



HUDDERSFIELD TOWN CENTRE DESIGN FRAMEWORK

FOREWORD

The purpose of this document is to provide a clear guide for improving the public realm of Huddersfield Town Centre to reflect the growing ambition of this proud and historic town.

There is a growing body of evidence to show a clear link between the quality of an urban environment, its green spaces and the economic vitality of a town centre.

Huddersfield is a place where people work, shop, live, learn and visit for a variety of leisure activities. We want to build on the aspirations of our University and attract and retain young people with our 21st Century offer of culture and opportunity, within a distinctive Victorian urban setting.

We aim to blend traditional urban buildings with contemporary designs, and form a town centre that is clean, healthy and serves a variety of key purposes for all our communities.

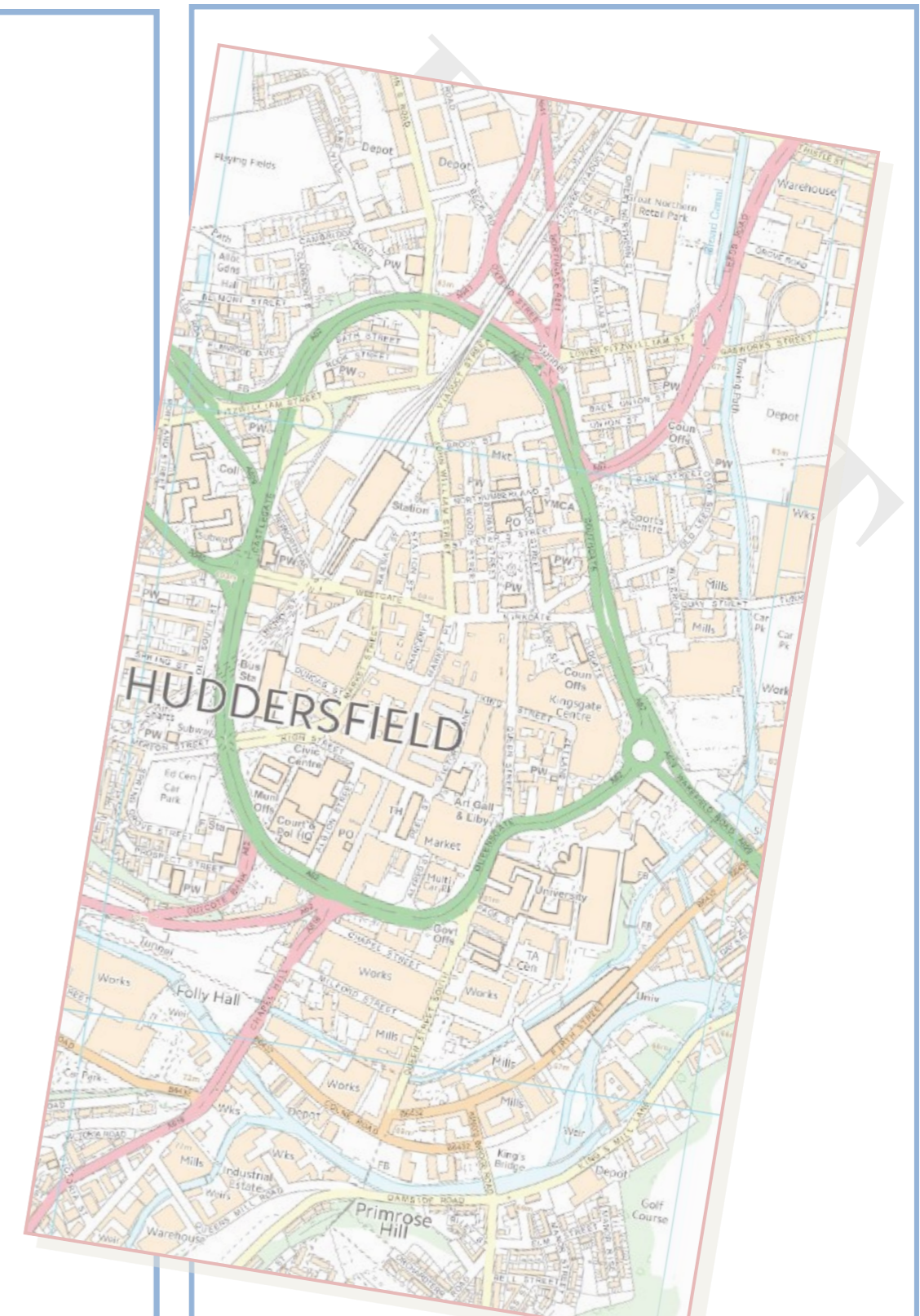
This framework provides that continuity of purpose and, in doing so, will foster a common understanding between the council, businesses, residents and all our local interests groups to work towards a common and evolving goal of a high quality urban realm for our main town centre.



**Foreword by Chief Executive
Jacqui Gedman**

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INTRODUCTION

Development of the public realm is a core component of urban regeneration. Good design can create successful places, where people will choose to live, work, play, shop and invest. By careful use of resources and the creation of a quality environment we can make Huddersfield more sustainable, attract business and investment and reinforce civic pride, culture and sense of place for everyone. The benefits of an improved pedestrian environment and reducing the detrimental impacts of traffic have been recognised nationally and regionally, and is a future aspiration for our town centre.

Image has become crucial in promoting cities and towns. Places now need to promote their distinctive quality to differentiate their environment from that of other competing places.

Huddersfield is a large town, with elements of rich historical quality, comprising over 300 Listed Buildings ranging from the Grade I railway station to Grade II former merchants houses and warehousing. St George's Square is widely known as one of the most significant Victorian Squares outside of London. The majority of the town centre is also designated as a Conservation Area that reflects its importance as an area of special architectural and historic interest. The town's strong identity and sense of place contribute directly to its economic success and its attractiveness as a place to be. The public realm has a key role to play in this process. It is widely recognised that a welcoming and high quality public realm is one of the key components of achieving a prosperous town.

Our public realm acts as a stage upon which the life of the town is played out. It is the glue that binds together the town's diverse areas. Improving the public realm, if executed effectively, will provide the key overall benefit that will once again make Huddersfield a diverse, modern town and thriving town.

The council is dedicated to enhancing and improving the unique built heritage, and providing well designed, sustainable places, in a comprehensive way, which will reflect Huddersfield's status as a main urban centre within Kirklees, West Yorkshire and ultimately being a major contributor to the economic 'Northern Powerhouse'.

The Council through the Local Planning Authority has recognised the importance of good design in achieving not only areas of high architectural and urban design quality but acting as a catalyst for driving inward investment and regeneration. Well-designed buildings and spaces provide for a better quality experience when working, shopping or just visiting for leisure purposes. To act as a fulcrum to this, this Design Guide has been developed to not only guide the development process and provide advice on public realm, but will be a statutory planning document that will hold weight in future planning decisions.

