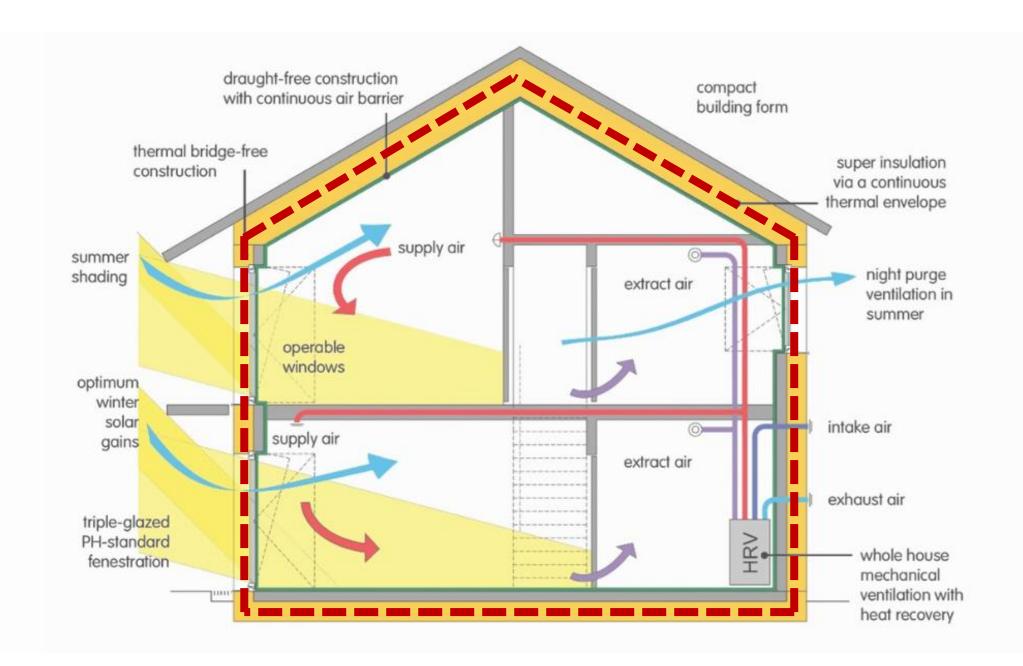
Image Credit: Barratt London

Barratt London is making a bold move: all its future developments will now follow Passivhaus design principles. The goal is to slash residents' energy bills while keeping homes cool even as London faces increasingly frequent heatwaves.

Barratt London teamed up with Passivhaus designers, building physicists, and other experts to craft this strategy, creating the 'Lo-E' approach. This isn't just another buzzword – it's about embracing a global building standard that demands top-tier energy efficiency and comfort. Passivhaus buildings harness natural heating,

