



**Award Category:** Design Excellence sponsored by Places for People

**Project:** Garden Avenue / Furzen Crescent

**Client:** Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council  
**Architect:** Rock Townsend



Garden Avenue and Furzen Crescent in Hatfield, which were previously council owned garage sites, have been extensively redeveloped to provide 22 new flats and 7 new houses as part of the first Council Housing scheme in the borough for 25 years. Adopting a 'mews' approach, the developments combine an established, traditional typology with a contemporary feel. Stylish, practical and energy efficient, meeting current best practice standards and the enhanced HQI spatial standards and Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4, the developments are traditional, creating simple forms with good proportions and considered detailing.

**Judges comments:**

"The quality of design and thought sets a precedent for Council development, showing what a pared down functional play on traditional forms can achieve. Small is beautiful."