



Urbanism Awards 2023 nomination: Amersfoort, Netherlands

European City of the Year category

The supporting statement for Amersfoort's nomination is quoted in full below.

"Amersfoort is a mid sized city in the province of Utrecht in the centre of the Netherlands. With a population of 161,000, it is comparable in size and role to many British towns. What distinguishes the town is the three planned urban extensions undertaken as part of the Dutch VINEX programme. They are all different, having for example pioneered eco principles, and have greatly impressed English visitors on study tours.

"The largest Vathorst involved building 10,000 homes plus commercial spaces, through a partnership set up by the local authority. Not only does it show how attractive and varied new homes can be, but also the proactive role played by the municipality through the leadership of Alderman Tom de Mann, who particularly impressed visitors from Cambridge. The case study has been written up in a number of publications and there is an excellent visitor centre and a new station that serves the suburb."