The Council is also a strong supporter of Green Streets® being a key element of our town centre. Green Streets® is a collaboration between the Yorkshire West Local Nature Partnership and the West Yorkshire Combined Authority to ensure that green infrastructure is integrated into the designs of major investment programmes to produce, through co-ordinated design, a range of economic, social and environmental benefits.

Green infrastructure is also crucial to mitigating the effects of climate change, e.g. the urban heat island effect and helping improve air quality.

Green Streets® principles involve multi-disciplinary teams working together to bring high quality design and layouts to any proposed development and this report aims to draw on these principles in this key document.

Recommendations and how this framework fits into the Local Plan, Supplementary Planning Documents and Governance will also be considered, as will the consequences of costs for design, material specification and long term maintenance.



Huddersfield Open Market Gateway, looking along Byram Street

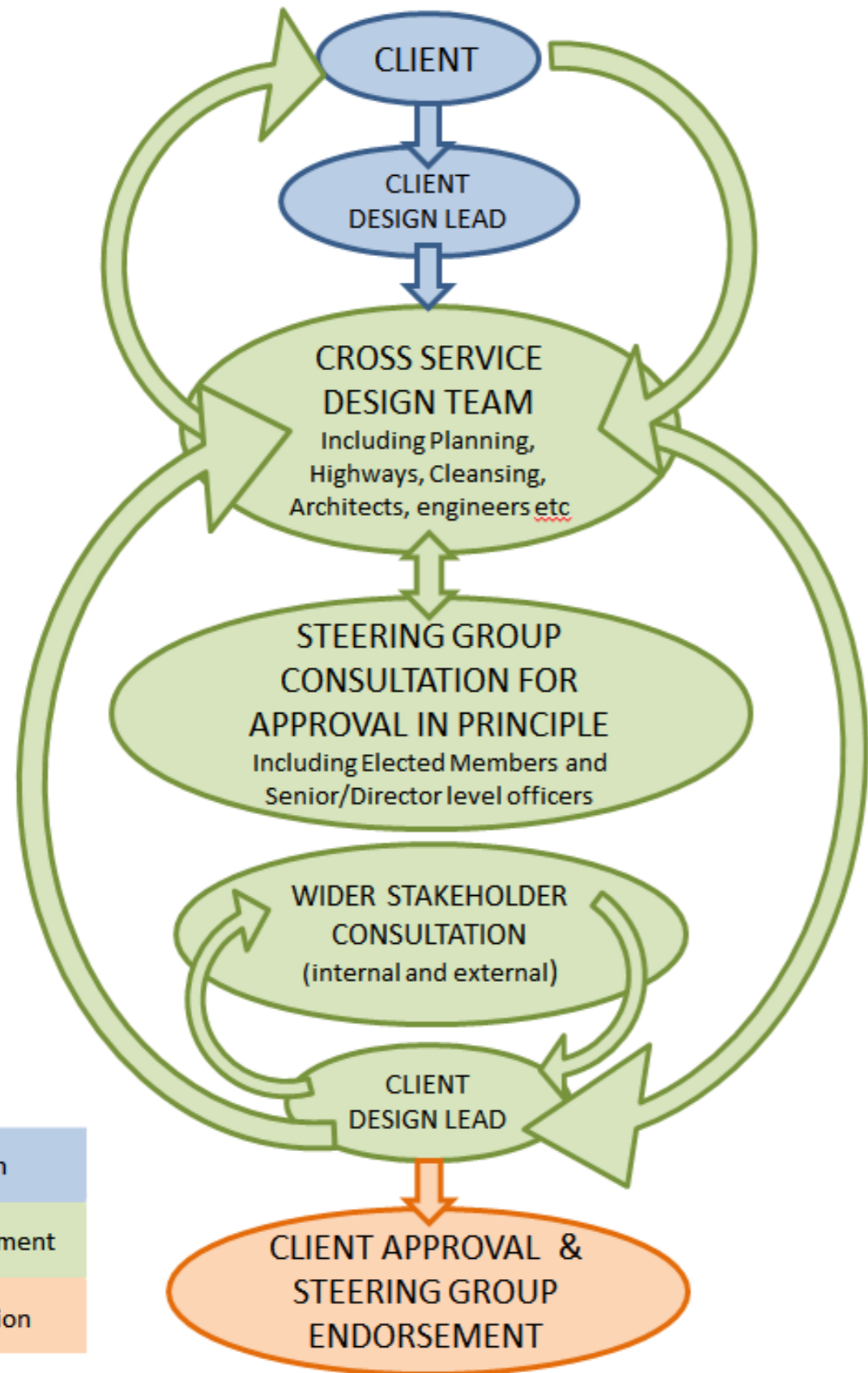


Huddersfield Railway Station



Fitzwilliam House, Fitzwilliam Street, Huddersfield

DESIGN GOVERNANCE



Our ultimate aim is to ensure that the quality of public realm in and around our Town Centre is improved. To ensure that this is achieved our end product quality needs to be monitored closely.

Green Streets® Principles

For town centre gateway improvements or larger scale developments it is essential to bring together key disciplines. We will set up a mechanism to do this which will be delivered through a multi-disciplinary Design Team with reference to stakeholders, and incorporating Green Streets® principles at every stage.

For final sign off on funding and quality individual projects or initiatives should be agreed through a Steering Group.

The Steering Group should consist of officers and a Cabinet Member who hold senior positions in the council and have responsibility for ensuring that quality and consistency of approach is achieved.

To the left is a proposed project governance for dealing with projects within the public realm.









