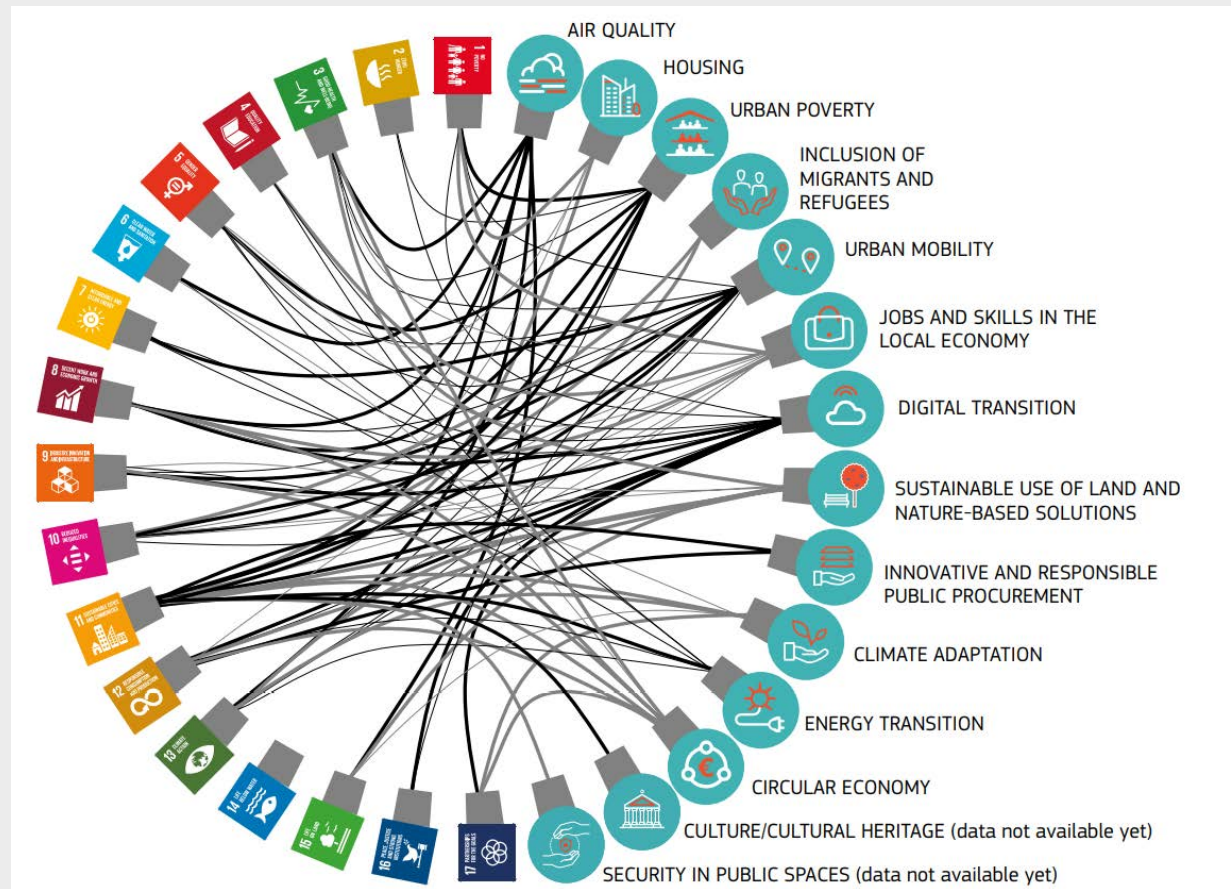


# Urban Resilience

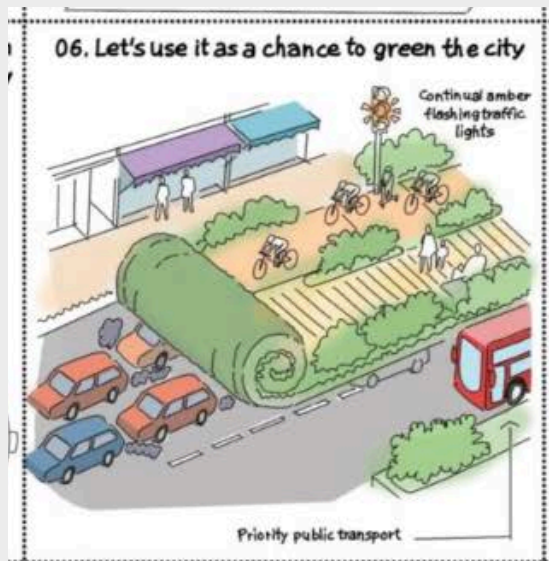
The ability to bounce (back) forward

IPI Webinar

Gráinne Shaffrey June 2020



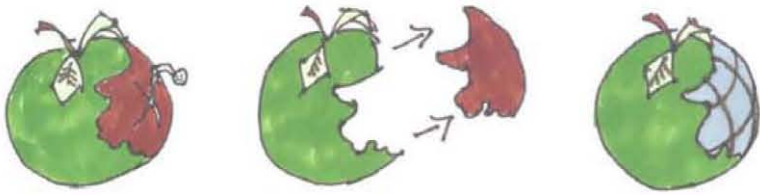
Jörg Haspel, ICOMOS Germany: The Urban Agenda Partnership for Culture and Cultural Heritage for the EU



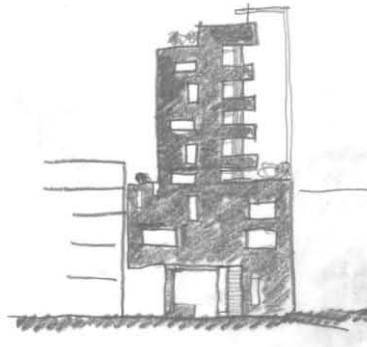
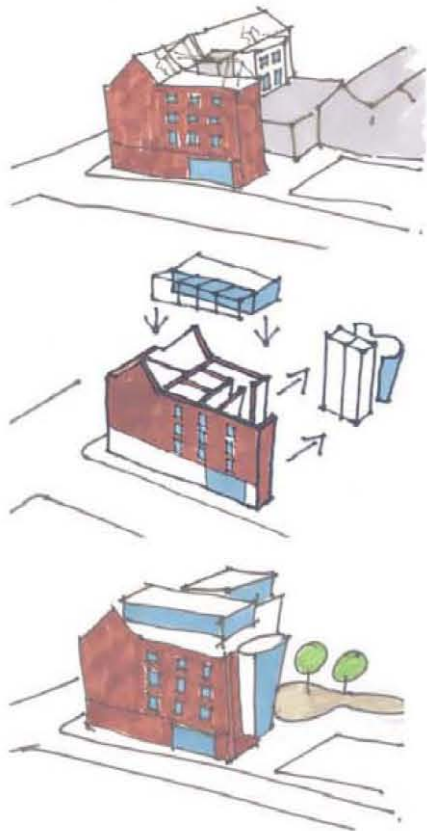
Weston Williamson + Partners

## Themes

- Some observations from Covid
- Some resilient (Irish) urban concepts
- Final thoughts



"The City crumbles and is repaired"



Continuity + Change: Ability to Adapt



An aerial photograph of a densely populated city, likely London, showing a wide river (the River Thames) winding through the urban landscape. The city is characterized by a high density of buildings, many with red-tiled roofs, and a complex network of streets. A prominent cathedral with a tall spire is visible on the right side of the image. The river is a central feature, with several bridges crossing it. The overall scene depicts a vibrant, historic urban environment.