10 W/m<sup>2</sup>

## 100 W/m<sup>2</sup>



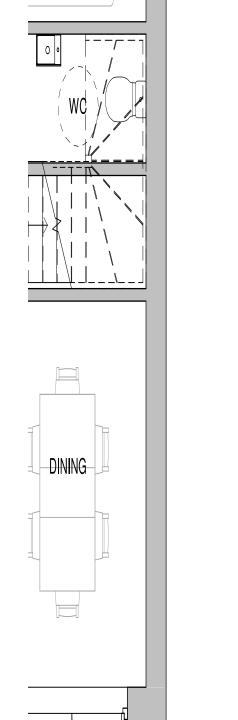


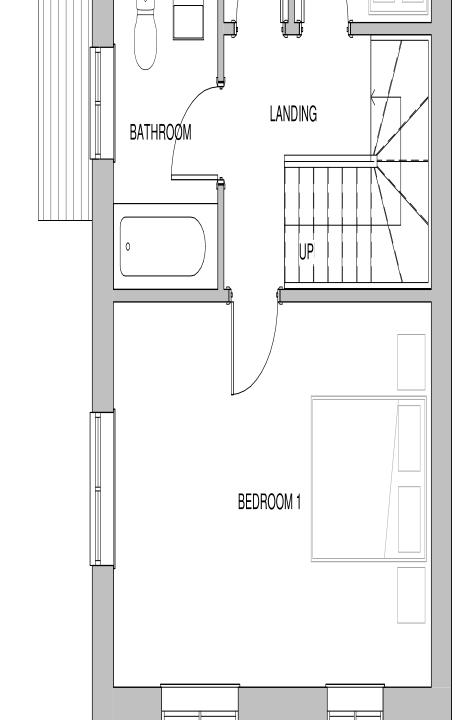
# layout

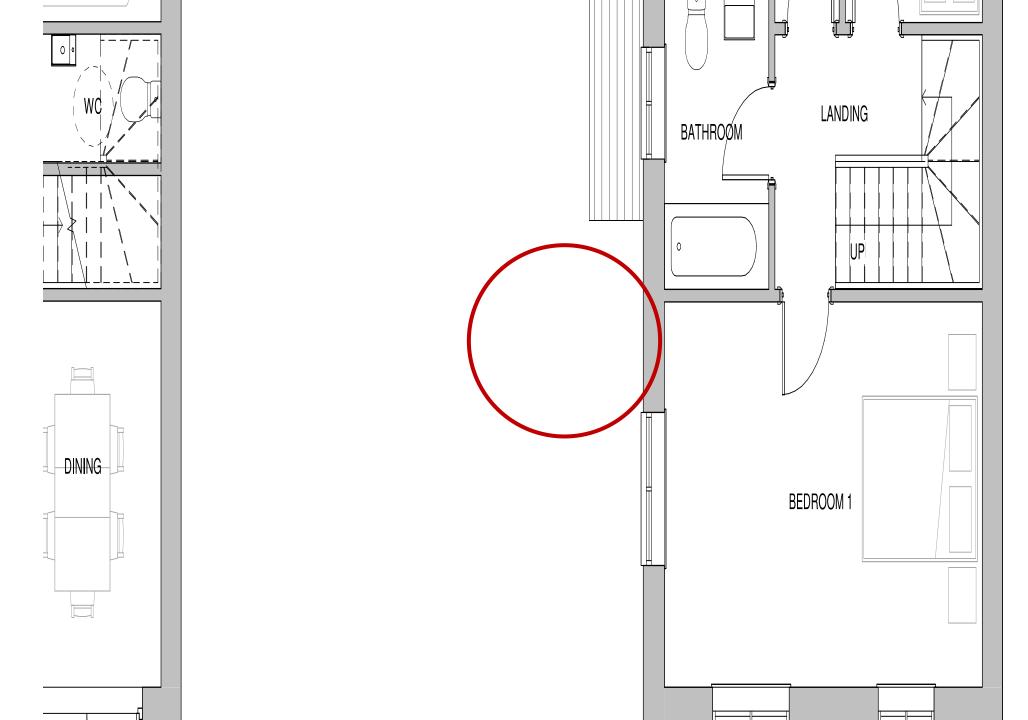


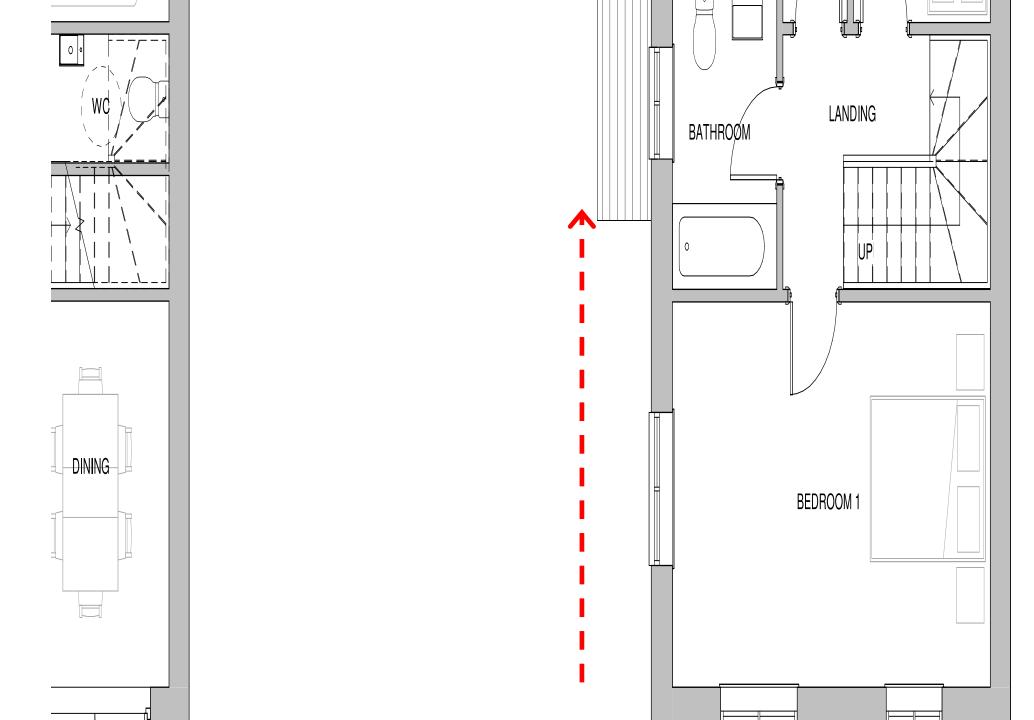


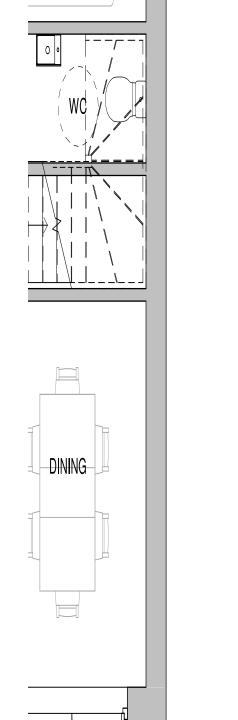


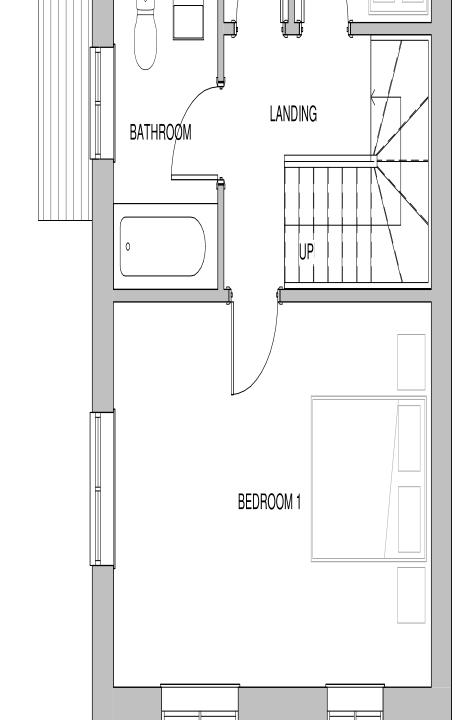


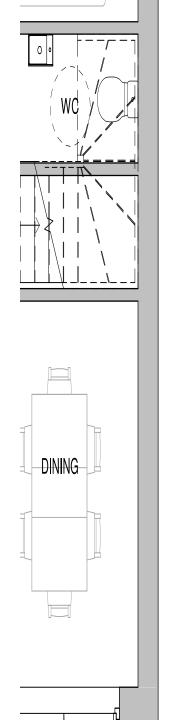


