PLC: Contemporary urban environments

Unit criteria	Review 1			Review 2			Review 3		
	☺	😐	☹	☺	😐	☹	☺	😐	☹
Urbanisation and its importance in human affairs. Global patterns of urbanisation since 1945.									
The emergence of megacities and world cities and their role in global and regional economies									
Economic, social, technological, political and demographic processes associated with urbanisation and urban growth									
Urban change: deindustrialisation, decentralisation, rise of service economy									
Urban policy and regeneration in Britain since 1979									
Contemporary characteristics of mega/world cities. Urban characteristics in contrasting settings. Physical and human factors in urban forms. Spatial patterns of land use, economic inequality, social segregation and cultural diversity in contrasting urban areas, and the factors that influence them									
New urban landscapes: town centre mixed developments, cultural and heritage quarters, fortress developments, gentrified areas, edge cities. The concept of the post-modern western city									
Issues associated with economic inequality, social segregation and cultural diversity in contrasting urban areas.									
Strategies to manage these issues									
The impact of urban forms and processes on local climate and weather									
Urban microclimates (temperature, precipitation, wind, fog, thunderstorms, air quality)									
Pollution reduction policies									
Urban precipitation, surfaces and catchment characteristics; urban water cycle: water movement through urban catchments as measured by hydrographs									
Issues associated with catchment management in urban areas. The development of sustainable urban drainage systems									
River restoration and conservation in damaged urban catchments with reference to a specific project. Reasons for the project; attitudes of parties involved; activities and evaluation									
Urban physical waste generation: sources of waste. Relation of waste components and waste streams to economic characteristics, lifestyles and attitudes. The environmental impacts of alternative approaches to waste disposal.									
Comparison of incineration and landfill approaches to waste disposal in relation to a specified urban area									
Environmental problems in contrasting urban areas: atmospheric pollution, water pollution and dereliction									
Strategies to manage these environmental problems									
Impact of urban areas on local and global environments. Ecological footprint of major urban areas. Nature and features of sustainable cities. Concept of liveability									
Contemporary opportunities and challenges in developing more sustainable cities									
Strategies for developing more sustainable cities									
Case studies of two contrasting urban areas to illustrate and analyse key themes set out above.									