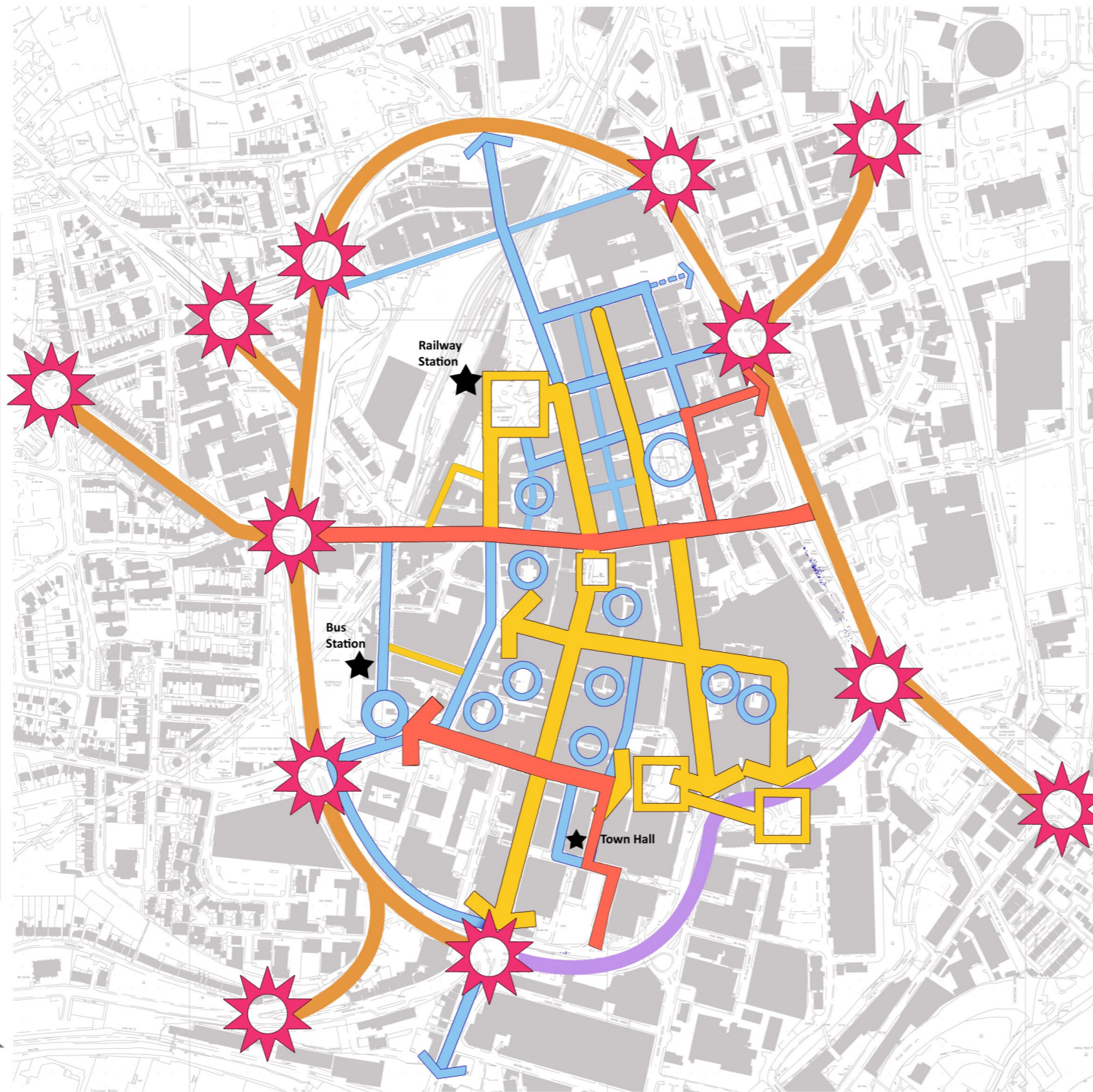
Incorporates the Green Streets® methodology

HUDDERSFIELD TOWN CENTRE OVERVIEW

Spatial hierarchy for public realm treatment - working with the existing layout

SPATIAL HIERARCHY For Public Realm Treatment

-  Principal streets
 -  Principal bus streets
 -  Premier spaces
 -  Key Gateways
 -  Secondary streets
 -  Secondary spaces & Historic Yards & their access
 -  Secondary routes along ring road
 -  Ring road and key routes into town
- Unmarked streets within the ring road (Tertiary Streets) receive the bronze treatment.



To achieve a coherent and successful design strategy we will adopt the design governance approach as outlined on page 5.

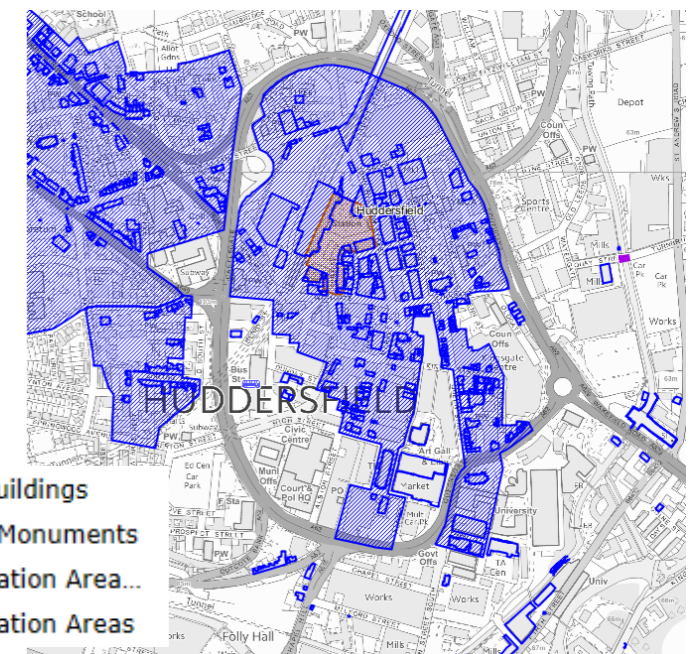
Currently Huddersfield town centre and its surrounding environs is a mixture of different design styles incorporating areas developed and executed at various periods over time. Paving, street furniture and the like, in parts, only serve to display a clash of form and appearance, often disrupting the visual experience.

Different styles can work well when combined with a sense of coherence and skilfully executed.

By developing a coherent public realm strategy, Huddersfield town centre will be enhanced by improved connectivity and circulation, better interface with improved use and development of current resources such as renaissance / historic quarter, the yards and arcades. The provision of significant greenspace complemented with a comprehensive street tree planting regime throughout the centre is vital.

The aim is to bring functionality and standards together with the development of a coherent and legible public realm whilst also considering costs over time for the creation of the following:

- Hierarchy of connecting streets and routes i.e. Gold, Silver, Bronze with the development of a clear palette of surface materials and street furniture, the quality tying in with the associated historic environment such as conservation area and listed buildings.
- Clearer definition of zones listed above.
- Elimination of pedestrian and vehicle conflict.
- Creation of greenspaces and a comprehensive tree planting programme linking to nearby areas such as Greenhead Park
- Green links between the university and the centre of town, heading towards transport hubs so that these areas become one place.
- The intention to invite and encourage young people to remain within the town centre environment, radiating out to the surrounding areas.



SPATIAL HIERARCHY—MATERIALS MATRIX

We are seeking to achieve the highest possible standard across the town centre. These are the standards which should be met in the design process, however it is not achievable in some cases. If the standard or quality is to be lowered, a clear rationale and the reasoning behind the departure from the standard needs to be approved by the steering group. Development of a coherent and legible public realm can incorporate both smaller or bespoke elements of works & larger transformational schemes, either, undertaken using Green Streets® principles, will ensure a holistic approach rather than one which is piecemeal.