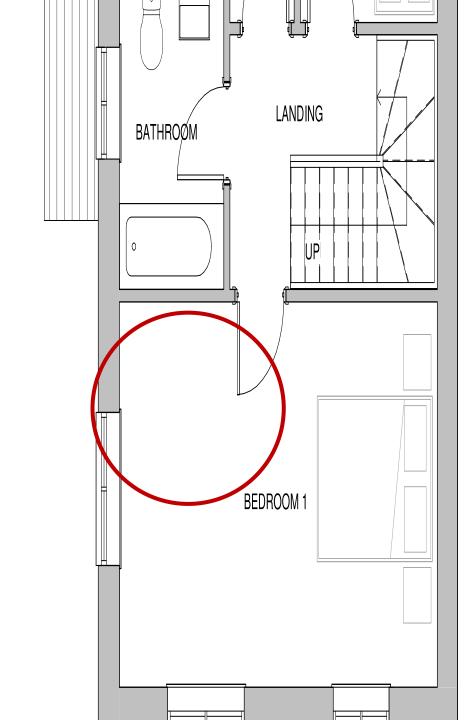


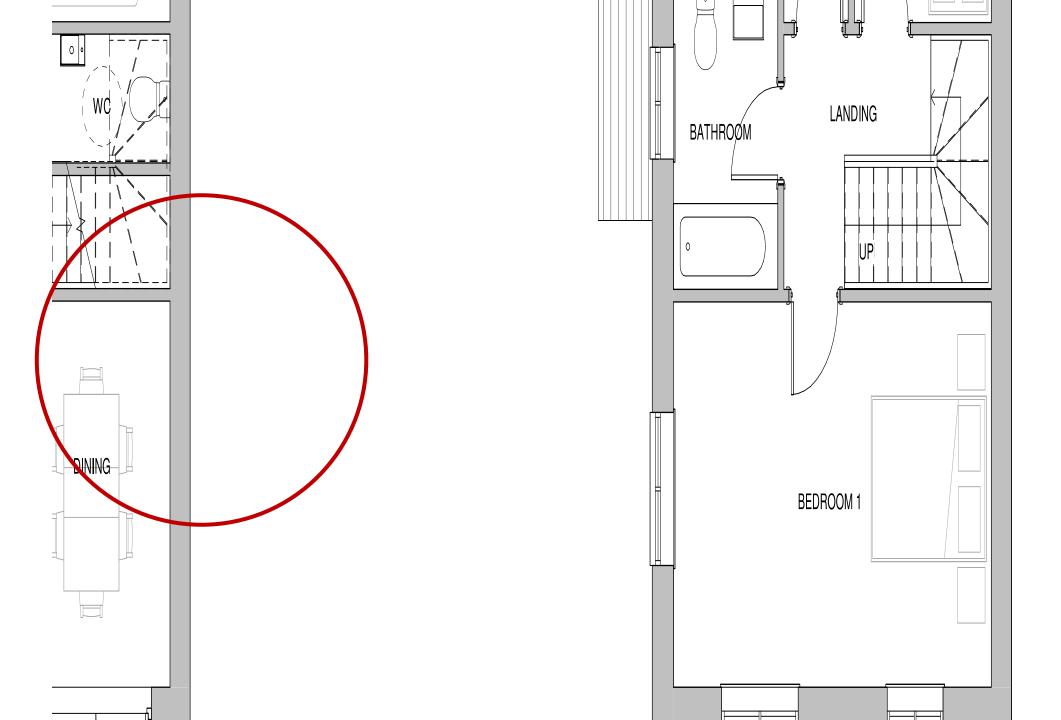






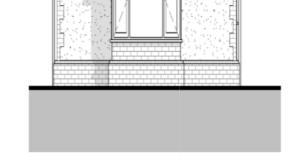








1:100



### **Side Elevation 2**

1:100





### **Side Elevation 1A**

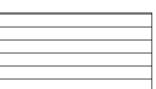
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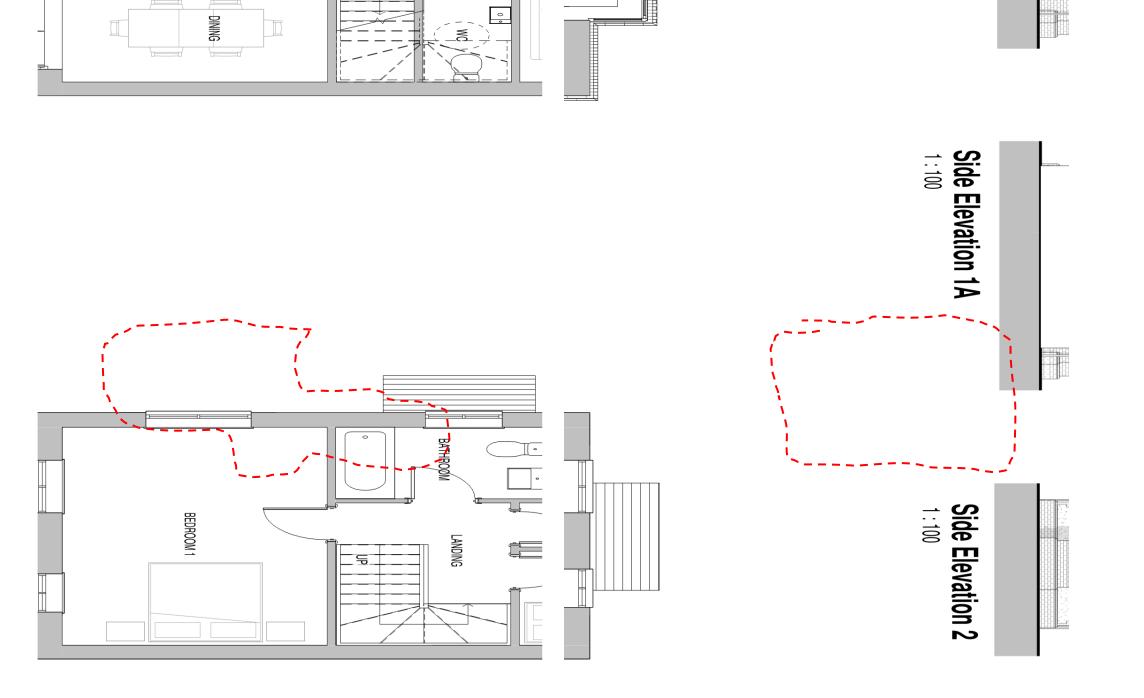


