

---

## ASSESSMENT EXERCISE

# BUILDING FOR LIFE

SCHEME NAME

MEADOW SCHOOL,  
BIDDULPH

GRAND TOTAL

17

## BUILDING FOR LIFE IS THE NATIONAL STANDARD FOR WELL-DESIGNED HOMES AND NEIGHBOURHOODS.

It is led by CABE and the Home Builders Federation and backed by the Housing Corporation, English Partnerships, Design for Homes and the Civic Trust.

Building for Life is informed by 20 criteria that embody the partners' vision of what housing developments should be: attractive, functional and sustainable. These principles are founded on government policy and on guidance developed by CABE in partnership with Design for Homes.

The Building for Life criteria are used to evaluate the quality of both proposed and completed schemes. Accredited assessors conduct formal assessments of housing schemes and report their findings back to the Building for Life partnership.

This assessment exercise gives you a chance to try your hand at a Building for Life assessment. It sets out the 20 criteria and asks you to score each one. Why not try it to see how a scheme in your area might fare in a full assessment?

### More about Building for Life

To find out more about Building for Life assessments, please visit [www.buildingforlife.org](http://www.buildingforlife.org). You will also find information about the Building for Life awards and exemplar housing schemes.

## TRY IT FOR YOURSELF

Score: each criterion is scored either as 1, 0.5 or 0. Fill in the scorecard following these instructions.

### SCORE OF 1

Awarded where there is sufficient evidence that the proposed design will meet this criterion.

### SCORE OF 0.5

Awarded where there are specific areas where the proposed design performs well against the criterion but there are also others where it fails to do so. This option is not to be used as a fallback where the design is generally unclear or unconvincing. If there is uncertainty about the scheme's ability to meet the criterion, it should be awarded a score of 0.

### SCORE OF 0

Awarded where it is unclear whether the proposed design will meet the criterion or if you're certain it will fail to meet the criterion.

Enter your grand total on the front of this scorecard.

You should provide evidence to support the score you award. There is space under each criterion to list the relevant information. If you are assessing a proposed scheme, refer to plans and drawings. If you are assessing a completed scheme, you could also refer to photographs and include observations. Remember, this exercise will not form part of the formal assessment scheme – it is simply to help you understand how assessments will work and how you can incorporate design thinking from the start.

# ENVIRONMENT & COMMUNITY

<p>1. Does the development provide (or is it close to) community facilities, such as a school, parks, play areas, shops, pubs or cafés?</p> <p>Yes, the development is a communal facility providing a local support, eating areas, meeting rooms, play areas, large hall and gym for public and private use.</p> <p>It provides a place where people can meet.</p>	<p>SCORE</p> <p>1</p>
<p>2. Is there an accommodation mix that reflects the needs and aspirations of the local community?</p> <p>Yes, There is a mixture of one and two apartments which will provide much needed accommodation to the area.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>3. Is there a tenure mix that reflects the needs of the local community?</p> <p>Yes, There is a full range of tenures that suit the needs of the local community for elderly and people downsizing.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>4. Does the development have easy access to public transport?</p> <p>Yes, Development has easy access to bus stops along St Johns Rd &amp; Newpool Rd which provides various services from Mon to Sun to Biddulph &amp; Congleton.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>5. Does the development have any features that reduce its environmental impact?</p> <p>Thermal performance will conform to Building Regulations, and will source local materials and suppliers.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>SUB-TOTAL</p>	<p>5</p>

# CHARACTER

6. Is the design specific to the scheme? Yes the design is a specific one off scheme	SCORE  1
7. Does the scheme exploit existing buildings, landscape or topography? Yes the design is built in to sloping topography and set back to reduce its environmental & visual impact.	1
8. Does the scheme feel like a place with distinctive character? Yes the development will contain a public square and the front creating clearly defined routes for visitors and residents	1
9. Do the buildings and layout make it easy to find your way around? Yes, there is double height central space called the Hub with the exhibition and eating spaces with a northern wing to house the meeting rooms, changing and play areas. The southern wing contains the residential.	1
10. Are streets defined by a well-structured building layout? As an extra care scheme it does not have any streets as it is one building.	0
SUB-TOTAL	4

# STREETS, PARKING & PEDESTRIANISATION

<p>11. Does the building layout take priority over the streets and car parking, so that the highways do not dominate?</p> <p>Building layout takes priority as it is located on the main frontage and the access road and car park are subsidiary.</p>	<p>SCORE</p> <p>0.5</p>
<p>12. Is the car parking well integrated and situated so it supports the street scene?</p> <p>The car park is easily identifiable and accessible, and linked to the highway.</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>13. Are the streets pedestrian, cycle and vehicle friendly?</p> <p>The side is situated on a main highway, however the users have direct access from the main highway with speed restrictions on the access road.</p>	<p>0</p>
<p>14. Does the scheme integrate with existing streets, paths and surrounding development?</p> <p>Yes, the design sits on perimeter of existing highway and is well integrated with the surrounding context</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>15. Are public spaces and pedestrian routes overlooked and do they feel safe?</p> <p>All spaces are safe and overlooked by buildings on both sides of the road</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>SUB-TOTAL</p>	<p>3.5</p>

# DESIGN & CONSTRUCTION

<p>16. Is public space well designed and does it have suitable management arrangements in place?</p> <p>Public space is well designed and management by housing association</p>	SCORE
	1
<p>17. Do the buildings exhibit architectural quality?</p> <p>Yes buildings are detailed to reflect the local architectural quality</p>	1
<p>18. Do internal spaces and layout allow for adaptation, conversion or extension?</p> <p>The development consists of apartment which are limited to adaption, but spaces have been designed to lifetime for homes and HCA quality standards</p>	1
<p>19. Has the scheme made use of advances in construction or technology that enhance its performance, quality and attractiveness?</p> <p>The development is a large unique building which will look to use adv construction and tech to make it more efficient.</p>	0.5
<p>20. Do buildings or spaces outperform statutory minima, such as building regulations?</p> <p>Yes will be inline with code of sustainable homes</p>	1

SUB-TOTAL

4.5