	GOLD STANDARD A	GOLD STANDARD B	GOLD STANDARD C	SILVER STANDARD A	SILVER STANDARD B	BRONZE STANDARD A	BRONZE STANDARD B
PUBLIC REALM ELEMENT	PREMIER SPACES (CONSERVATION AREAS, STREETS WITH HISTORIC OR LISTED BUILDINGS AND BUILDINGS OF ARCHITECTURAL INTEREST)	PRINCIPAL STREETS AND HISTORIC SPACES THAT ARE USED PRE-DOMINANTLY BY PEDESTRIANS WITH LIGHT/RESTRICTED VEHICULAR USE, CONSERVATION AREAS	KEY GATEWAYS AND HISTORIC STREETS WITH HEAVY VEHICULAR USE, CONSERVATION AREAS (PRINCIPAL BUS STREETS)	HISTORIC YARD SPACES	SECONDARY STREETS AND PUBLIC REALM ALONG RING ROAD	URBAN TREE LINKS AND LINKS BETWEEN KEY GATEWAYS, RING ROAD	TERTIARY TOWN CENTRE STREET AND SPACES
SURFACE MATERIALS	YORKSTONE PAVING WIDE STONE KERBS(IF REQUIRED) GRANITE/ SANDSTONE ROADWAY SETTS (ASPHALT/ PRE-CAST CONCRETE ROADWAY SETTS IN AREAS OF HIGH VEHICULAR USE ONLY) MATERIALS LIMITED TO TWO VARIATIONS FOR DESIGN EMPHASIS/HIGHLIGHTS.	YORKSTONE PAVING/PRE-CAST CONCRETE PEDESTRIAN SETTS. WIDE STONE KERBS OR CONSERVATION KERBS. PRE-CAST CONCRETE ROADWAY SETTS/MINIMAL ASPHALT. MATERIALS LIMITED TO TWO VARIATIONS FOR DESIGN EMPHASIS/HIGHLIGHTS.	YORKSTONE PAVING/PRE-CAST CONCRETE PEDESTRIAN SETTS. WIDE STONE KERBS. ASPHALT OR PRE-CAST CONCRETE ROADWAY SETTS. MATERIALS LIMITED TO TWO VARIATIONS FOR DESIGN EMPHASIS/HIGHLIGHTS.	GRANITE/ SANDSTONE ON PEDESTRIAN AREAS OR HIGH QUALITY CONCRETE PAVING HIGH QUALITY CONCRETE ECO KERBS/ CONSERVATION KERBS ASPHALT ROADWAYS, YORKSTONE PAVING,WIDE STONE KERBS, GRANITE SETTS CAN BE USED AS EMPHASIS/HIGHLIGHTS.	PRE-CAST CONCRETE PAVING OR ASPHALT ON PEDESTRIAN AREAS HIGH QUALITY CONCRETE ECO KERBS/ CONSERVATION KERBS ASPHALT ROADWAYS, STONE/PRE CAST CONCRETE SETTS CAN BE USED AS EMPHASIS/HIGHLIGHTS.	HIGH QUALITY CONCRETE PAVING. WIDE CONCRETE KERBS. ASPHALT ROADWAY, SOME SETTS AS FOCAL POINTS.	QUALITY CONCRETE PAVING OR ASPHALT PRE CAST CONCRETE KERBS. ASPHALT ROADWAY, SOME SETTS AS FOCAL POINTS.
STREET FURNITURE	TOP QUALITY 'OFF THE SHELF' FURNITURE. ARTIST LED BESPOKE FURNITURE TO TIE IN WITH STREET DESIGN. HUDDERSFIELD PRIDE BLUE COLOUR FURNITURE BS REF 20c40 'DUCHESS BLUE/MIDNIGHT'	TOP QUALITY 'OFF THE SHELF' FURNITURE. ARTIST LED BESPOKE FURNITURE TO TIE IN WITH STREET DESIGN. HUDDERSFIELD PRIDE BLUE COLOUR FURNITURE BS REF 20c40 'DUCHESS BLUE/MIDNIGHT'	TOP QUALITY 'OFF THE SHELF' FURNITURE. CONTEMPORARY STYLE ARTIST LED BESPOKE FURNITURE TO REFLECT THE CHARACTER OF THE SITE. HUDDERSFIELD PRIDE BLUE COLOUR FURNITURE BS REF 20c40 'DUCHESS BLUE/MIDNIGHT'	TOP QUALITY 'OFF THE SHELF' FURNITURE. VARIETY AT SPACES. ARTIST LED BESPOKE FURNITURE TO REFLECT THE CHARACTER OF THE SITE-CONTEMPORARY STYLE HUDDERSFIELD PRIDE BLUE COLOUR FURNITURE BS REF 20c40 'DUCHESS BLUE/MIDNIGHT'	TOP QUALITY 'OFF THE SHELF' FURNITURE. VARIETY AT SPACES. RAL 9005 'JET BLACK' (UNLESS HUDDERSFIELD PRIDE BLUE IS ALREADY PRE-DOMINANT IN LOCATION)	TOP QUALITY 'OFF THE SHELF' FURNITURE. USED ONLY AT FOCAL POINTS. BLACK FURNITURE RAL 9005 'JET BLACK' (UNLESS HUDDERSFIELD PRIDE BLUE IS ALREADY PRE-DOMINANT IN LOCATION)	TOP QUALITY 'OFF THE SHELF' FURNITURE. USED ONLY AT FOCAL POINTS. BLACK FURNITURE RAL 9005 'JET BLACK' (UNLESS HUDDERSFIELD PRIDE BLUE IS ALREADY PRE-DOMINANT IN LOCATION)
TREES AND PLANTING	AVENUE TREE PLANTING, SPECIMEN TREE PLANTING (AS PER GREEN STREETS®). HANGING BASKETS.FLORAL DISPLAYS. GREEN SPACES.	AVENUE TREE PLANTING, SPECIMEN TREE PLANTING (AS PER GREEN STREETS®). HANGING BASKETS.FLORAL DISPLAYS. GREEN SPACES.	AVENUE TREE PLANTING (AS PER GREEN STREETS®). HANGING BASKETS.FLORAL DISPLAYS. GREEN SPACES.	AVENUE TREE PLANTING (AS PER GREEN STREETS®). HANGING BASKETS.FLORAL DISPLAYS. GREEN SPACES.	AVENUE TREE PLANTING AND BLOCKS OF BOLD TREE PLANTING WITH STRUCTURAL ROADSIDE TREES TO REINFORCE DIRECTION / LINE OF RING ROAD (AS PER GREEN STREETS®). HANGING BASKETS.FLORAL DISPLAYS. GREEN SPACES.	BOLD LARGE TREE PLANTING, MIXED TREE VARIETIES (AS PER GREEN STREETS®). LINEAR GREEN SPACES. GROUP PLANTING.	TREE PLANTING AND FLORAL DISPLAYS AT FOCAL POINTS. STRUCTURAL ROADSIDE TREES TO REINFORCE DIRECTION / LINE OF RING ROAD (AS PER GREEN STREETS®).
LIGHTING	BOLD AVENUES OF HIGH QUALITY LIGHTING 6-10M HIGH COLUMNS, POTENTIAL FOR DUAL COLUMNS TO PROVIDE PEDESTRIAN SCALE LIGHTING CREATIVE LIGHTING INC. STAR PATHS & LED AMENITY LIGHTING THROUGHOUT HUDDERSFIELD PRIDE BLUE COLUMNS BS REF 20c40 'DUCHESS BLUE/MIDNIGHT'	BOLD AVENUES OF HIGH QUALITY LIGHTING 6-10M HIGH COLUMNS, POTENTIAL FOR DUAL COLUMNS TO PROVIDE PEDESTRIAN SCALE LIGHTING CREATIVE LIGHTING INC. STAR PATHS & LED AMENITY LIGHTING THROUGHOUT—ENCOURAGE BUILDING MOUNTED LIGHTING HUDDERSFIELD PRIDE BLUE COLUMNS BS REF 20c40 'DUCHESS BLUE/MIDNIGHT'	HIGH QUALITY PEDESTRIAN SCALE LIGHTING 4-6M HIGH COLUMNS ENCOURAGE BUILDING MOUNTED LIGHTING CREATIVE LIGHTING AT FOCAL POINTS HUDDERSFIELD PRIDE BLUE COLUMNS BS REF 20c40 'DUCHESS BLUE/MIDNIGHT'	HIGH QUALITY LIGHTING 6-10M HIGH COLUMNS, POTENTIAL FOR DUAL COLUMNS TO PROVIDE PEDESTRIAN SCALE LIGHTING CREATIVE LIGHTING AT FOCAL POINTS HUDDERSFIELD PRIDE BLUE COLUMNS BS REF 20c40 'DUCHESS BLUE/MIDNIGHT' (UNLESS JET BLACK IS ALREADY PRE-DOMINANT IN LOCATION)	HIGH QUALITY LIGHTING COLUMNS, POTENTIAL FOR DUAL COLUMNS TO PROVIDE PEDESTRIAN SCALE LIGHTING ALONG SECONDARY ROUTE CREATIVE LIGHTING AT FOCAL POINTS. RAL 9005 'JET BLACK' (UNLESS HUDDERSFIELD PRIDE BLUE IS ALREADY PRE-DOMINANT IN LOCATION)	EMPHASIS ON STRONG AVENUE OF LIGHTING 10-12M HIGH COLUMNS PEDESTRIAN SCALE LIGHTING TO FOOTPATHS BLACK COLUMNS RAL 9005 'JET BLACK'	GOOD QUALITY LIGHTING 6-10M HIGH COLUMNS BLACK COLUMNS RAL 9005 'JET BLACK'