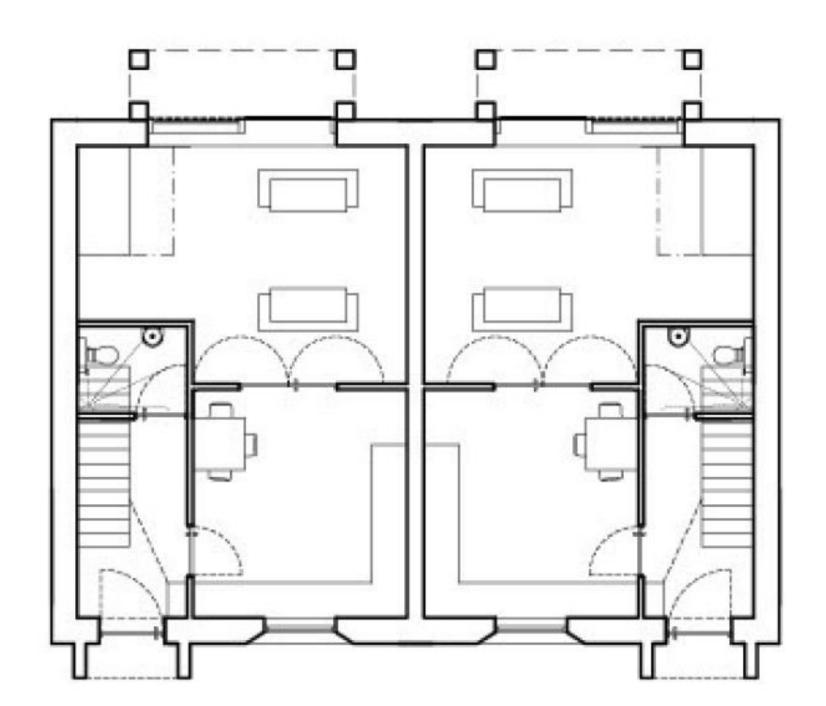
### **Side Elevation 2**

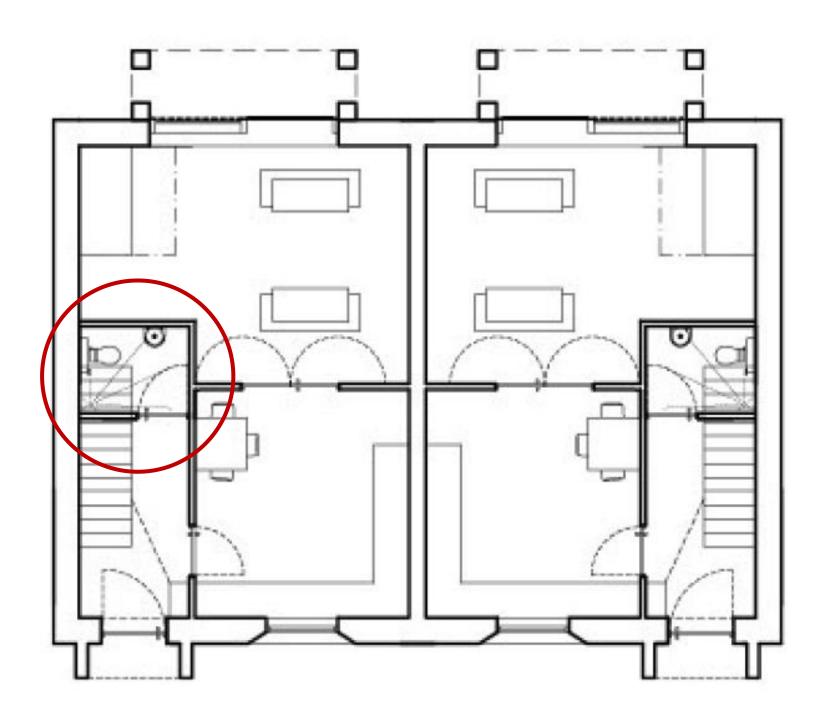
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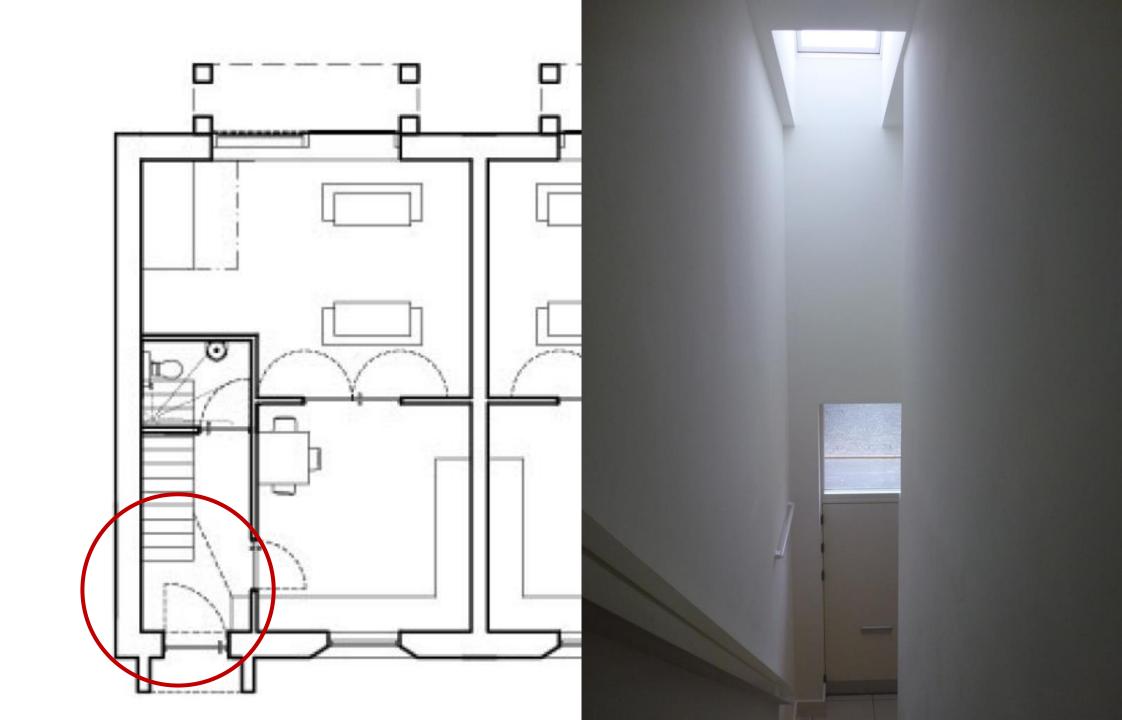


