Greenwich Millennium Village

The project

Located at the Greenwich peninsula, London, the project currently consists of 220 dwellings, at a density of 95 dwellings per hectare, with another 1157 planned. This is a mixed-use development, with a primary school (Figure C.13), health centre, cinema, hotel and park. The Peninsula is home to other commercial development, including a supermarket, a DIY shop, an electrical goods retailer and a vacht club. Greenwich (Figure C.14) is part of the UK Government's Millennium Villages Initiative and is held as a model for the creation of new communities. The objectives behind the Millennium Village are to encourage sustainable building technology innovation, to achieve high urban design standards and to focus closely on sustainable measures in terms of energy and conservation (ODPM, 2000). The land on the site of this Millennium Village was previously the site of a gas works, was heavily contaminated and an extensive clean up was required.

Sustainability features

Computer-led building techniques, monitoring and off-site pre-fabrication is used to reduce building costs and time, as well as construction waste and energy by 50% (Allen, 2001). The development uses a combined heat and power system, providing the development with central heating, hot water and electricity. The development also integrates water-saving devices such as water efficient taps, toilets and washing machines to achieve its aim of reducing water demand by up to 30%. Of the planned total number of 1377 homes, 172 will be rented, 94 shared ownership and 40 on a flexible tenure basis (Dawson, 2004). Greenwich Peninsula is home to the UK's first low-energy food store which makes use of natural light and high levels of insulation, which contribute to it being 50% more efficient than standard supermarkets (Figures C.15 and C.16).

References and links

Allen, I. (2001) Village Green. *Architect's Journal*, **213** 1 February 2001: 26–35.

Dawson, R. (2004) *Towards Good Practice in Sustainable Urban Land Use*, Bristol LA21, Land Use Group and The Architecture Centre, Bristol, Woodside Press, Bristol.

Office of the Deputy Prime Minister (ODPM) (2000) *Millennium Villages and Sustainable Communities*, Department of the Environment, Transport and the Regions, London.

The project

Situated in the Gorbals, Glasgow, its construction will be completed in 2005 and will comprise a total of 1708 dwellings, at a density of 73 dwellings per hectare with a mixture of tenures – 1200 owner occupied, 300 social rented and 208 student flats (Dawson, 2004). The mixed-use development has local shops, retail space, a partly refurbished church, theatre, local police station as well as a range of gardens and open public spaces. The development has a primary aim of physical, social and economic integration with the existing community in the Gorbals area.

Sustainability features

In addition to its mixture of uses and high density, it is supported by good transport links (Figure C.17) by bus and train and as it is located close to the city centre, their need to travel is reduced. In an attempt to reduce car ownership, car parking provision is just over one per household (*ibid.*, 2004).

References and links

Dawson, R. (2004) *Towards Good Practice in Sustainable Urban Land Use*, Bristol LA21, Land Use Group and The Architecture Centre, Bristol, Woodside Press, Bristol.



Figure C.17 Crown Street: urban regeneration of the Gorbals. (Source: http://www.glasgowarchitecture.co.uk/crown_street_gorbals.htm)