GOLD STANDARD A

Premier spaces

These are the key spaces within the town, primarily pedestrian and carrying very little vehicular traffic. They are the town's most important spaces which should reflect the Gold standard public realm treatment and also include key routes with very important conservation and historic heritage.

The spaces along these routes should be developed and celebrated as the premier spaces within Huddersfield. The treatment should heighten their status and complement the surroundings. Natural stone materials or high quality concrete paving should be used throughout. These are the places where there should be an emphasis on the arts, custom/bespoke design and detailing if desirable, the possible introduction of water, creative lighting, swathes of floral displays and high quality off the shelf suite of street furniture which need to be selected at the outset and then used consistently throughout the town to provide cohesion and harmony.

The areas should cater for large numbers of people, activities and movement, and so not too over complicated or cluttered. Design consideration should include protective security measures for principal squares and crowded places and form the basis of design features for new build, significant refurbishment projects or specification of street furniture.

There is opportunity for variation in treatment to respond to existing character and use. For example, New Street could accommodate a more modern contemporary approach in response to the less historical precedence on this street; The Piazza space could have more creative lighting to enhance this area at night.



Above: Huddersfield Town Hall with gold standard heritage lighting unique to the town centre



Right: St George's Square — A multi-functional space with a variety of focal features



Below: Typical 'gold standard' paving options



GOLD STANDARD B

Principal streets and spaces with light vehicular use

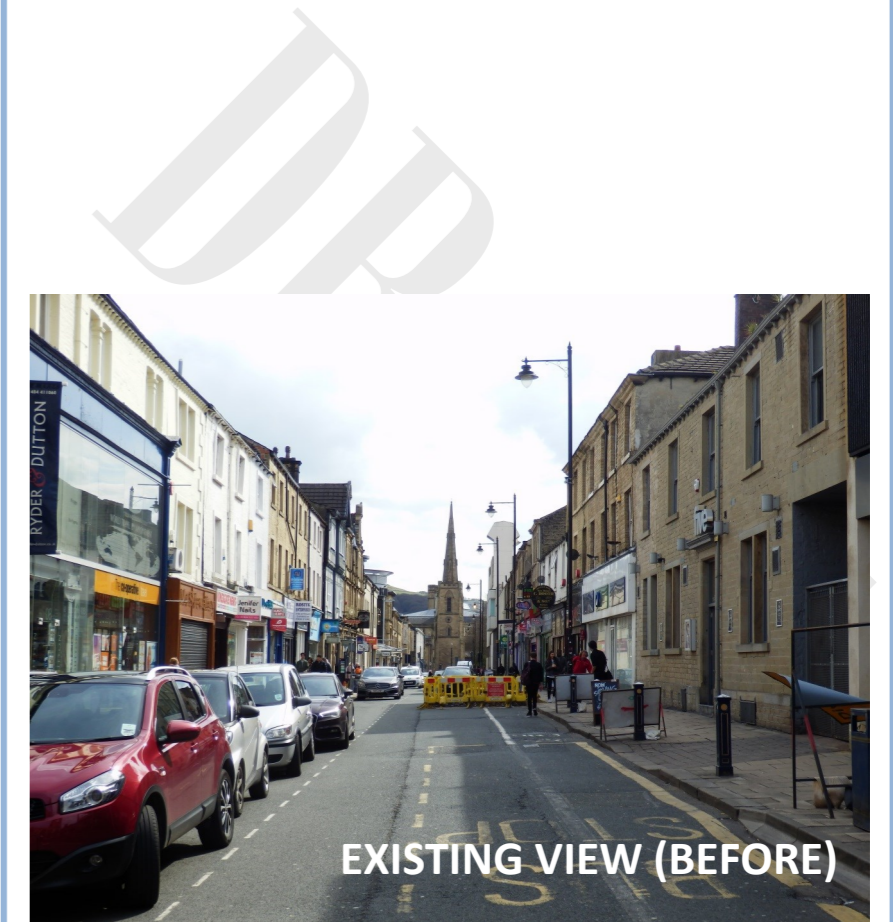


Gold standard lighting

- Heritage lighting should be used to preserve and enhance areas with traditional style buildings or public spaces.
- Embellished columns and ornate brackets complement the surrounding area.

