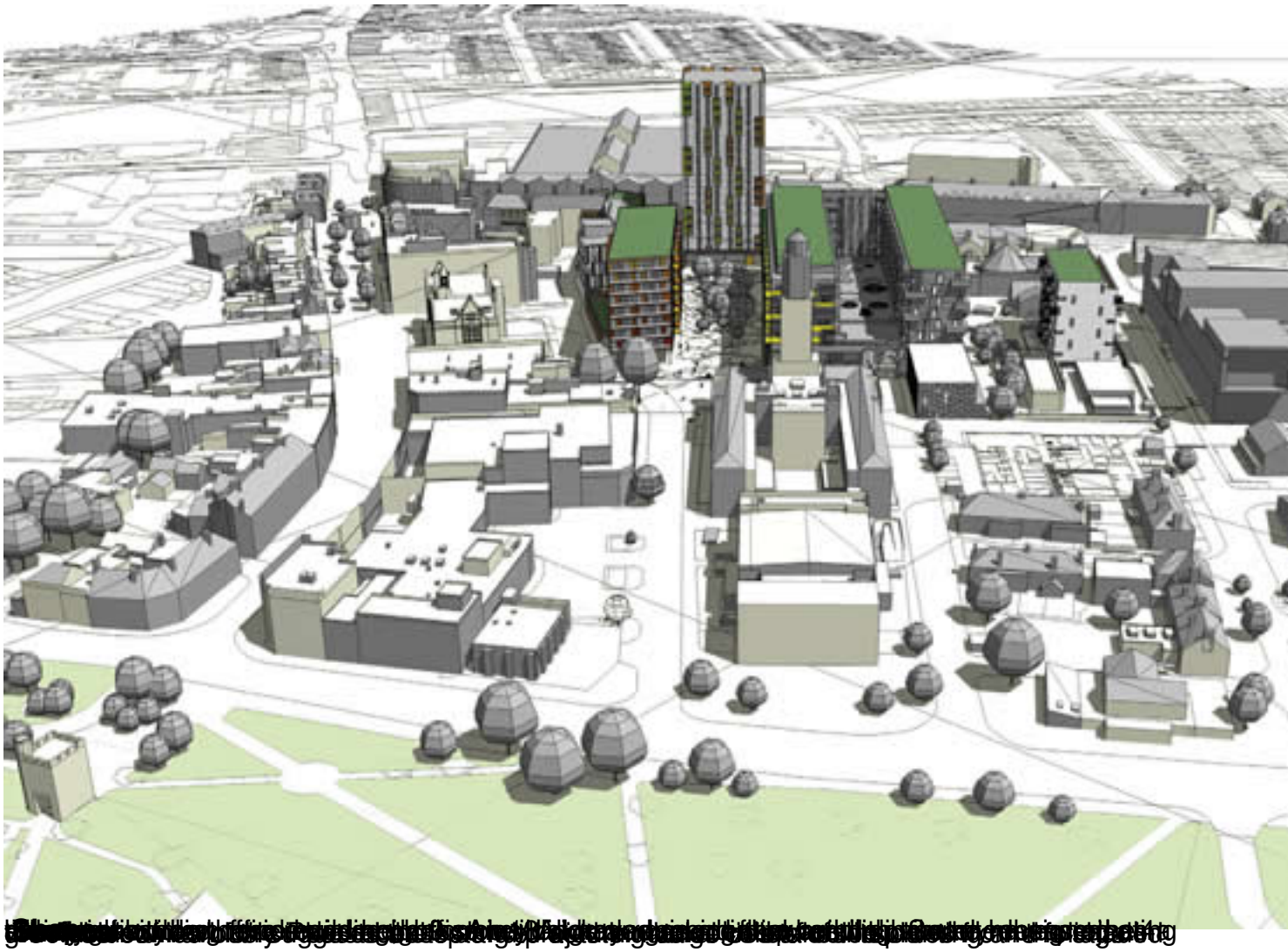
This second phase of development around Barking Town Hall and its new plaza completes an architectural ensemble grouped either side of a compact urban woodland called the Arboretum.

To the immediate east of the new Arboretum is the recently completed apartment building and Learning Centre of Barking Central I which establishes the identity of the whole scheme. To the west and north are four of the new

Barking Central II buildings, and one further residential block on Axe Street to the east of Phase I. They are deliberately mixed in both character and size. The residential accommodation in the scheme contains a variety of high specification 1, 2 and 3 bed units, each with private amenity spaces.

The scheme incorporates a sustainability strategy providing 10% renewables through bio mass heating and wind turbines. Consideration is given to the material choices and the scheme includes both brown and green roofs.

The Learning Centre and Town Hall will attract visitors in search of information and it is hoped that the second phase will not only provide a pleasant place for locals and children to sit out but will attract shoppers and lunchers together with people engaged in more overtly commercial pursuits. It is anticipated that the development will be able to attract a wide range of tenants. The design maintains active ground floor street edges, which ensure a kind of vibrancy and enables natural surveillance of the area.