

# Opportunities for new settlements

Katy Lock - Director - Communities (FJ Osborn Fellow)

Town & Country Planning Association

Chair: Colin Bannon - Vice chair, Urban Design Network

## About the TCPA



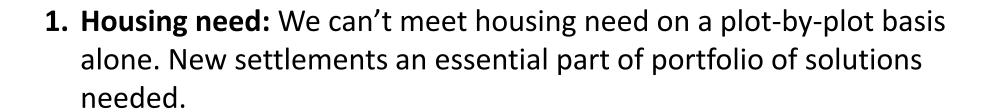
The **TCPA's vision** is for homes, places and communities in which everyone can thrive.

**Our mission** is to challenge, inspire and support people to create healthy, sustainable and resilient places that are fair for everyone.



## The case for new settlements







2. Climate, health, quality: Holistic approach enables highest environmental and quality standards to enable climate resilience and healthy lifestyles.



**3. Management and consent:** New settlements provide economies of scale and land value capture opportunities which are good for the economy and society.

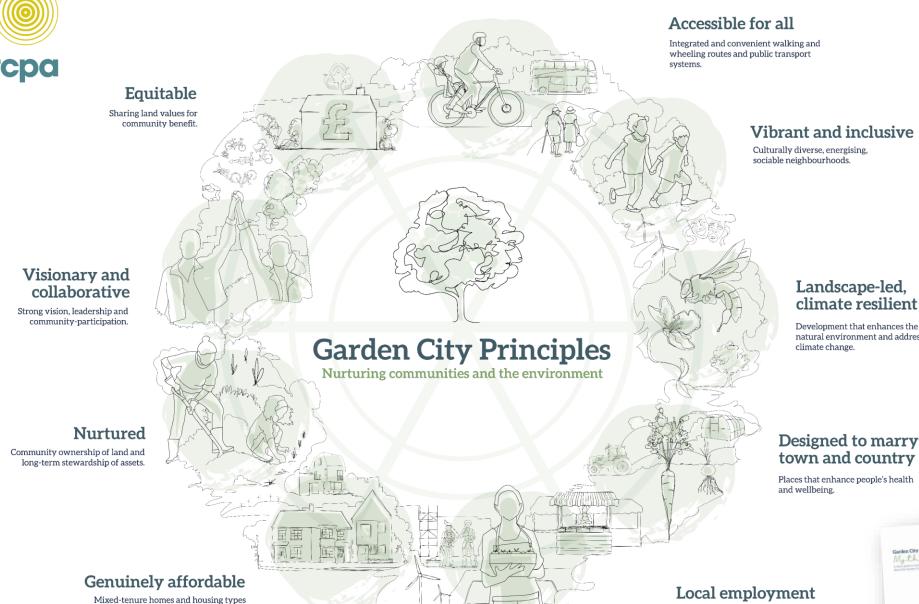




## The case for new settlements







that are genuinely affordable.

Landscape-led,

climate resilient

Development that enhances the natural environment and addresses

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A stort garden method and traffed

climate change.

A wide range of local jobs.

# How to deliver a new generation of Garden Cities?



- Strategic national spatial approach to with local-authority led studies
- Dedicated consent route enabled by government, led by local authorities thorough modernised New Towns Act not just locally-led
- A lasting settlement on land value, viability and compulsory purchase
- Part of a portfolio of approaches needed investment in existing towns and cities also essential



## Are we there yet?

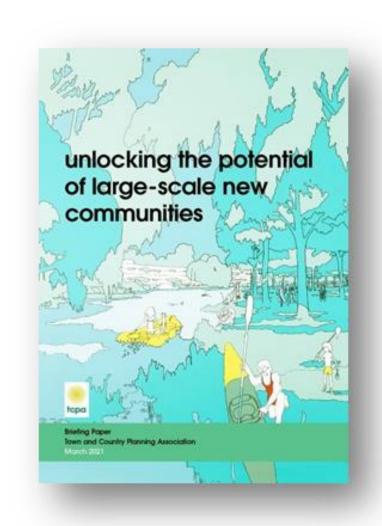
- Government's 'Garden Communities' programme
- Garden City Principles in over 16 adopted Local Plans
- Amended Regulations on 'Locally-led New Town Development Corporations'
- Competition on Delivery models
- New Town/s mooted in Cambridge MK Oxford Corridor
- Amends to the NPPF on timescales and proposed revisions on housing forecasting



