

# Axis Design Architects Ltd

## *Practice Introduction*

We are a private practice of Architects, Interior and Urban Designers established in 1980 and working from offices in one of our own projects, a refurbished, Grade II listed foundry building in the Jewellery Quarter of Birmingham. Our experience, commitment and enthusiasm for architecture enables us to give personal attention to a wide range of commissions.

Whatever the scale of project we believe that good design should enrich the lives and activities of its users.

This principle holds good whether we are working for a local authority, commercial organisation, an individual client or a community group. As designers we have a number of special interests which can be brought to bear on our commissioned work. These include:

- *Low-energy, environmentally sustainable design*
- *Conservation and re-use of historic buildings*
- *Participatory design and community consultation*
- *Online consultation*

Over the last 27 years we have gained extensive experience and an unparalleled record in the West Midlands working on area regeneration and social housing projects for Community Groups, Local Authorities, Housing Associations, Voluntary Organisations and Housing Action Trusts.

Formally known as Axis Design Collective the practice has recently changed from a partnership to limited liability company, changing it's name to Axis Design Architects.

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## COMMUNITY PROJECTS:

Since 1980 we have been involved in numerous Community Projects varying in complexity, scale and budgets, a selection of which are:

- *Pool Farm Community Nursery Building*
- *Arts & Games Wall, Midlands Arts Centre, Birmingham*
- *Ladywood Public Art Project*
- *Long Nuke Community Centre*
- *Maharashi School - Skelmersdale*
- *Kilby & Lighthorne Community Play Area, Ladywood*
- *St. Mary's Peace Garden, Pype Hayes*
- *Seven Streets Field Study Centre, Balsall Heath*
- *New Beacon Community School, Skelmersdale*
- *Community Focus, Pype Hayes, Birmingham*
- *Vale FM, Community Radio Station, Castle Vale*
- *Ladywood Community & Health Centre*
- *Digbeth Trust Community Architecture Consultancies*
- *SRB Urban Care community-based survey, BCC*

All projects share a consultative process which was built upon effective participation with the project stakeholders. We have direct experience of a variety of participatory design techniques:

*User Focus Groups, Design Workshops, Gaming and Simulation Community Video, Community Newsheets, Planning for Real, Questionnaires, Attitude Measurement, Minolta mapping, Project Web Exchanges, Modelling- Life size/scaled and computer based*

The success of our community projects does not rely upon such methods. It requires effective communication with users, a flexibility to respond to the specific needs of any group and an ability to ensure that the design process is transparent to all participants.



## HOUSING/URBAN DESIGN PROJECTS:

*Housing projects: Social and Mixed Tenure*

<b>Eco-terraces, Stoke-on-Trent</b>	2007-present
Environmentally sensitive refurbishments	
<b>Queens Road, Stourbridge</b>	2006-present
Innovative, exemplar eco-friendly social housing	
<b>Stoke Road, Bletchley</b>	2004-present
Canalside scheme of 94 mixed tenure homes	
<b>Upton Site B, Northampton</b>	2004
Second place competition entry to develop 195 new homes	
<b>Camphill, Nuneaton</b>	2002—present
A scheme of 172 houses utilising Urban Village Principles	
<b>Chatham Road, Northfield</b>	2002—present
Development of 72 new homes and Extracare Scheme	
<b>Lyng, West Bromwich</b>	2000—2004
Development of high density urban flats and townhouses	
<b>Concorde Tower, Castle Vale, Birmingham</b>	2000—2003
Second phase of 42 houses and flats on Tangmere Drive	
<b>Sunderton Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham</b>	2000—present
Redevelopment of Smiths houses into new housing	
<b><i>Finalist Best Sustainable Regeneration Project 2003</i></b>	
<b>Bond Drive, Castle Vale, Birmingham</b>	2000—2002
22 family houses for rent	
<b>Tangmere Drive/Drem Croft, Castle Vale</b>	1999—2001
A low energy, courtyard development of 21 bungalows	
<b>Howes Croft, Castle Vale, Birmingham</b>	1999
Disabled bungalow development	
<b>Neville Walk &amp; Chigwell Close, Castle Vale</b>	1998— 1999
33 rented infill houses & bungalows	
<b>Sopwith Croft Phase 1 Castle Vale</b>	1998— 2000
42 rented homes with emphasis on tenant choice	
<b>Tewkesbury Millennium Housing competition</b>	1998
Second prize entry	
<b>Bryce Road phase 1, Dudley</b>	1996— 1998
A low energy, sustainable social housing project	
<b><i>Winner of the Homes 2000 Award</i></b>	



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**Ingestre Square, Blurton**

Delivery of mixed use development following masterplan

**Blurton, Stoke-on-Trent**

Large scale web-based estate consultation project

**Normacot, Stoke-on-Trent**

Local area environmental masterplan

**Lyndhurst Estate, Birmingham**

Tower block options appraisal and neighbourhood planning

**Coalville, Stoke on Trent**

Masterplan consultation and remodelling of a400 home estate

**Pitts Farm Estate, Birmingham**

Extensive environmental improvements and new Home Zone

**Birchfield Estate, Birmingham**

Options appraisal study

**Egghill Estate**

Housing regeneration masterplan/design guidance

**New Deal for Aston**

Sports and leisure-led regeneration proposals

**Brandwood Smiths Kings Heath, Birmingham**

Community planning project for 250 households

**Fairfields Estate, Market Drayton**

Resident led estate improvement proposal

**The Lyng, West Bromwich**

An urban, high density, housing regeneration project

**Irish Quarter, Digbeth, Birmingham**

Development options for the Irish Community Forum

**Holte/Priory Road, Birmingham**

Inner city local area planning

**Urban Care Project, Sparkbrook SRB,**

Training residents & running a large Community Health Survey

**Parkfields Estate, Castle Bromwich**

Production of resident-led Estate Improvement Plan

**Watton Green West Neighbourhood Strategy**

Castle Vale Local area consultative planning

**Sopwith Croft Neighbourhood Strategy, Castle Vale**

Local area consultative planning

**Ladywood Regeneration Framework, Birmingham**

Master Planning an inner city estate in Birmingham

**Pype Hayes Estate Regeneration, Birmingham**

Master Planning of an estate of 1600 mixed tenure homes

**Winner NHTPC National Partnership Award 1998**

2007—present

2005-present

2005-2006

2004-2006

2004—present

2003—2005

2003

2001-2004

2001-02

2000—present

2000-04

2000-04

2000

1999-04

1997-98

1998-02

1996-97

1995-96

1990-95

1989—present