Locations of significant interest could utilise custom or bespoke lighting to highlight their historical importance. Where there is less historical precedence, contemporary style lighting could be used, and with the flexibility of modern lighting technology, impact lighting could be integrated to create unique effects

Right: Typical gold standard heritage street lighting



EXISTING VIEW (BEFORE)

Existing view looking south along Cross Church Street

- On street parking creates a visual and a physical obstacle.
- The street is a well used thoroughfare providing a link from the Railway Station to the University, plus there is an opportunity to frame the two churches of the town situated at opposite ends of the vista.
- Through traffic could be limited or removed completely, low level kerbing will unite both sides of the street, allowing for safe cycling and pedestrian movement in addition to traffic.
- More café /bars restaurants encouraged along this street would develop a 'spine' of evening culture again linking the railway to the existing bars around the University and King Street.
- Street furniture locations carefully designed to align with street.
- Yorkstone or high quality concrete paving and street trees
- Allowing access for business without it dominating streets

Above left: Example of setts on King Street

Above middle: Example of tree lined street with setts (example taken from nearby town centre) which could be replicated on Cross Church Street

POTENTIAL GREENING (AFTER)

- Small light canopy tree planting bring life to the street
- Stone sett paving for shared surfaces to provide uniformity but practicality, high quality pre cast concrete setts in areas of light vehicular use
- Shops/café activity can spill out on to the streets and add their own identity
- Well designed lighting for a street that links from the Railway Station to the University

SILVER STANDARD A

Secondary streets and spaces

All new regeneration areas within Huddersfield Town Centre should have a high quality of design standard. Existing secondary spaces such as St Peters Gardens and Bus Station Piazza should also be considered for selective replacement with high quality materials, such as street furniture, lighting and replacement paving where possible (see material matrix on page 7).

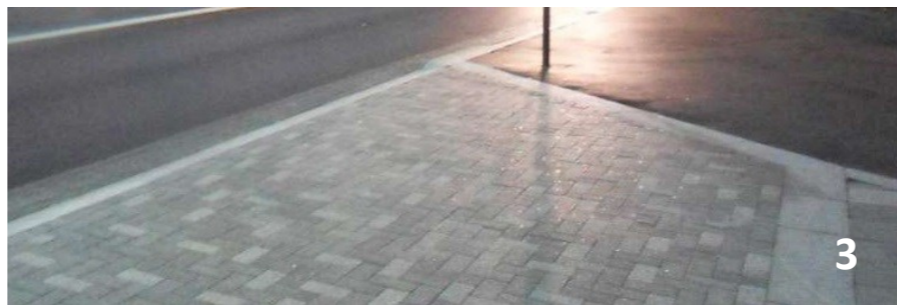
The major secondary streets should reflect the traditional layout of a street whether pedestrianised or with vehicular access.

On footpaths high quality sandstone paving and wide stone kerbs should be used, whilst on defined carriageways an asphalt treatment should be applied with granite or pre-cast concrete setts used to demarcate features.

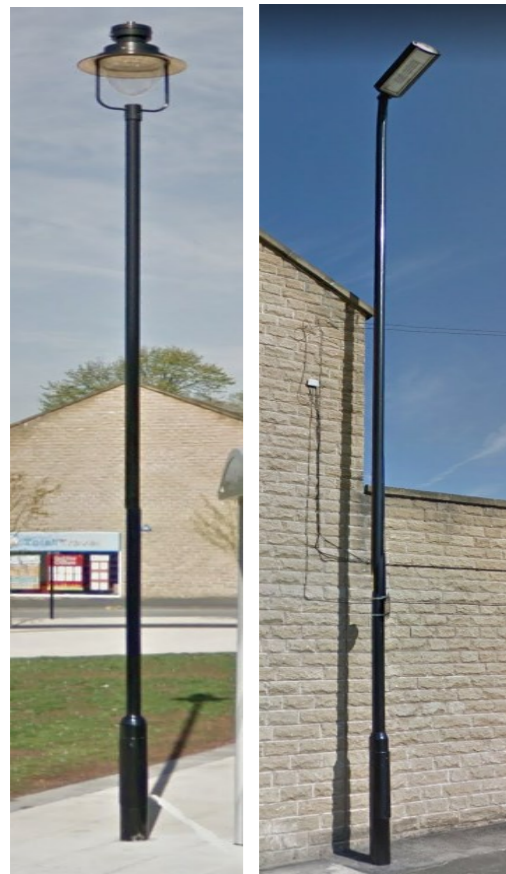
The street furniture should be high quality off the shelf range that is simple elegant and robust, to work in the environment of Huddersfield.

The furniture in the spaces should be similar to that of the 'Gold standard' areas. There will be some overlap in terms of quality and treatment of the focal spaces between 'Gold' and 'Silver' quality areas, to ensure continuity and through the links between each.

Future sustainability and incorporating blue/green infrastructure also needs to be a consideration as it should be for the whole town centre.



Above: (1) Asphalt roadways for streets with higher vehicular use have small unit paver or stone edge detail (2). Stone inset to inspection chamber also to be used (3) and (4) Small unit paver/setts could be used for laybys



Silver standard street lighting

In areas that dictate, a lantern of similar design to that within the 'Gold' standard should be used on a less ornate column and bracket. This retains the same design but in a more restrained manner.

Alternatively, lighting columns with modern lanterns, both painted to complement other street furniture in the area, should be used.

Left: Typical silver standard street lighting



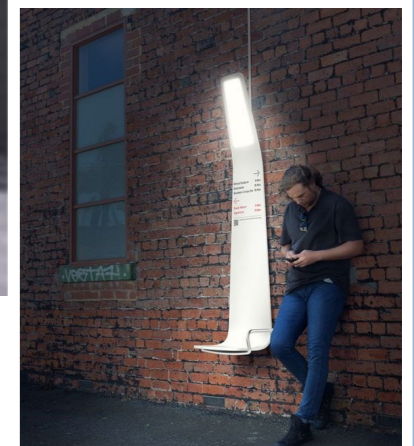
Well thought out contemporary street furniture helps to reduce clutter and also aids street sweeping and cleansing.

Multi-function furniture

Lights with signage combined.

Even seating combined with signage and a light.

Reduces clutter and also aids street sweeping and cleansing.



SILVER STANDARD B

Secondary streets and spaces



POTENTIAL DESIGN FOR GREENING THE SPACE (AFTER)

Potential View looking North along Upper Headrow demonstrating some opportunities and solutions.

Material selection and sustainable urban drainage/green infrastructure opportunities will need to consider both maintenance and costs to ensure a quality scheme which is viable for the long term.

- Small light canopy (2.5m clear stem) and/or fastigate tree planting brings life to the street
- Granite/stone sett paving to tie in with York stone paving and local vernacular.
- Well designed lighting for a street that links from the Bus Station to the Railway Station.
- Incorporating street tree planting, interactive art and encouraging on street activities and events, a multi-functional environment will help to bring it to life.