## What's the problem?



- a lack of a consistent political leadership at both national and local levels;
- a lack of skills and capacity among planning teams and elected members;
- a lack of effective, strategic cross-border co-operation on identifying new locations;
- a **deficit in infrastructure investment**, particularly in transport and affordable homes (including those for social rent);
- **complexities in the viability testing** process, and particularly in the factors to be applied to developer and landowner returns;
- **tensions** between private sector **delivery rates** based on local market conditions and local authorities' **wider aspirations and obligations**;
- national planning policy, which can undermine the case for taking a long-term, large-scale strategic approach to meeting housing need











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Lessons from the TCPA's New Communities Group



- The Group collectively helps to develop plans and provide political support
- Encourages a sharing of knowledge and best practice through seminars, workshops, study visits, parliamentary meetings and newsletters
- Together the group is providing innovative local leadership for plans delivering over 280,500 new homes



# the garden city opportunity

a guide for councils





- 1. Leadership
- 2. Public Participation
- 3. Location and consent
- 4. Embedding high quality design
- 5. Unlocking land and finance
- 6. Local-authority led delivery
- 7. Long-term stewardship

The Lady Margaret Paterson Osborn Trust

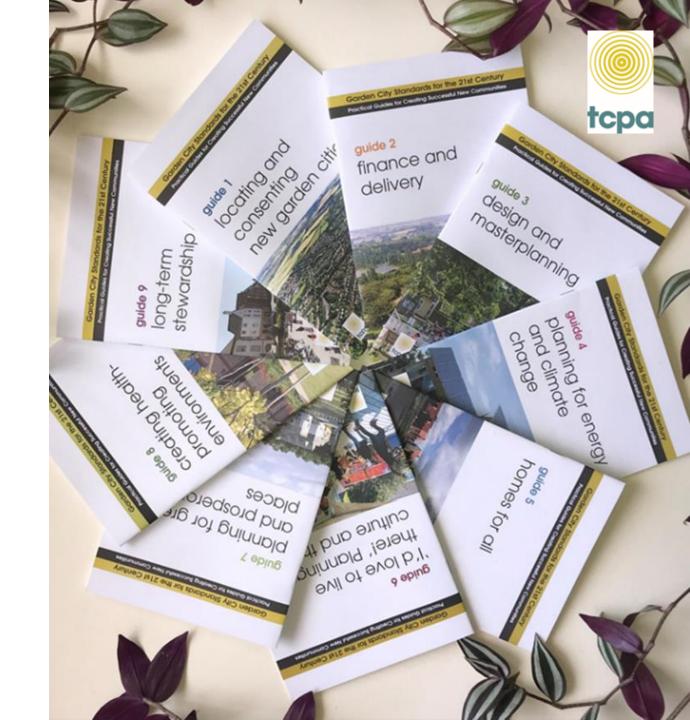
LDĀDESIGN



## Practical Delivery Guides

- Locating and consenting new Garden Cities
- Finance and Delivery
- Design and Masterplanning
- Masterplanning for net-zero energy
- Homes for All
- I'd love to live there! Art and Culture
- Planning for Green and Prosperous Places
- Creating health-promoting environments
- Long-term Stewardship
- Community participation
- Edible Garden Cities
- Sustainable transport
- Modern Methods of Construction
- Climate Resilient Garden Cities

https://www.tcpa.org.uk/guidance-for-delivering-new-garden-cities



#### Community planners and builders

New Garden Cities offer councils a powerful opportunity to rebuild trust in planning and introduce governance structures that put local people at the heart of their community, including through self- and custom build and through establishing community land trusts

