

STAGES 4–5: URBAN PLACES

AND LIVEABILITY



DESIGN AN APARTMENT BLOCK

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With this task, students examine the population movements within Sydney, specifically focusing on the increasing population within our local suburb. Students assess strategies which will make urban places liveable for a larger population whilst encouraging sustainability. This activity is flexible in its nature, allowing for its application in a range of environments.

Stage 4 Place and liveability

Selected outcomes

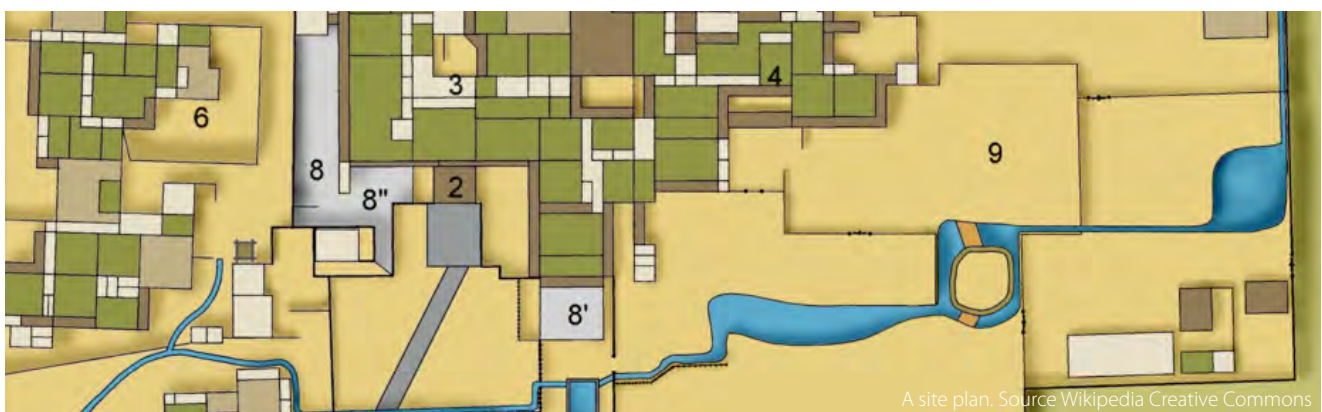
- GE4-3 explains how interactions and connections between people, places and environments result in change
- GE4-8 communicates geographical information using a variety of strategies

Inquiry question

What approaches can be used to improve the liveability of a place?

Content area

Students discuss factors that influence people's perceptions of the liveability of places and investigate the characteristics of places that support and enhance people's wellbeing. They assess the liveability of places and propose strategies to enhance the liveability of a place.





Paragon Apartments, Zetland. Source Wikipedia Creative Commons

Stage 5 Changing Places

Selected outcomes

- GE5-2 explains processes and influences that form and transform places and environments
- GE5-3 analyses the effect of interactions and connections between people, places and environments
- GE5-8 communicates geographical information to a range of audiences using a variety of strategies

Inquiry question

What strategies are used to manage environmental change in an urban place to enhance sustainability and liveability?

Content area

Students examine the patterns and trends in population movements and increasing urbanisation. They examine strategies to create liveable and sustainable urban places and propose solutions.

Adapted from

<https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/k-10/learning-areas/hsie/geography-k-10/content/1188>



Project management. Source Wikipedia Creative Commons

DESIGN AN APARTMENT BLOCK

The Problem

The population in _____ is increasing, meaning that there is a need for new apartment buildings to be established in the local area. For this reason, _____ is losing its basketball courts to high rise apartment buildings.

Working as a member of an architectural team in 2019, you are competing against other companies to win the contract to design a state-of-the-art apartment building for the _____ High School site. You must present your proposed design to a panel of professional architects, who will be awarding the contract. Your design must meet the needs of the local demographics. Your apartments must be a leading representation for sustainable Australia.

Required products and performances

1. advertisement brochure
2. community letter
3. development proposal
4. floor Plan (drawing)
5. site plan (drawing)
6. presentation

See detailed description for each product below



Open space at One Central Park Sydney.
Source: Wikimedia Commons

Team members

Teams need no more than four members.

Position	Team Member	Task
Company Marketing		Create an advertisement brochure for the development to promote it to potential buyers
The head of your company		Write a community letter to the people living in Huntleys Point to inform them of the development.
Project Manager		Draft a development proposal with RGHS for the project.
Interior Designer/ Architect		Design the interior of each apartment and outside of the block

Description of Required Products

ADVERTISEMENT BROCHURE

A brochure is an informative paper document for advertising, which can be folded into a template, pamphlet or leaflet. Brochures are promotional documents, primarily used to introduce a company, organisation, products or services and inform potential customers or members of the public of the benefits. The main purpose of a brochure is to extend the reader's knowledge on the apartment building.

