David Birkbeck Design for Homes

&

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BUILDING 5



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BUILT FOR LIFE

BFL12 is a fair 'friends and family test'

Nick Boles, 27.06.13 at NHBC: "I love BFL because the principles were not created by government. They are not narrow, although they can be demanding."



It was always evolving







Building for Life is the industry standard, endorsed by Government, for well-designed homes and neighbourhoods that local communities, local authorities and developers are invited to use to stimulate conversations about creating good places to live.¹



1. Spatial composition and layout

Connectivity/walkability Legibility







Source: GoogleMaps/StreetView





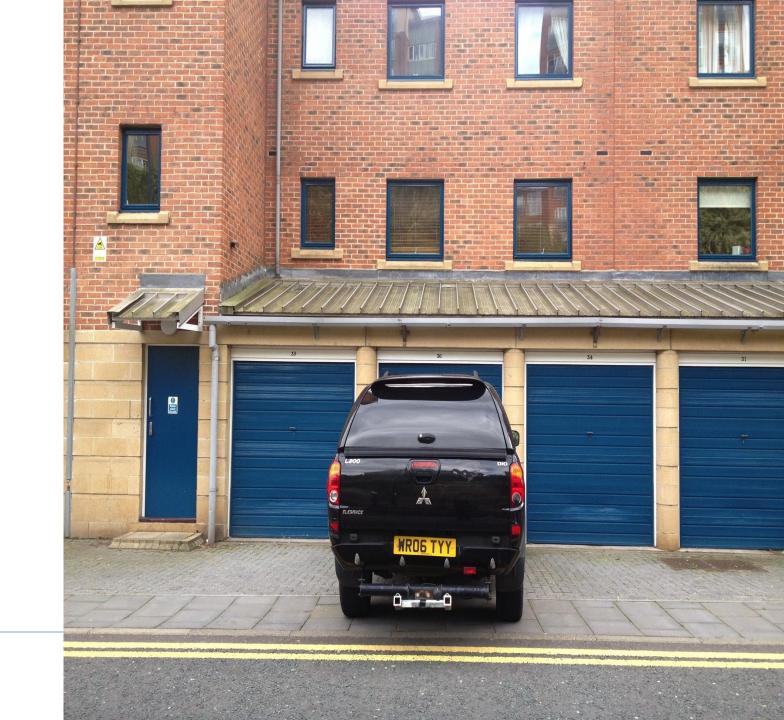


2. Accommodating the car

Amount, location and desirability of parking



















3. Landscaping

Too hard, too mean, needs to be respected as the basis of character











4. Threshold to home and a clear demise

Identifying what's public and what's private Robust and practical landscaping Waste storage



























So where does this leave us?



Valuations do not necessarily (positively or negatively) respond to urban design quality

Home builders value things that help them sell homes faster and improve the appeal of their offer to consumers

Post-completion awards do not help housebuilders at the point of sale

Can an accreditation process align with what people want from new-build development – 'The People that Walk by' test?

(Or Boles') 'friends and family test'?

Change of ethos to earn industry buy-in

Voluntary accreditation scheme – opportunity for brand differentiation

Point of sale to raise consumer consciousness

Annual awards for the best of the best (?)





If we can...

Raise consumer consciousness

Offer a non-bureaucratic QA tool

Direct discussion about design to what's fair