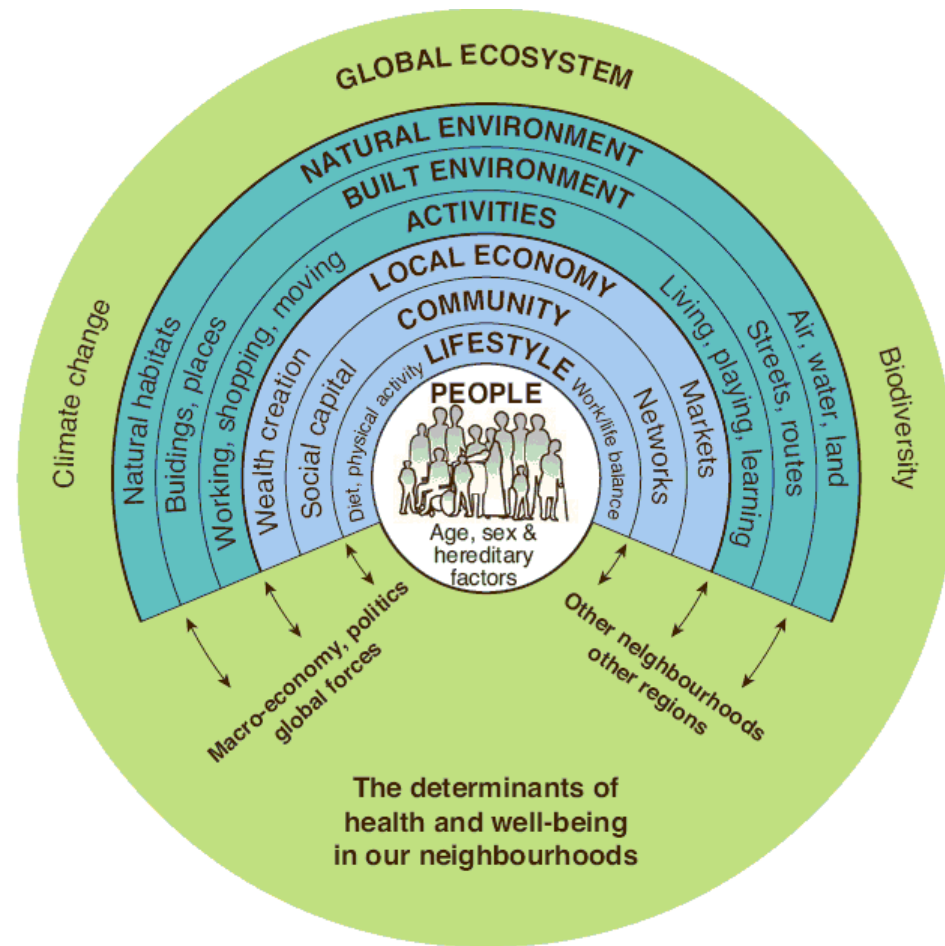
Cities are dynamic organisms. There is not a single 'historic' city in the world that has retained its 'original' character: the concept is a moving target destined to change with society itself.

*(UNESCO New Life for Historic Cities: Historic Urban Landscapes Explained)*

Wellbeing

Health + Safety (Wellbeing) as the key determinant of  
urban planning and design





IPH submission to draft Sustainable Residential Development in Urban Areas:

***“Finally we enclose for your consideration, a copy of a resource developed by the Institute entitled the ‘Health Impacts of the Built Environment’ which summarises many of the potential health impacts of development referred to in the draft guidelines.”***

*Figure 1: The determinants of health and well-being (Barton & Grant 2006)*

Source: Barton & Grant 2006 (based on Whitehead and Dahlgren diagram of 1991)

**The only place to  
go is “out”**

“Out” is the environment

“Out” has been local

The physical and spatial dimensions

Tangible and intangible

The historic urban context includes notably the site's topography, geomorphology, hydrology and natural features, its built environment, both historic and contemporary, its infrastructures above and below ground; its open spaces and gardens, its land use patterns and spatial organization; perceptions and visual relationships; as well as all other elements of the urban structure. It also includes social and cultural practices and values, economic processes and the intangible dimensions of heritage as related to diversity and identity.

*(UNESCO New Life for Historic Cities: Historic Urban Landscapes Explained)*







Francis Tibbalds, *Making People Friendly Towns*, 1988)

***“The human animal requires a spatial territory in which to live that possesses unique features, surprises, visual oddities, landmarks and architectural idiosyncrasies”***

(Desmond Morris, *The Human Zoo*)





Drogheda, Co. Louth –

Shape of the town - urban set-pieces; aesthetic and sensual experiences



Shaffrey Architects

## **Scale**

The home

The path

The neighbourhood

Proximity and Distance

The 15 minute city (Paris)