#### Design and layout

The design and layout of new Garden Cities should facilitate sustainable lifestyles. The early Garden Cities used development blocks with substantial enclosed space for gardens, allotments and recreation; tree-lined streets, often with a section comprising road, parking, tree-lined verge, footway, soft boundary treatment, front garden, and home; and well designed groups of homes within the street

#### Mix of housing types and tenures

New Garden Cities must meet the full range of housing needs through a varied housing offer, including high-quality social and genuinely affordable homes



#### Healthy living

Applying the Garden City Principles can facilitate healthy living and improved quality of life. Walking and cycling, supportive neighbourhoods, planned educational facilities and a strong sense of community spirit can all improve health and wellbeing.

#### **Garden City** design principles

A vision for social, economic and environmental sustainability must be integral to new Garden Cities: residents must have a stake in their community and opportunities to grow their own food; lowcarbon energy and smart technology must be embedded from the outset; walking and cycling must be the most attractive transport modes; and full use must be made of a green infrastructure

Sustainability

#### Infrastructure

A good range of necessary infrastructure is essential - not least a transport network that makes walking, cycling and public transport the most attractive modes; a range of community facilities operated and run by a community-led organisation; and a green infrastructure network which makes full use of its functions (climate resilience, biodiversity, health support, social and cultural services)

#### Employment

New Garden Cities should provide a range of employment opportunities within walking/cycling distance of homes; offer incentives for new employers to locate there; consider using a 21st century 'arts and crafts' approach, encouraging employment for local skilled labourers and craftspeople; provide for new ways of working, such as home-based working with superfast broadband; and pursue co-operative and community

led employment

#### High-quality and innovative design

New Garden Cities must be exemplary in high-quality and innovative design, featuring the application of the highest sustainability standards, innovative use of local and sustainable new materials, and high-quality imaginative architecture, making use of expert craftsmanship

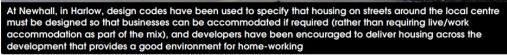
Garden City Standards for the 21st Century Practical Guides for Creating Successful New Communities

#### guide 3 design and masterplanning

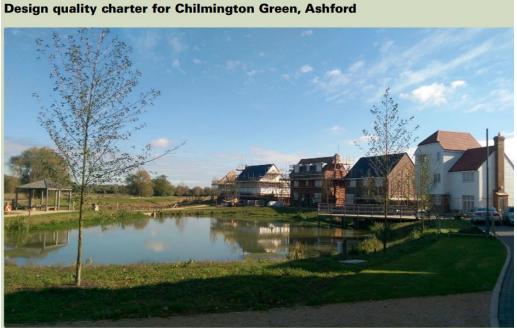
















### Design and delivery – Long-term Stewardship in new settlements



- Linking community development, public participation, finance and delivery for better placemaking.
- Continuum of models
- 'Lifespan' requirement in Design Codes provides a hook
- Must be considered at the earliest stages of planning to embed meaningfully in design and delivery



## New settlements in 2024?



David Davis: A solution to the housing crisis that is paralysing government. New garden towns and villages.

REGULATION DEVELOPMENT IN LIVE COMMENT INSIGHT BUILD SOCIAL

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PRELATED POSTS

HOUSING WAS missing from the Conservative conference



# Keir Starmer promises to build new towns and 1.5m homes ○ 10 October · ■ Comments Labour Party Conference BRITAFUTU

#### **Conservative:**

- Sunak: 'Thousands of new homes' at Euston HS2 terminus
- Truss: 500k homes p/a
- Gove: 'We're on track to deliver a million new homes...but we need many more'
- No mention of new settlements

#### **Liberal Democrats:**

- 380,000 new homes
- New Garden Cities

#### Labour:

- 1.5M new homes
- A 'new generation' of New Towns
- Rayner 'Biggest boost to affordable housing for a generation'



## Thankyou

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## Q&A

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## Comfort break

Please return by 11:30 to start the next session