Required Elements

- Location
- Services
- Infrastructure
- Why will this appeal to the local demographics?

Hints

- Define your audience: Ask yourself, "who is the target audience of your brochure?"
- Use an appealing headline
- Keep the content brief
- Use nice images
- Make it unique and eye-catching

COMMUNITY LETTER

A community letter is an informative piece of paper used to advise the local community about a development plan. If you want to call on the community to act on a particular issue, you must begin with a strong and persuasive letter to all community residents outlining the problem and suggesting a course of action.

Required elements

- Inform them of what is taking place
- Specify the benefits it will have on the community
- State how you are going to reduce any negative impacts/issues

DEVELOPMENT PROPOSAL

A Development Proposal helps organisations respond to buyer Request for Proposals (RFP). Having an established proposal development process should help ensure organisations develop the best proposal possible that satisfies all the seller and buyers needs and requirements.

Required elements

- Benefits to the school (or other location)
- Benefits to the development
- Sustainability
- Trade-offs

Hints

- Hook the seller and buyer
- Note anything that can hurt or increase the success of the development
- How will you overcome any obstacles?

NOTE: There is no need to reference amounts of money, it is about the deal



FLOOR PLAN

The floor plan should show the outline of each building (buildings only, not gardens or parking lots). They also show the location of interior walls, windows and exits.

Required elements

- all buildings/interior spaces must be clearly labelled
- use a standard symbol for windows and doors
- Construction options: online program or hand drawing

SITE PLAN

The site plan is an “artist’s rendering” of what the apartment complex looks like. It’s your chance to capture the viewer’s imagination and convey the spirit of the place (e.g., quiet, bustling, back-to-nature, high-tech ...).

Required elements

- Show detail such as building texture, landscaping, background
- Construction options: online program or hand drawing

PRESENTATION

The objective of the oral presentation is to highlight the strengths of your proposal and convince your client that you can handle the job. Your potential client (the panel of architects) gets a sense for what it would be like to work with you by the competence and sincerity you express, and by how you answer their questions and respond to their needs.

- you are limited to 10 minutes to explain your proposal, which will be followed by 2 minutes of questions from the architects
- you must prominently display the site plan, floor plan(s), perspective drawing, and scale model

Consider

Demographics	Use the ABS website to predict the future demographic of the suburb.
Fieldwork to the site	How much space do you have to build on? How big will each apartment be? What direction should the balconies be? Do you have room for green space at ground level? Or upper levels?
Advertisement Brochure	Location, services, infrastructure etc. around the area. What is going to appeal to the local incoming demographic?
Community letter	Inform them of what is taking place Specify the benefits it will have on the community State how you are going to reduce any negative impacts/issues
Building and Interior Design/Proposal	How will you share the space with the High School? What are the demographics being represented in _____? How will your building be environmentally, economically and socially sustainable? Will it offer different layouts to meet different needs e.g. three bedrooms for a family but one bedroom for an older couple? What colour will the building be? If your building is multiple levels, will it have an elevator? Car park? Facilities? How will aid in creating a sustainable Sydney?

URBAN PLACES AND LIVEABILITY

Timeline

Date/Lesson	
Week 6 Lesson 1	Start task
Week 6 Lesson 2	
Week 7 Lesson 1	
Week 7 Lesson 2	
Week 8 Lesson 2	
Week 9 Lesson 1	
Week 9 Lesson 2	Submit all work
Week 10	Present task



3D Floor plan. Source: Wikimedia Commons

URBAN PLACES AND LIVEABILITY

Peer Feedback

As each group presents, you will rank their proposal on a scale of 1-5 based on three indicators.

<p>Group members:</p> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 10px;"/> <p>After each group presents rate their proposal from the follow.</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="padding: 5px;"></th> <th style="padding: 5px;">Poor</th> <th colspan="3"></th> <th style="padding: 5px;">Fantastic</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Social sustainability</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">5</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Environmental sustainability</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">5</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Economic sustainability</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Feedback:</p> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black;"/>		Poor				Fantastic	Social sustainability	1	2	3	4	5	Environmental sustainability	1	2	3	4	5	Economic sustainability	1	2	3	4	5	<p>Group members:</p> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 10px;"/> <p>After each group presents rate their proposal from the follow.</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="padding: 5px;"></th> <th style="padding: 5px;">Poor</th> <th colspan="3"></th> <th style="padding: 5px;">Fantastic</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Social sustainability</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">5</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Environmental sustainability</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">5</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="padding: 5px;">Economic sustainability</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">1</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">2</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">3</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">4</td> <td style="text-align: center; padding: 5px;">5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>Feedback:</p> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black; margin-bottom: 5px;"/> <hr style="border: 0; border-top: 1px solid black;"/>		Poor				Fantastic	Social sustainability	1	2	3	4	5	Environmental sustainability	1	2	3	4	5	Economic sustainability	1	2	3	4	5
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