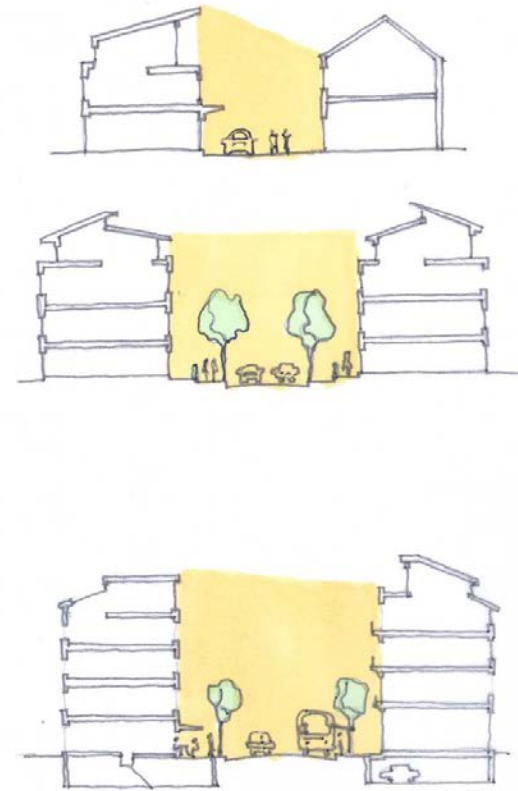




Compact urban settlement

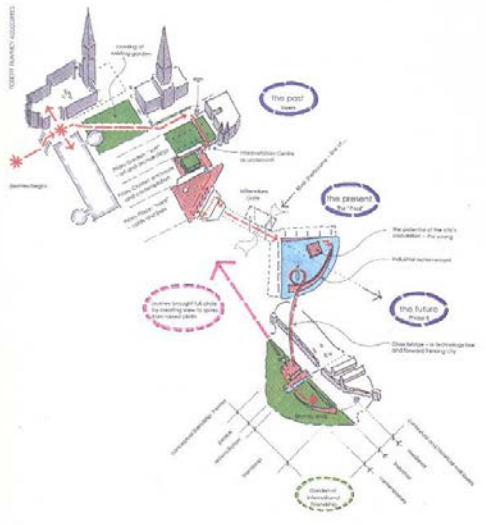


If wellbeing is the objective a new measure of urban density is needed



Street sections illustrate spatial character

Spatial Enclosure – Parliament Street, Dublin (left)



Excavation, conservation, presentation and integration of Coventry Cathedral as urban regeneration tool.





