

Key Strategies

The development of the Walthamstow Town Centre Master Plan was guided by a series of principles, detailed below. These principles influenced key strategies addressing the specific issues of transport and movement, location efficiency, retail and town centre management, as discussed in this section.

A legible framework of connected streets, accommodating pedestrians and vehicles

Design that promotes blocks of buildings that are fully permeated by an interconnected street network, which encompasses a clear and legible ordering system. This system must recognise a hierarchy between urban spatial and building types and their individual parts in relation to the whole. This is to facilitate movement for all, including those with limited mobility. Changes to the public realm will require further design detail to incorporate improvement measures and to ensure they are fully inclusive and accessible.

Walkable Neighbourhoods as the core of the sustainable city

Daily needs are within walking distance of most residents within a walkable neighbourhood. With good design, more people will actively use local

streets, enhancing their vitality and their safety. Local employment opportunities are facilitated within the town structure rather than being exclusively 'zoned', providing the community with a firm economic base and enhancing the self containment of neighbourhoods and towns. In this context, such neighbourhoods are fully accessible, supported by policies promoting inclusive access and mobility.

Neighbourhoods that are both mixed use and mixed income

Delivering high quality housing with a choice of tenures and sizes, creates popular and desirable communities. This approach encourages community cohesion and stability by enabling households to remain within a given neighbourhood through different life stages.

Sustainable urbanism incorporates a range of



housing sizes and types, along with a mix of uses. The need is not just for dwellings but for a raft of facilities and amenities to be provided close by to reduce reliance on cars and public transport, resulting in an environment in which mixed tenure can thrive.

Cities and towns that are both shaped by physically defined and accessible public spaces

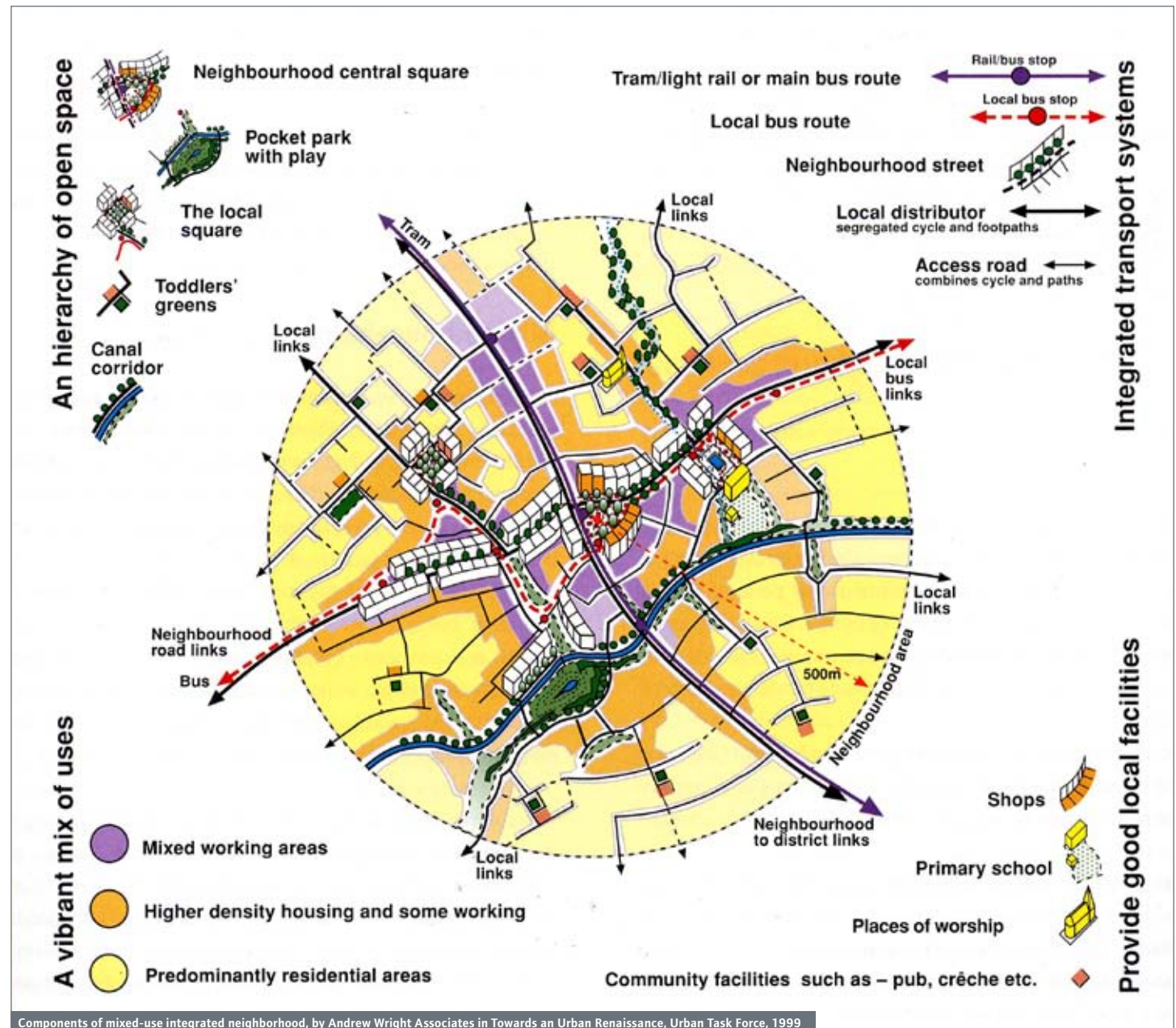
Design that respects the complex character of a place and takes into consideration its diversity. Design that employs and connects a variety of enclosure and openness to make people always aware of being in a place.

Urban places are framed by architecture that celebrates local history, climate, ecology and building tradition and materials

Design which relates to its surroundings, adaptive to climatic conditions, minimising energy consumption and relates to human scale. Design which has been created using care and attention, making it likely to last and be valued by future generations and helping to provoke an emotional value along with a personal and a cultural relevance. Architecture that draws upon local context, reflects building patterns and details.

Town centres consist of a range of diverse activities providing opportunity for all

Due to the diverse range of activities and interests existing within a town centre, such as employment, social and recreational facilities, public and private spaces and a variety of stakeholders, management of such areas is equally complex. However as the existence of each component adds value to the town centre, a holistic management approach is essential. This enables integrated management of all components, working towards a defined vision.



Components of mixed-use integrated neighborhood, by Andrew Wright Associates in Towards an Urban Renaissance, Urban Task Force, 1999