

The City of London Housing Design Guide

The document provides a benchmark level to which all consultant teams must design to, and all schemes must meet. This protects the Corporation by ensuring that each of their schemes will reach a level of design and construction quality above what is required under other statutory requirements.

What is the City of London Corporation Housing Design Guide?

- A document which sets out the City Corporation's employer's requirements to support and inform the development of new social housing to deliver new homes while providing pleasant places in which to live, work and play.
- A tool to advocate good standards of build quality.
- An instructive design guide to be used by developers and housing providers.
- Guidance for multi-disciplinary design teams.
- A resource which aids placemaking in the city while retaining its inherent character.
- A guide to ensure all new residential developments are sustainable and resilient to climate change

What it is not..

- It is not a duplication of existing legislation.
- It is not a piece of planning policy.
- It does not replace other (local/national) housing standards or guidance which currently apply.

It is a design guide not a design code which means that teams using the document do not have to adhere dogmatically to the guide. Deviation may take place if benefits can be shown. Using a nascent version of the guide on Sydenham Hill has helped the team to understand the Corporations key requirements. These have been reviewed on a case by case basis and where it was felt, for the benefit of the scheme, the design deviated from the design guide this has been explained to the client and agreed.

The document is not only for design teams but may also be used by 'Contractors & Development Partners' and 'City of London internal stakeholders and departments.'

It covers the Corporations house building history, policy context, communications and engagement, responsible procurement, home design, communal space design, external space and landscape design, environment and wellbeing, performance and process management and includes appendices covering items from lift specifications to BIM EIRS.

The document with its appendices forms a comprehensive guide to ensure the City of London continues to procure housing development in line with its reputation and ambition.

Yours sincerely



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