

The Eight Principles of a Carbon Conscious Place

1

A Place-Led Approach

Understanding, appreciating and working with existing assets, the surrounding landscape and the place identity. Using the right type of intervention, at the right stage, scale and location.

- What's your favourite place in the Town? Mark it on the map.
- What are the qualities unique to your place that you can build on?
- Are there any existing local initiatives that can support making change?

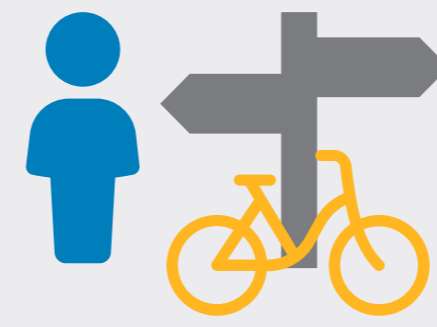


2

A Place of Small Distances

Is about creating complete and self-sufficient neighbourhoods with everyday/night services and facilities within a short walking or cycling distance

- Do you have key services within a 10 minute walk of your house? school, Greenspace? small shop? pharmacy?
- Is your town centre varied, offering a number of services? Is it Accessible?
- What stops you from walking and cycling?
- What are the opportunities for walking and cycling? What would make it easier?



3

A Network of Small Distance Places

Is about connecting complete neighbourhoods to provide a network of places that support greater self-sufficiency and low carbon living.

- What services do you need outwith the town? college? hospital? can you get there without a car? What would make this easier?
- How convenient are bus and train connections? what are the barriers and what could improve?
- Are there journeys you would like to make but are unable to?



4

A Place Designed for and with Local People

Is about placing people's needs at the centre of decision-making, service provision and investment and ensuring they are actively involved in key stages of the design process.

- Do you feel you have a say in decisions regarding your town?
- How would you like to influence decisions or make a difference in your town?
- Are there barriers for local people to make changes they want to see? What do you think is needed?



5

A Place that Reuses, Repurposes and Considers Whole-Life Costs

Retrofitting existing structures and brownfield sites first, considering embodied carbon. Adding planting to existing hard infrastructure to support climate adaptation. Considering the cost of the entire lifecycle of a structure.

- Can you identify good examples of re-use and refurbishment in your town?
- Are there any buildings or derelict land in need of a new use? any ideas what it could be?
- Are there any barriers to refurbishment?



6

A Place with Whole and Circular Systems

Enhancing, repairing and joining up the different systems which support a healthy, carbon conscious place. This includes local food, heat, energy, water, green, habitat, transport, waste, housing and social systems.

- Map examples, barriers and opportunities for:
- local food networks, and food growing
 - heat and energy networks
 - green and blue infrastructure- rivers, water, parks and greenspace. Biodiversity and Habitat
 - Waste



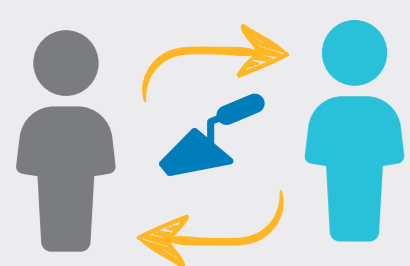
7

A Place that Supports Sharing

Supporting the sharing of assets and services in places to enable lower carbon living and connect people to their neighbourhoods.

Map examples, barriers and opportunities for sharing these things in your town:

- tools
- vehicles- bikes, cars and buses
- community buildings and facilities
- items- swap shops, school books, school uniform
- clothes and textiles



8

A Place Designed in Time

Ensuring the place planning and delivery process considers the dimension of time. This includes creating long term visions as well as using short-term approaches to test out interventions.

- Are there long term visions for your town? Is there a plan you can input to?
- Are there long term working partnerships?
- Are there short term projects that could be easily actioned?
- what should a long-term future for your town include? think about 30, 40, 50 years time.



The Eight Principles of a Carbon Conscious Place were developed by Architecture & Design Scotland to inspire and support an holistic approach to designing and adapting places to reduce, re-purpose and absorb carbon.

Learn more about the principles by scanning the QR code, or by visiting www.ads.org.uk and searching 'designing for a changing climate'