EXISTING VIEW (BEFORE)

Existing View looking North along bus station frontage

CURRENT ISSUES

- Lack of greenery
- Lack of focal point

SOLUTIONS

- Small / fastigate sized trees as focal points or in avenues
- Strong avenue of lighting



Silver standard B, secondary routes along the ring road/public realm

This is the existing view looking East along the ring road near Civic Centre in need of more street tree planting.

BRONZE STANDARD

Tertiary streets and spaces

Avenue of trees along Castlegate on the ring road.



This treatment is typical of the ring road around Huddersfield which has stretches of high vehicular traffic use.



Bitmac to high vehicular use roadway with smaller unit pavers to pedestrian areas and tarmac cushion or different colour tarmac detail to edge parking bays.

Bronze standard street lighting

Functional street lighting equipment to be used. Typically, galvanised steel column with standard lantern.

Below: Typical bronze street lighting



Typical ring road treatment to incorporate green infrastructure and sustainable urban drainage.



GREEN STREETS/LINKS/GREEN SPACES & GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE

The Kirklees Local Plan (submission version, April 2017) states that

“Within the Strategic Green Infrastructure Network, priority will be given to safeguarding and enhancing green infrastructure networks, green infrastructure assets and the range of functions they provide.

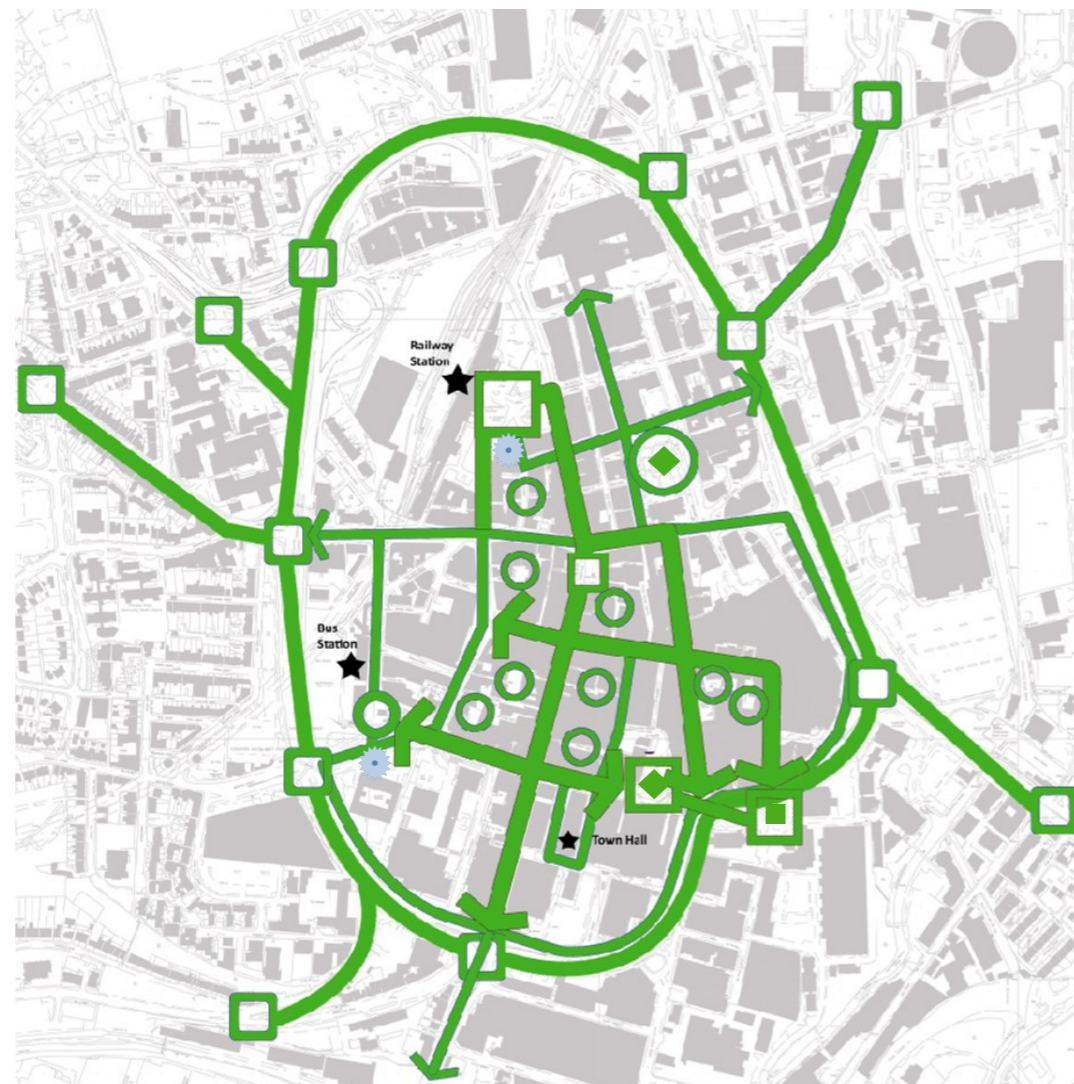
“Development proposals within and adjacent to the Strategic Green Infrastructure Network should ensure the function and connectivity of green infrastructure networks and assets are retained or replaced; and, new or enhanced green infrastructure is designed and integrated into the development scheme where appropriate, including natural greenspace, woodland and street trees.” (Policy PLP 31)

“High quality design is fundamental to making places more attractive, sustainable, safe and accessible. The way buildings and spaces are designed improves the built and natural environment. Good design can help reduce and mitigate the impacts of climate change; promote healthier lifestyles; create safer places and make high quality and attractive places that foster civic pride.”

“Good design should be at the core of all proposals in the district and should be considered at the outset of the development process, ensuring that design forms part of pre-application consultation of a proposal.

“Proposals should promote good design by ensuringhigh levels of sustainability through:

- ◆ minimising resource use in the building by utilising passive solar design, incorporating vegetation and tree planting to assist heating and cooling and providing for the use of renewable energy;
- ◆ development contributes towards enhancement of the natural environment, supports biodiversity and connects to and enhances ecological networks;
- ◆ the retention of valuable or important trees and where appropriate the planting of new trees and other landscaping to maximise visual amenity and environmental benefits;” (extract from Policy PLP 24).



The Green Streets® initiative, by starting at the outset with the forming of the multi-disciplinary group, aims to:

- Create a setting for investment by instilling confidence with quality place making and regional branding
- Improve air quality for community and employee health
- Improve storm water management and water quality with water sensitive designs
- Encourage uptake of active travel by creating and connecting attractive green and safe transport routes
- Strengthen and expand ecological networks
- Embed carbon sequestration and resource efficiency into landscape
- Strengthen the urban tree cover around Huddersfield ring road, this will tie-in with any proposed works to the highway
- Create linkages across Huddersfield town centre through tree planting and connected habitats.