Coventry Cathedral





Guinness Storehouse





## **Social Cohesion**

Community + Civicness

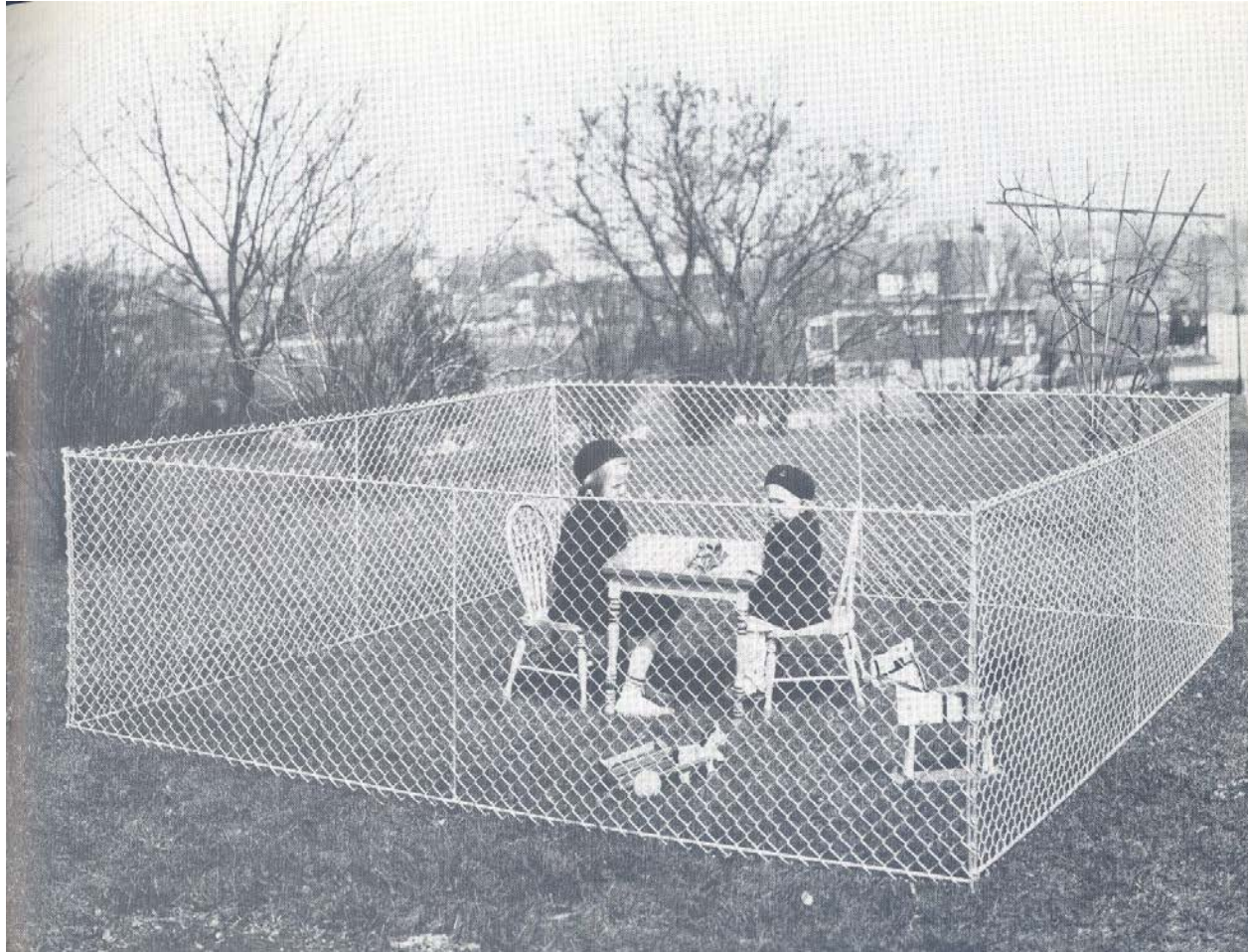
Not a given

Quality of our physical environment – from home to neighbourhood

Culture - Nature

Equity of Quality and equity of access

Proximity – Diversity



***Place is security, space is freedom: we are attached to the one and long for the other***

(Yi-Fu Tuan, *Space and Place: The Perspectives of Experience* (1977),  
from Gregory K. Dreicer, Ed. The National Building Museum, *Between Fences*, Princeton Architectural Press, 1996) 17





***“The defining characteristics of urban public space are proximity, diversity, and accessibility”***

(Sharon Zukin, *The Culture of Cities*, 1995, cited in *In Search of New Public Domain*, Martin Hajer/Arnold Reigndorp, NAI publishers, 2001)





**SPATIAL ENCLOSURE – LANDSCAPE:**

**Spatial Enclosure, street definition – Chapelizod Village**





O'Connell Street 1986 (Fáilte Ireland)



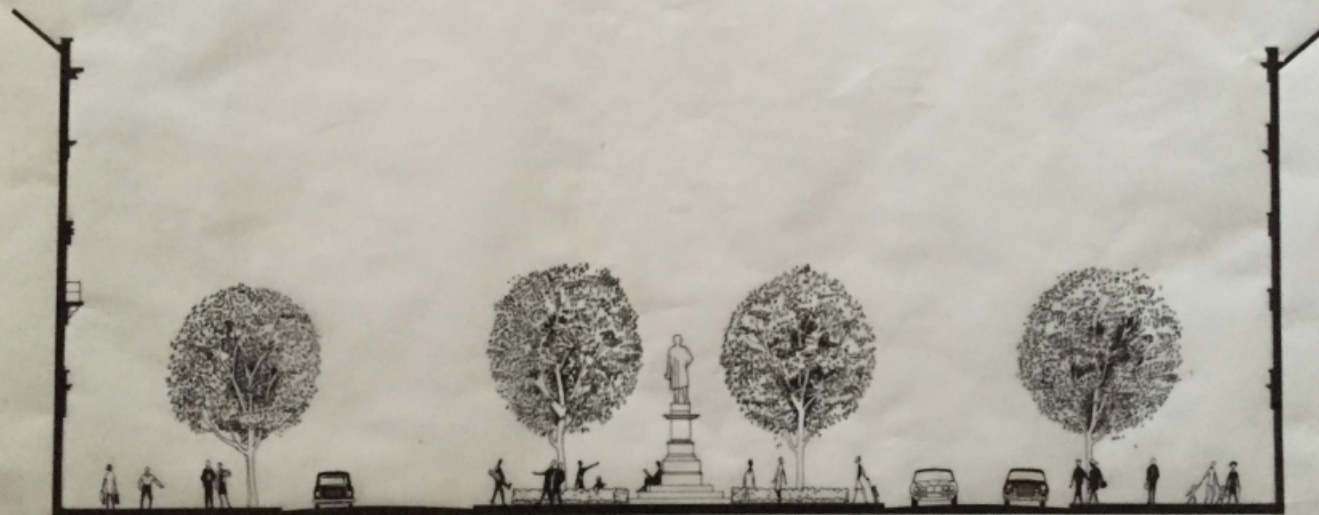
VIEW OF O'CONNELL ST. AND OF  
O'CONNELL BRIDGE FROM  
NO. 1, D'OLIER STREET (UPSTAIRS),  
WITH PROPOSED IMPROVEMENTS  
DURING SPRING OR SUMMER.  
DATE: OCT. 1986.

