

Conservation and urban design

Areas of special local character

Areas of Special Local Character are a local designation, and include areas that possess sufficient architectural, townscape and environmental quality to make them of considerable local value. Currently Hillingdon has 14 Areas of Special Local Character (ASLC), some of which were designated as part of the Unitary Development Plan (UDP) and others more recently as areas have been reviewed.

The Council's planning policies seek to preserve and enhance the local architectural character and appearance of these areas, and to resist inappropriate development. The designation brings a level of restriction with regard to planning applications, which would seek to protect and enhance the special character of the area. The restrictions would not be to the same extent as those within a Conservation Area and **would not affect permitted development rights**. When considering proposals for works within an ASLC the following are important:

- Extensions, to side or rear would only be permitted where they are appropriate to the building and would cause no harm to the street scene and the character of the proposed area.
- Porches and front extensions should be subordinate in scale and should not be detrimental to the visual amenity of the street scene.
- The external materials and details of any extension should reflect the materials, design features and architectural style predominant in the area.
- Back-land development is unlikely to be acceptable.
- Boundary treatment should be in keeping with the street scene.