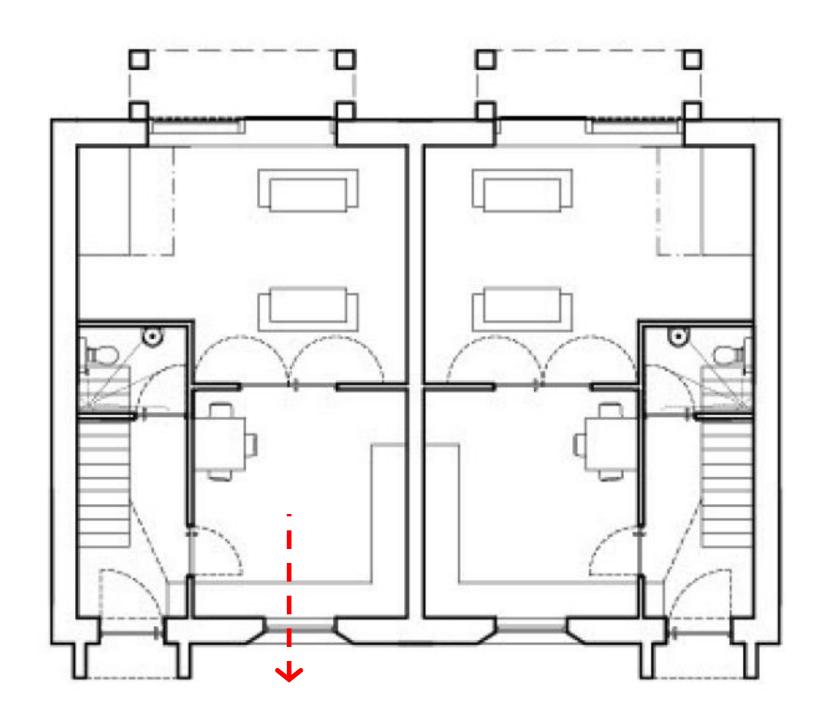


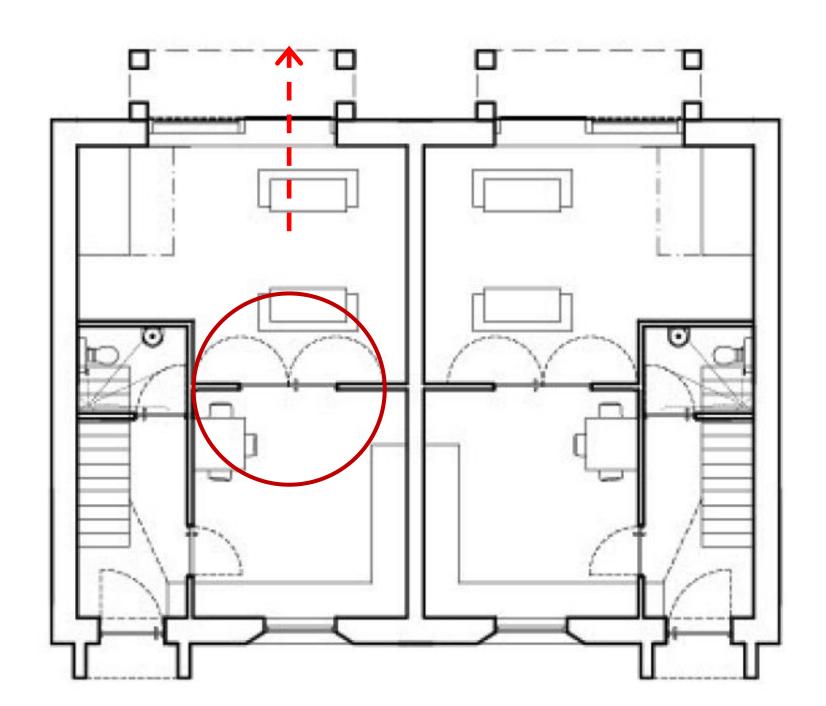












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## demand more care



# jump in scale



## land budget



Fig.3 - The study comprises a "land budget" analysis of a range of conventional and more alternative development models, set out in sections 3 and 4.

#### 4.3.3 Land budget analysis

The land budget analysis shows that over one third of the development area is used for private amenity spaces and 13% is dedicated to buildings. The green space along the southern site boundary is categorised as redundant verge as it provides a buffer from the adjacent railway infrastructure, and it accounts for 14% of the overall development area. The infrastructure related to vehicles occupies 22% of the development and includes parking spaces and roads.

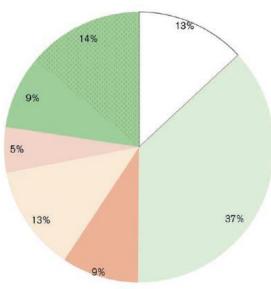






Fig. 26- Great Bentley plan with land budget data

#### 5.2.4 Land budget analysis

The land budget analysis of Goldsmith Street demonstrates that nearly one-third of the development is occupied by buildings. This ratio is significantly larger than the 14% average of the conventional development model. Rear gardens occupy 18% of the site, significantly less than the 27% average of the conventional development model. 1/5 of the site is occupied by footpaths, which is four times higher than the average conventional developments. This is a result of wide footpaths that are accessed from the rear gardens, which provide a form of public open space.

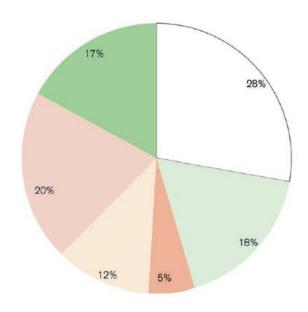


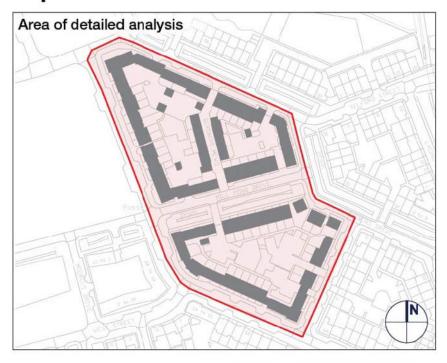




Fig. 55- Goldsmith Street plan with budget data



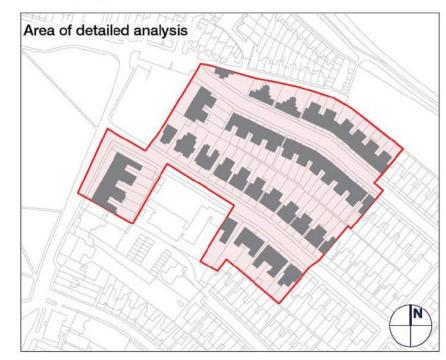
### Upton





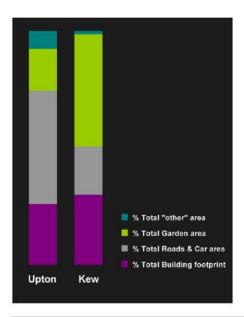


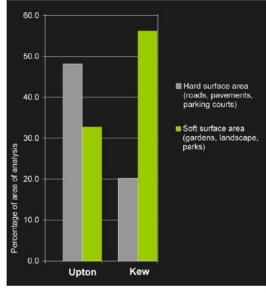
#### Kew, London











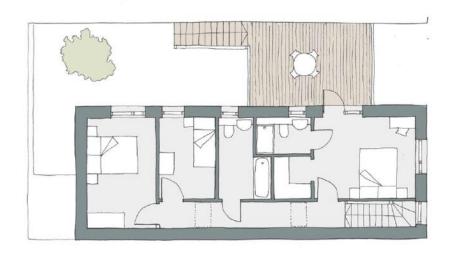
### parking

#### Buying a car in Japan

You have to have a parking space to purchase a car in Japan. The dealer will ask for proof of a parking lot, which you either own or rent, and it has to be within a 2km radius from where you live.