PATRICK SHAFFREY AND ASSOC.,  
44, UPR. GEORGES STREET,  
DUN LAGHAIRE,  
CO. DUBLIN.  
PHONE 605054/803026.



O'CONNELL STREET - STREET SECTION.

9



SECTION

• O'CONNELL STREET DUBLIN •

PATRICK SHAFFREY & ASSOCIATES.  
DATE, 4 SEPTEMBER 1986.  
SCALE, 1 : 100.







COLLEGE GREEN  
A PLACE FOR PEOPLE





Irish Times

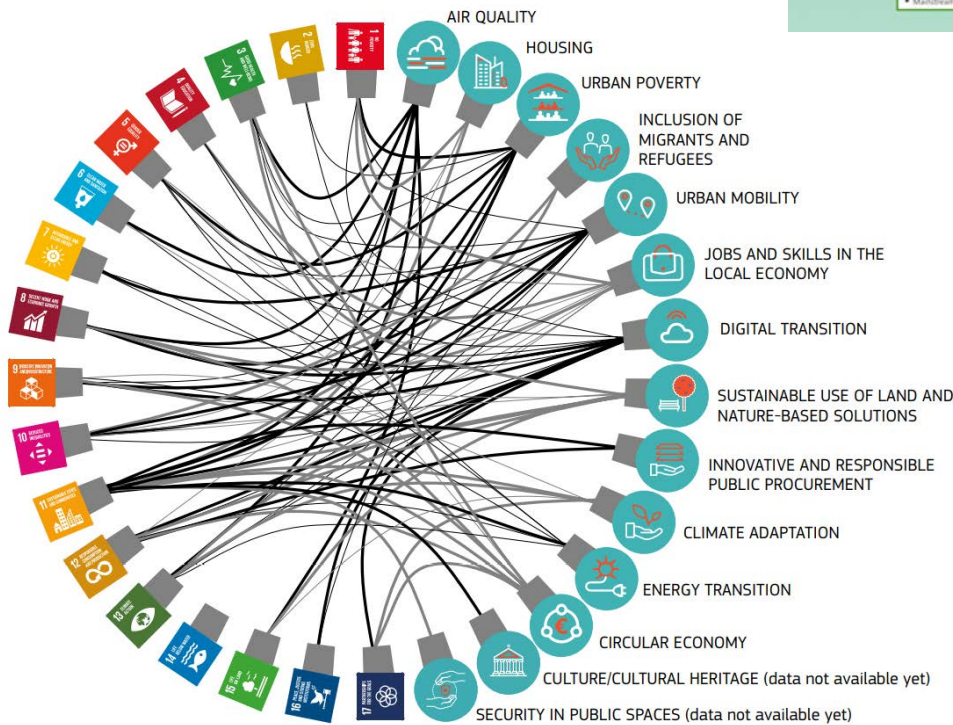
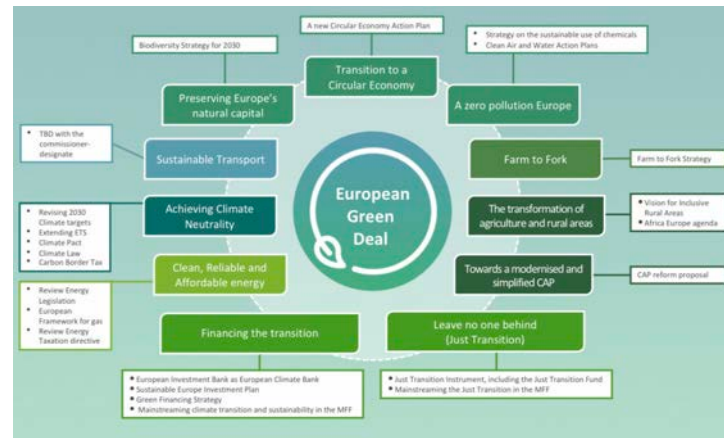
## **Final Thoughts**

**A  
Dress Rehearsal  
for  
Climate Change?**





Barton & Grant 2006 (based on Whitehead and Dahlgren diagram of 1991)



...a paradigm shift...?

