

# Taunton Garden Town - Design Checklist: Street + Home

Vision Theme

Bfl 12 primary + secondary questions

assessment



Garden Town Characteristics

Growing Quality Places	<b>9 Streets for All</b> Are streets designed in a way that encourage low vehicle speeds and allow them to function as social spaces?				In the Garden Town, the place quality of streets will be as equally important as their movement function.
	9a Are streets pedestrian friendly and are they designed to encourage cars to drive slower and more carefully?				The design principles of Manual for Streets 1 + 2 shall be fully applied - pedestrians and cycles should always take priority and the 'place quality' of streets should be fully considered alongside their functionality.
	9b Are streets designed in such a way that they can be used as social spaces, such as places for children to play safely or for neighbours to converse?				Doorstep play and other informal stimulation for younger children to interact with the street environment should be provided within the public realm, in addition to formal play provision elsewhere. Threshold spaces and boundary conditions mediating between the private and public realm and engaging with the approach to smaller groups of dwellings should be included to promote social interaction between neighbours/residents.
Growing Quality Places	<b>10 Car parking</b> Is resident and visitor parking sufficient and well-integrated so that it does not dominate the street?				The relationship between the public realm / main pedestrian route and the individual front door to each dwelling shall not be impeded or hidden from view by vehicles.
	10a Is there enough parking for residents and visitors?				Electric car-charging must be provided for each dwelling / allocated space and ducting should be installed to allow visitor spaces in the public realm to be retro-fitted with a supply, if not immediately provided. Car-charging at local centres and other public 'destinations' should be provided.
	10b Is parking positioned close to people's homes?				Bfl 12 advice applies
	10c Are parking courtyards small in size (generally no more than five properties should use a parking courtyard) and are they well overlooked by neighbouring properties?				Parking Courts are not generally supported in any form and should only be used in exceptional circumstances, Parking Squares may be an acceptable alternative in certain locations.
	10d Are garages well positioned so that they do not dominate the street scene?				Bfl 12 advice applies
Growing our Town Greener	<b>11 Public and Private Spaces</b> Will public and private spaces be clearly defined and designed to be attractive, well managed and safe?				The quality of public, shared and private open space are a key determinant of the character of the Garden Town. In general terms, the use of public art/craft dispersed throughout the public realm is endorsed rather than a few major interventions in specific locations.
	11a What types of open space should be provided within the development?				The inclusion of open swales, rain gardens and other sustainable urban drainage features should be celebrated as part of the public realm and landscape design. Allotments should be located in order to promote maximum use and be well-integrated with the urban layout, not located in an inaccessible distant position on the edge of the site. Opportunities for informal edible landscaping / micro-allotments should be provided as part of private threshold spaces and within the public realm wherever possible.
	11b Is there a need for play facilities for children and teenagers? If so, is this the right place or should the developer contribute towards and existing facility in the area that could be made better?				The Garden Town will provide strong and appropriate provision for all age groups. Doorstep play for young children should be integrated within the design of the public realm.
	11c How will they be looked after?				Management arrangements that have the capacity, over time, to involve and empower the future residents are strongly endorsed.
Growing Quality	<b>12 External Storage and Amenity Space</b> Is there adequate external storage space for bins and recycling as well as vehicles and cycles?				Secure cycle storage is best located in close proximity to the front / approach to the dwelling. Cycle stores in rear gardens will not be adequate to strongly promote cycle use.
	12a Is storage for bins and recycling items fully integrated, so that these items are less likely to be left on the street?				Where storage solutions are proposed in rear gardens then specific attention needs to be paid to the layout of the front curtilage of those dwellings in order to deter their use as alternative casual storage, wherever possible. Well-designed enclosures at the front of dwellings are endorsed and certainly necessary in terraced typologies with limited access to rear amenity space.