# integrated on street parking barns

#### **INTEGRATED WITH TYPOLOGY**

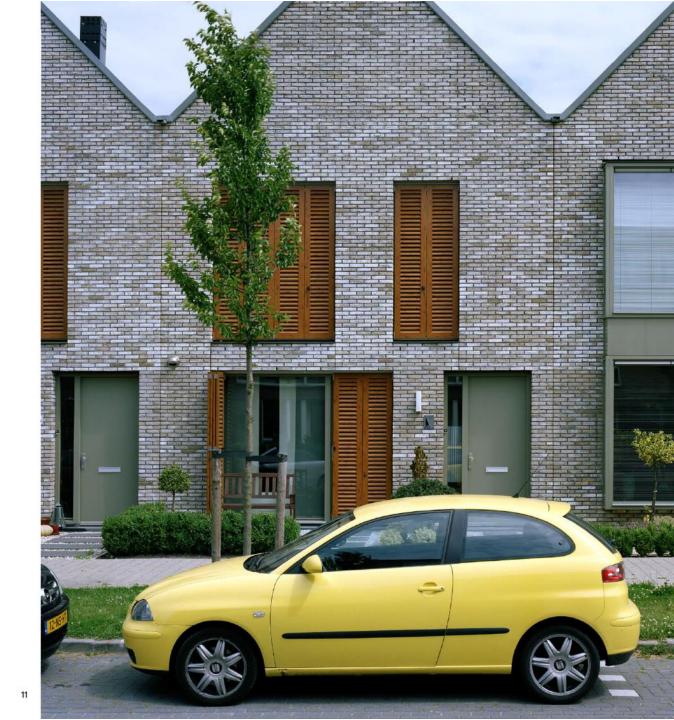






#### **ON STREET**













Car parking What works where



### horizons

























### -- pause for breath --

### lets make this meaningful

there is a problem

there is a problem find examples to defeat the problem

there is a problem find examples to defeat the problem adapt these to your situation

