

Section 2: The importance of urban design

2.1 Introduction

- 2.1.1 Designing and delivering more sustainable forms of development requires consideration at a strategic scale, before moving down to consider the more detailed site specific design and construction elements. Development sites come in a wide variety of sizes and levels of complexity and both are crucial in determining whether proposals fit into existing movement frameworks and can tie into existing services and facilities or whether these need to be provided or improved as part of the development.
- 2.1.2 Good urban design and sustainable design and construction are mutually inclusive. Integrating the two concepts will maximise the opportunities for creating sustainable forms of development, whether it is a new settlement and urban extension or development within an established community. Well considered and integrated movement patterns and land uses with appropriate densities combine to promote sustainable and inclusive patterns of development that ensure, safe, sustainable, liveable and mixed use places are created which provide good access for all to homes, jobs and key services. The layout and form of development also impacts on wider issues such as microclimate and drainage and is crucial in determining the capacity of new and existing communities to adapt to our changing climate.