

## The Principles of Design Review

Taken from Design Council's Cabe Ten Principles of Design Review underwritten by RIBA, RTPI and the Landscape Institute

### Design Review is:

- **Independent**  
It is conducted by people who are unconnected with the scheme's promoters and decision makers, and it ensures that conflicts of interest do not arise.
- **Expert**  
It is carried out by suitably trained people who are experienced in design and know how to criticise constructively. Review is usually most respected where it is carried out by professional peers of the project designers, because their standing and expertise will be acknowledged.
- **Multidisciplinary**  
It combines the different perspectives of architects, urban designers, urban and rural planners, landscape architects, engineers and other specialist experts to provide a complete, rounded assessment.
- **Accountable**  
The Review Panel and its advice must be clearly seen to work for the benefit of the public. This should be ingrained within the Panel's Terms of Reference.
- **Transparent**  
The Panel's remit, membership, governance processes and funding should always be in the public domain.
- **Proportionate**  
It is used on projects whose significance, either at local or national level, warrants the investment needed to provide the service.
- **Timely**  
It takes place as early as possible in the design process, because this can avoid a great deal of wasted time. It also costs less to make changes at an early stage.
- **Advisory**  
A Design Review Panel does not make decisions, but it offers impartial advice for the people who do.
- **Objective**  
It appraises schemes according to reasoned, objective criteria rather than the stylistic tastes of individual panel members.
- **Accessible**  
Its findings and advice are clearly expressed in terms that design teams, decision makers and clients can all understand and make use of.