# our problem

# our problem

what we are building is dividing our society

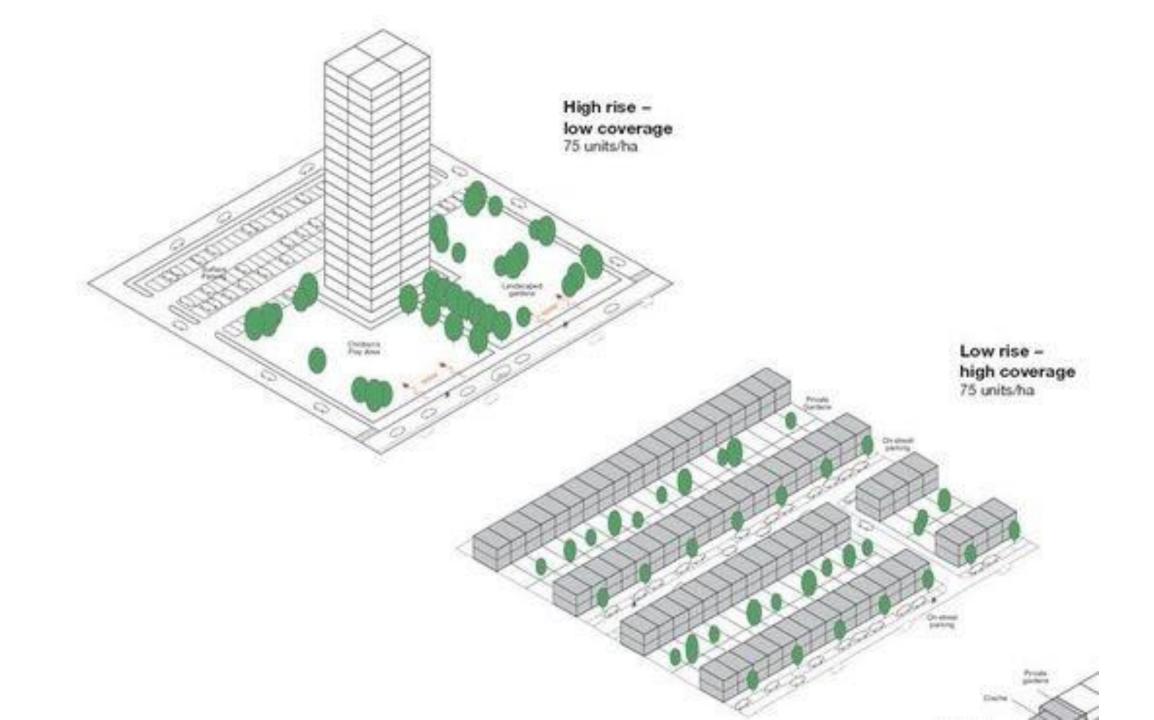




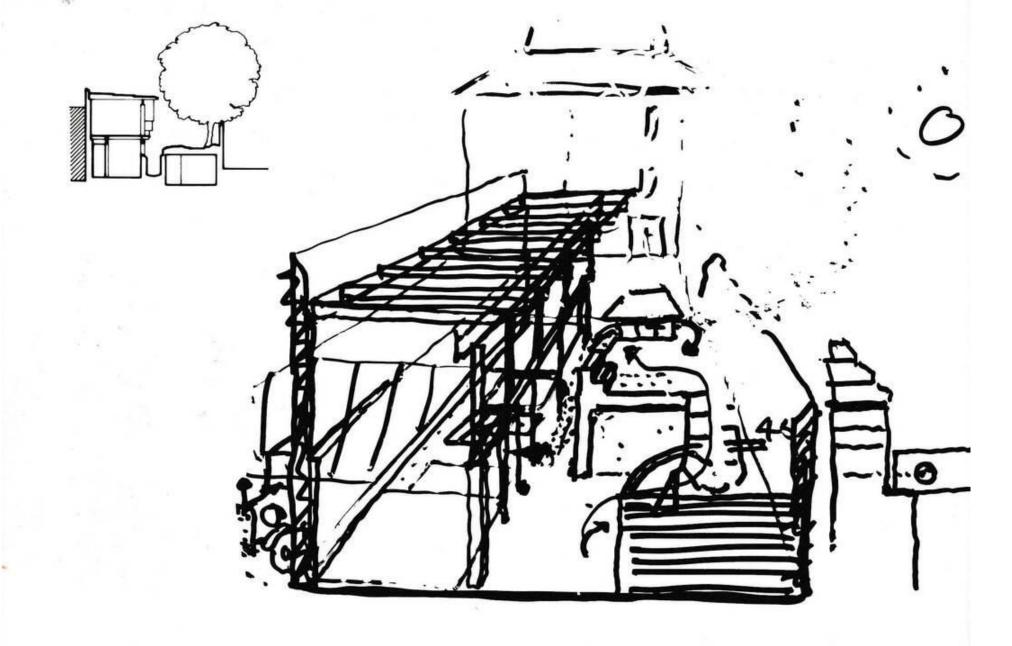


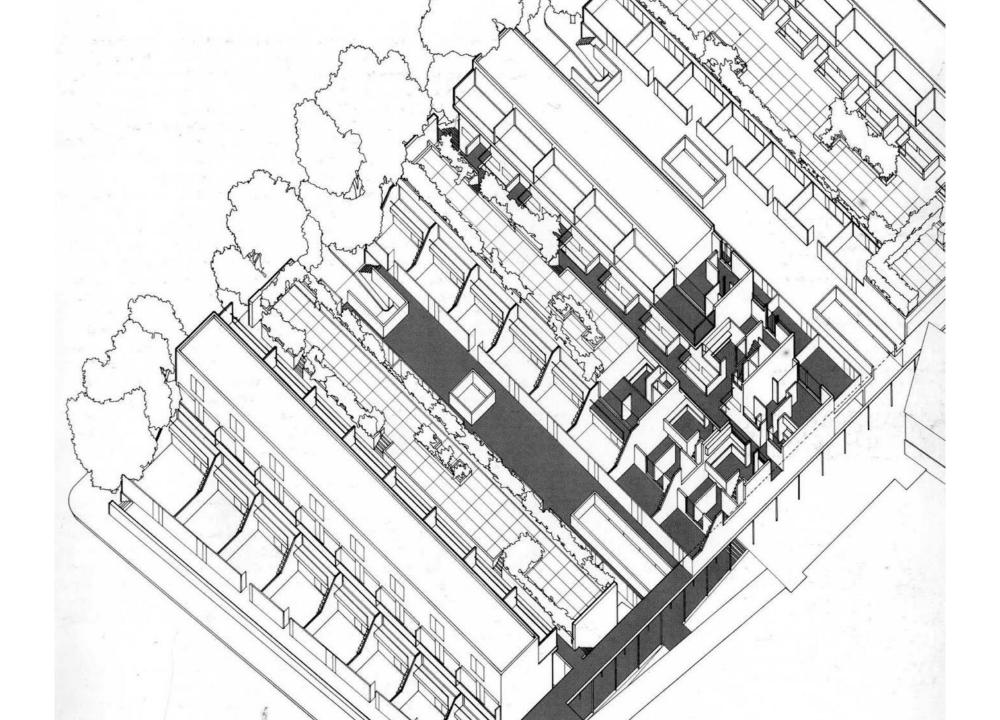


## an example





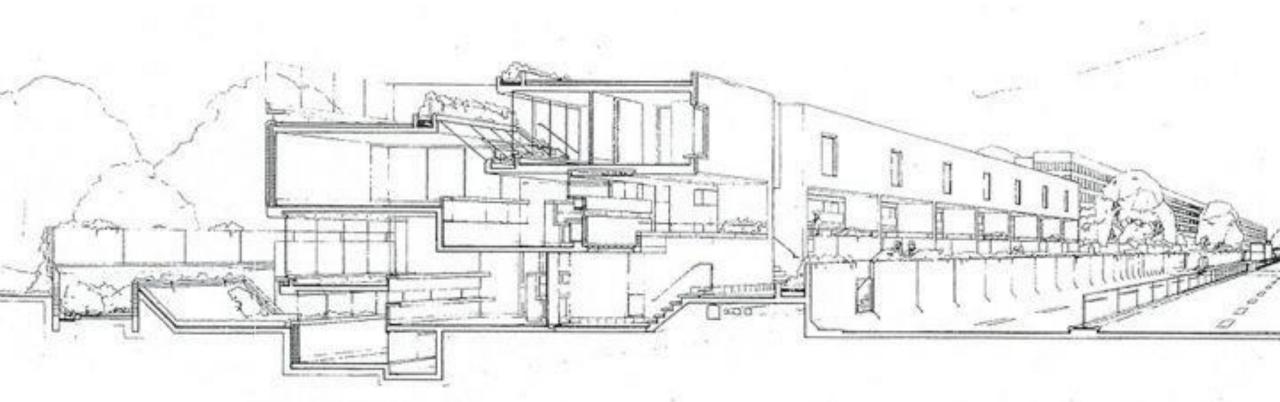














# a social ideal made physical

# spaces that bring people together







## somewhere in Swindon











## somewhere in north London







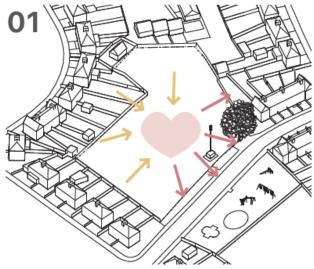




## somewhere in Brisol







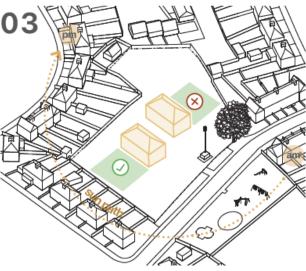
#### Community at the heart

The community centre should occupy the middle of the site, facing out to the neighbourhood, and supported by the housing



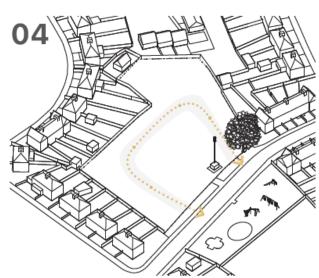
#### **Active frontage**

There should be front doors and lights on over Newquay Road to create a more welcoming street, provide natural surveillance and connect to the playground.



#### Sunlit gardens

Gardens should avoid facing north to provide better quality amenity and living spaces, and promote wellbeing and outdoor living.



