

THE PRINCE'S FOUNDATION FOR THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

Enquiry by Design

THE ENQUIRY BY DESIGN (EbD) process is a planning tool that brings together key stakeholders to collaborate on a vision for a new or revived community. This is developed through a workshop facilitated by The Prince's Foundation for the Built Environment. The EbD process brings key stakeholders together, to assess a complex range of design requirements for the development site, with every issue tested by being drawn.

Enquiry by Design is an important tool in developing sustainable communities; delivering masterplans based on enduring design principles, and developing the place-making skills of all participants in the workshop process.



The Prince's Foundation

FOR THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT

How Does an EbD Work?

By its nature, every Enquiry by Design is unique, developing a response appropriate to the specific site and issues raised by the local stakeholders.

An Enquiry by Design (EbD) includes architects and urban planners, local agencies and authorities, landowners, local community, voluntary groups, retailers and other interest groups. These stakeholders are actively engaged in the planning and design of their community, helping to build confidence and collective enthusiasm for the vision to be taken forward beyond the workshop.

The EbD process can be tailored to the requirements of the new planning system in the UK, working with Local Development Frameworks and Area Actions Plans, or to fit devolving processes in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland. We are also currently adapting the EbD methodology internationally.

The EbD process relies on a concentrated effort over a short period of time; assembling the right information in advance is critical. The process includes preparation and a lead-in period of approximately six months prior to the workshop.

The number of days for an EbD can vary as every site is different. However, it is normal for an EbD to run for five working days and to be preceded by preparatory sessions to explore key issues and familiarise key participants with the process ahead.

EBD WORKSHOP STRUCTURE

- Exploring Key Issues
- Testing of Initial Concepts
- Development of Vision
- Production and Final Presentation

Illustration of the proposed refurbishment of existing homes from the *Rosetown, Jamaica Enquiry by Design 2006*. These houses are typically self-built and houses can be added to in an informal manner with found material.



Who is Involved?

The number of participants in a workshop can range from around twenty through to several hundred. This varies at different points throughout the workshop.

CORE TEAM

Landowners on and around the site, local politicians, relevant council officers and local community representatives need to be involved throughout the EbD process as they are the key decision makers. Along with The Foundation's Team, these parties attend all sessions.

SECOND TIER

Representatives of any group, including regulatory bodies, with an interest in, and knowledge about, the site will be involved in a number of key sessions – actively inputting technical knowledge into the evolution of the site design.

THIRD TIER

The Third Tier of participants is formed by anyone interested in development of the particular site.

ENQUIRY BY DESIGN PARTICIPANTS

All Those with an Interest in the Site

Technical Input / Statutory Agencies

Education Authority
English Heritage
Local Business Groups
Local Conservation Groups
Local Health Providers

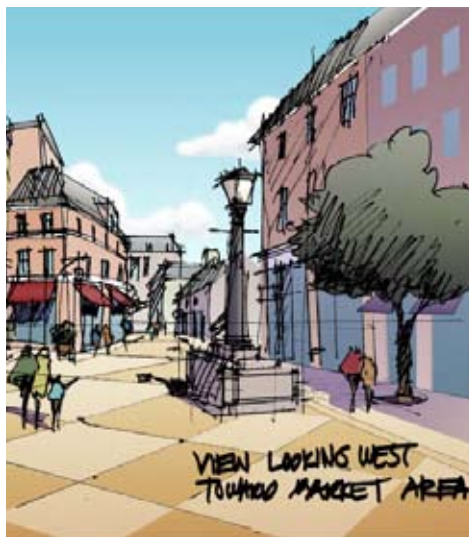
Core Team
Architects
Environmental Experts
Landowners
Local Authority
Local Community Representatives
Spatial Planners
Sustainability Experts
Transport Engineers
Urban Designers

Local Housing Association
Local Transport Operators
Residents Groups
Utility Companies
Other Government Agencies

What is Achieved?

At the close of the EbD, the product produced is a shared vision for the development site, which is illustrated in a series of plans, including an overall masterplan. This vision is shared by everyone linked to the development, including those responsible for granting planning permission. This makes quick delivery of the plan more achievable.

Walthamstow Town Centre, London Borough of Waltham Forest, United Kingdom – Illustration of the market area and the masterplan which tackles climate change through a transport-orientated and location efficiency approach





**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION
ON ENQUIRY BY DESIGN**

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The Prince's Foundation for the Built Environment is an educational charity which exists to improve the quality of people's lives by teaching and practising timeless and ecological ways of planning, designing and building.

We believe that if we can understand and apply time-tested principles, building once more in a sustainable way, we will reap improvements in public health, in livelier and safer streets and in a more affordable lifestyle for families and individuals. We also believe neighbourhoods exhibiting these sustainable characteristics will increase, rather than decrease, in value over time.