



As a result of a competition for a masterplan for the Stratford Thameside “Arc of Opportunity” in Newham, the practice was asked to carry out a masterplanning study focusing on Canning Town.

The area contains Ordnance Ward, recently identified as the most socially deprived ward in the U.K. Canning Town has suffered from immense damage as a result of traffic impact, and is completely dominated by the A13 flyover. Pringle Richards Sharratt’s proposals included the design of an environmental shield, for the A13, called The Cocoon, which enclosed and contained the flyover thereby minimising the impact of noise and pollution. The scheme also proposed a new local road network for pedestrians, cyclists and cars, leaving the centre of Canning Town less congested, to allow more community based events to take place.

The study included some major new high density, but human scale, housing projects, the revitalisation of the existing market, a new piazza and adjoining urban spaces, a commercial centre and a number of environmental initiatives. A proposal for urban farming and market gardens provided the residents with the opportunity to sell their produce in a new urban farmers’ market, based in the piazza. Simple environmental measures were integrated into the designs for the housing projects, including methane recycling from London’s largest sewage works at Beckton, wind power and building orientation.



Above: new high density housing flanking the River Lea

Below: sustainable housing project at Bidder Street, Canning Town