#### Looped access

Access to all homes should be from a continuous loop, reducing the amount of road and making parking and movement more efficient



#### Suburban typology

Front doors should not face other front doors at this increased density, this way providing a suburban character even though homes are closer together.



#### Three parcels

Each parcel can be evolved in different ways to get the perfect balance of homes, parking and amenity.



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#### Three parcels

Each parcel can be evolved in different ways to get the perfect balance of homes, parking and amenity.



## an equation about £££



### an ideal for



### units

## units repeat typologies

#### units repeat typologies

push us apart

#### the highest value must be placed on the lives that will be lived here

#### more care

### more care more attention

## more care more attention more design

# more care more attention more design more engagement

more care more attention more design more engagement more variety

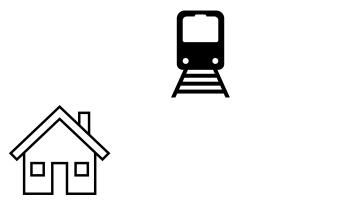
#### so what can you do?

### one more old idea

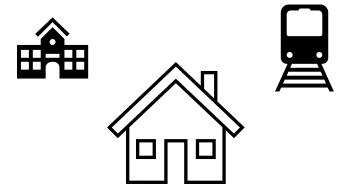




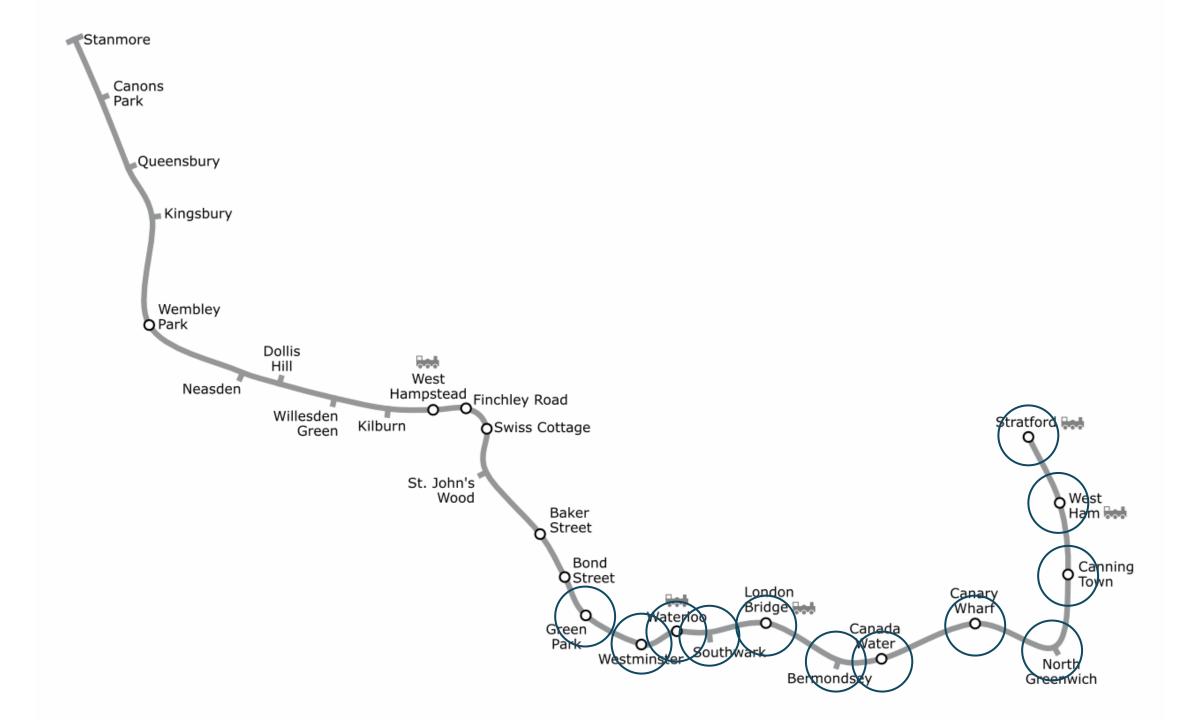












#### audit your land

#### audit your land get planning (for what you want)

audit your land get planning (for what you want) sell the site

audit your land get planning (for what you want) sell the site realise a profit

#### identify local need

#### identify local need set up an investment pot

#### identify local need set up an investment pot allow locals to join

identify local need set up an investment pot allow locals to join improve the local area

identify local need set up an investment pot allow locals to join improve the local area share the profits

#### big

#### build it all yourself

#### big

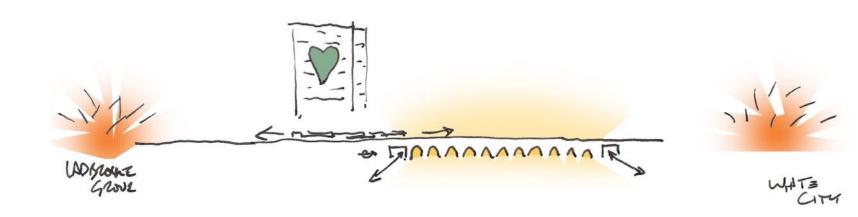
# build it all yourself with a mechanism to capture long term increases in land value

#### big

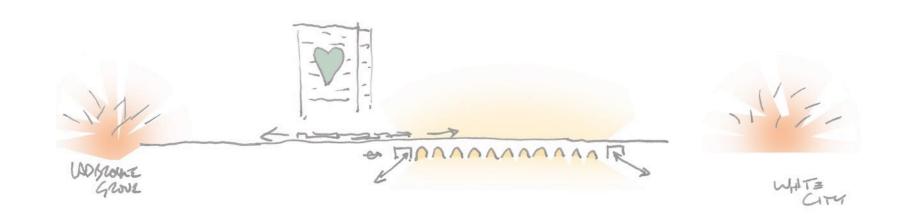
build it all yourself with a mechanism to capture long term increases in land value (Community Land Trusts...)

local area masterplans compulsory purchase neighbourhood pans credit guidance design codes land pooling tax reform state housing revisionary tenures planning obligations restricted sale tenures community asset purchase public sector debt measurement

## 1,500,000 homes that bring people together











**Meeting invite** 

Thursday 19th June

10am

**Subject: New housing** 

development

**Attendees:** 

Generic developer

You

**Meeting invite** 

Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June

10am

Subject: New housing development

**Attendees:** 

Generic developer

You

'...let's start by talking about places shaped by people'

#### Common Works

architects for communities

Tom Sykes
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www.common-works.co.uk

email me



visit the website