EU Target: by 2050 reduction in energy consumption by 80%  
 Implication: In 2050, 90% of the existing building stock (2011) will exist and be in use

## CIRCULAR ECONOMY for the built environment (Architects Council of Europe)

•CULTURAL APPROACH– maintain and re-use first: preserving resources by high quality design. Preservation and improvement of the existing built environment is the best strategy for avoiding the generation of waste. Buildings that are socially and culturally appreciated have longer lifespans and inspire generations of owners and users to preserve the resources invested in them. What we build or retrofit today, should aspire to becoming cultural heritage for the future

•FUNCTIONAL APPROACH– designing for adaptability: accommodating changing needs.

•TECHNICAL APPROACH– designing for easy replacement and direct reuse

•MATERIAL APPROACH– prescribing the right materials: making recycling possible







### Obsolescence of the 1970's construction

- 35 year lifespan of service
- Yet solid structure – concrete & embodied energy
- concept of the 'Grade A' office



And yet, what is the lifespan of the C21st office?

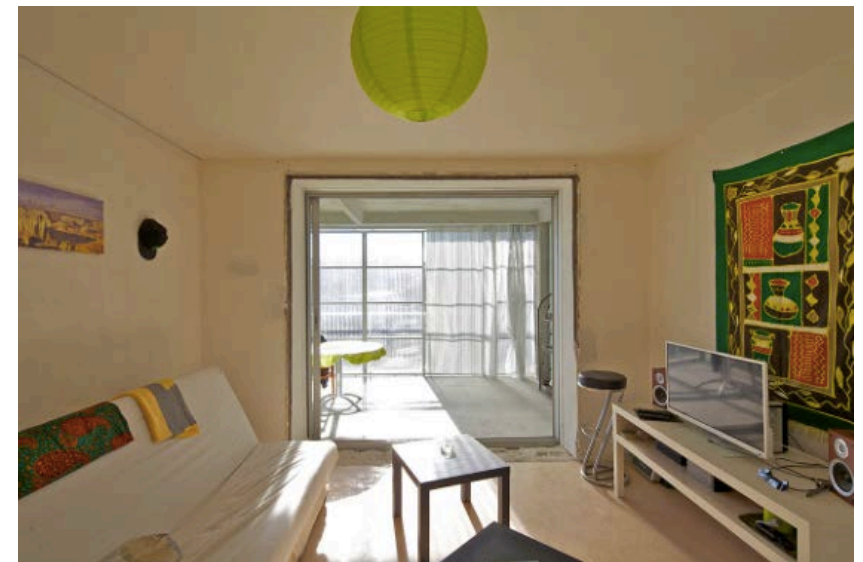
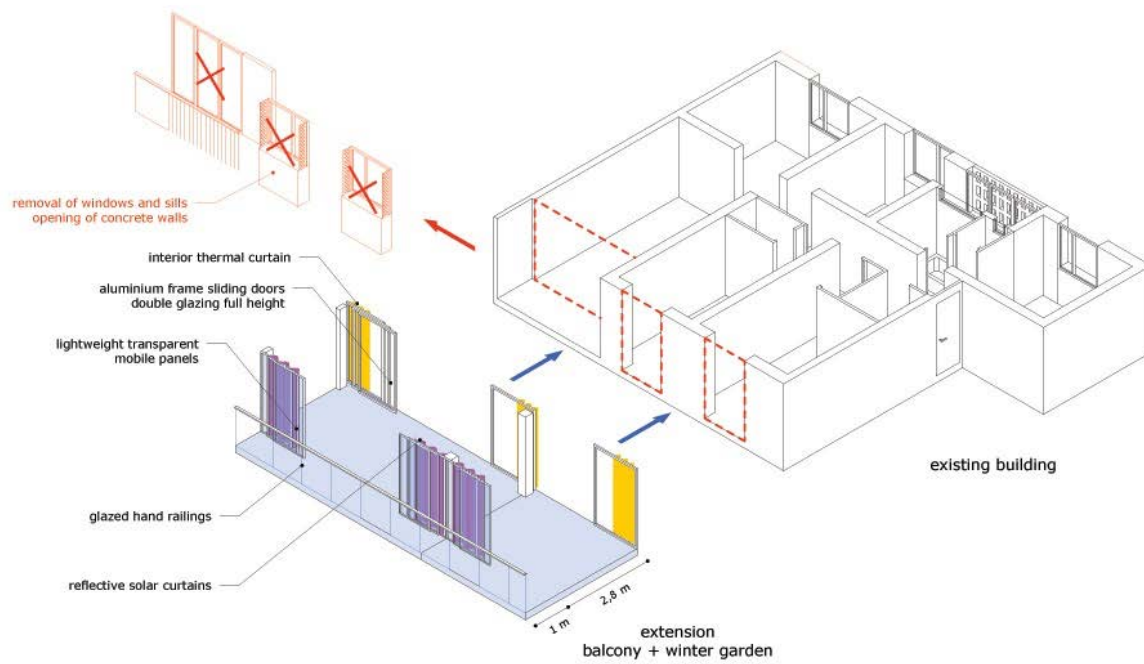
The changing nature of work and places of work





Transformation of 530 dwellings, Grand Parc Bordeaux (Anne Lacaton, Jean-Philippe Vassal, Frédéric Druot, Christophe Hutin)





Transformation of 530 dwellings, Grand Parc Bordeaux  
(Anne Lacaton, Jean-Philippe Vassal, Frédéric Druot, Christophe Hutin)



Mews Lane

Coach Yard

Coach House

Mews Garden

House Garden

Return / Rear Cellars

Main House

Front Area / Steps / Cellars

The Georgian Unit – ultimate resilience







Castleblayney – the shrinking small town

Vacancy; dereliction; wasted assets





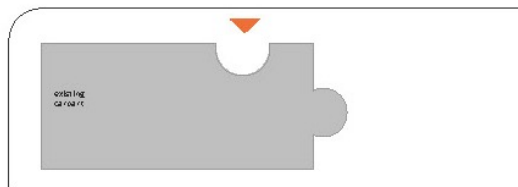
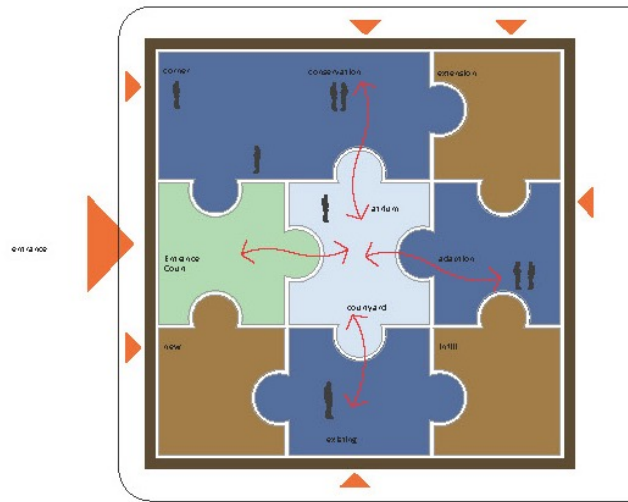
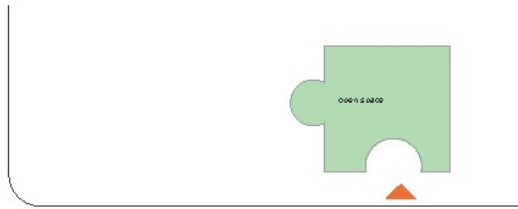
The Market House – Castleblayney's Digital Hub



The credibility of living on the main street

And yet – can we afford to waste this resource?





**Collective · Amalgamation**



Top  
Middle  
Bottom

Pearse St: Henry J Lyonw  
Dental Hospital: McCullough Mulvin  
Asprey's London: Foster Architects





- Existing buildings—Protected structure
- Existing building— not protected
- New building



Liveability- calm, green, pedestrian friendly, local, accommodating. diverse



Everything connects