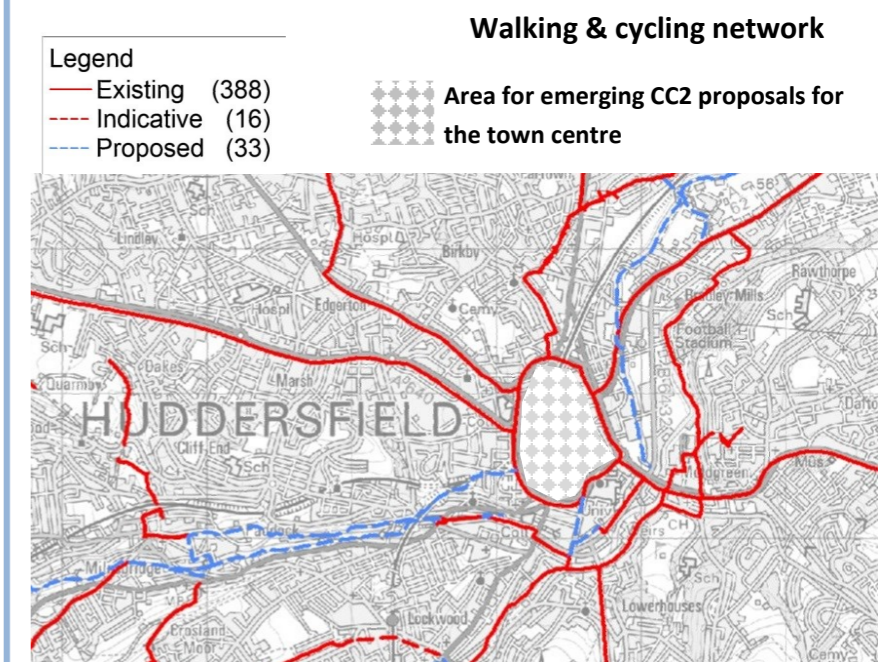
Left and below left: Trees opposite Civic Centre 3

Key to plan opposite:

- Key/gateway junctions
- Strategic approach/key routes
- Historic yards (see page 14)
- Key green space: Piazza
- Key green space: St Peter’s Gardens
- University
- Transport hubs

The plan opposite indicates the aim to incorporate new green spaces /greenery/tree planting through out the town centre streets and beyond, where possible.

Green roofs and solar panels will enhance air quality and contribute to creating a sustainable microclimate, with the addition of reflective white roofs up to 90% of sunlight can be deflected.



EXISTING TREES



New Street



Market Street



Existing trees and green spaces within Huddersfield are limited as shown on Googlemaps satellite imagery 2017. The aim is to increase street tree planting in line with Green Streets®. The existing greenery is generally outside the central core of the town. The proposal with Green Streets® is to form connections across the town and link into existing green corridors. These include linking Greenhead Park and the canal and Greenway to the town centre and also greening up the core walking and cycling networks.



Macaulay Street/Market Street open space outside bus station



St Peter's Garden



Outside Civic Centre 3 adjacent to the ring road



St George's Square



The Piazza-Queensgate

Huddersfield Town Centre has great urban fabric and the variety of building styles coming through with modern architecture is improving, for example the new university buildings. However, there is a real lack of green space or street trees within the town centre itself. By adopting the Green Streets® principles and prioritising the incorporation of new green infrastructure, either as standalone street tree planting projects or as part of larger transportation infrastructure schemes, this will transform Huddersfield over time to become a much greener town.

LIGHTING PRINCIPLES

In essence lighting plays a functional role within a town centre, fulfilling safety requirements during the hours of darkness. In addition it can have a dramatic influence on the character and feel of streets and spaces and their resulting success as a place. While lighting is at its most influential at night, the infrastructure such as light columns is an important component within the public realm by day.

There is a need to consider lighting throughout Huddersfield town centre to create a unified and sustainable approach and two main types of lighting are explored here.

Everyday lighting (both pedestrian and vehicular scale); and impact or creative lighting (ranging from small scale accents through to major light installations).

Huddersfield has often played host to a Festival of Light, but once the festival is over the lighting within the town does not reflect this. It is proposed that light installations could play a key role in Huddersfield public realm rejuvenation and also tie-in with creative development and the night-time economy.



Above: Huddersfield's Festival of Light in St George's Square

Lighting within the town centre should:

- Ensure that statutory requirements are met.
- Enliven the town centre environment creating a reason to visit.
- Respond to Huddersfield's built environment and heritage, evoking a sense of place and celebrating icons.
- Ensure that streets and spaces are sufficiently well lit to create active frontages and promote personal safety in accordance with 'Secured by Design' principles and Regulations, British Standards for lighting of roads and public amenity areas.
- Ensure that the overall safety of a space is integral to the lighting approach in addition to the impact it will have on CCTV footage.
- Encourage creative thinking to enhance a vibrant, exciting public realm experience.
- Respond to scale and function of various streets and spaces.
- Demonstrate sustainability through use of energy efficient, well directed and located fixtures which maximise impact and minimise light spill. Use renewable lighting options where possible such as solar power units. White light should be used to improve the look of the public realm whilst also improving CCTV visibility.
- Create longevity through specifying robust and highly vandal proof fixtures and fittings.
- Emphasise preferred pedestrian routes to empower people, avoiding confusion.
- Provide high quality seasonal displays such as Christmas lighting.



Above: White light enhances the natural materials in St George's Square



Left: Illuminated water feature in St George's Square

ACTIVE, HEALTHY STREETS

A key outcome of improved public realm incorporating green infrastructure is increased physical activity, including:

- Cycling –encouraging more cyclists by improving routes and facilities. Reducing car dominance within and around the town centre.
- Walking—People can be encouraged to walk by indicating walking time to places, i.e. if it's only 10 minutes to walk to a destination, they may feel able to walk for that time rather than get the bus. Also ensure that seating is available ideally at least every 50 metres. Seating needs to include arm and back rests where possible. Where possible, include space at the side of seating for wheelchair parking. This is to ensure that elderly and infirm pedestrians can take regular rests if necessary
- Play—incidental play such as interactive furniture or even more prescriptive play items can be incorporated into the public realm. Also features that encourage games and social interaction such as chess boards, hopscotch, digital games/graphics, poems etc. can help create talking points and encourage social cohesion.
- Tree lined routes to encourage active travel.

Further recommendations from Kirklees Public Health team:

Public Toilets

Consider access to public toilets. A lack of these facilities leads to social isolation for many. Consider working with local cafes to encourage them to open up their toilet facilities to the general public for a small charge.

Diet & Nutrition

Encourage new food outlets to apply Healthy Food Standards

Left: Safe urban cycling and walking routes to be implemented to encourage more activity



THE WAY FORWARD

The range of strategy documents and reports together with past proposal documents and officer discussions have led to the implementation of the Green Streets® principles for Huddersfield Town Centre and a high quality design adopted by all disciplines will ensure Huddersfield develops into a truly 21st Century town.

SUMMARY OF CURRENT THINKING:

- IMPROVING QUALITY OF LINKS THROUGH TOWN
- IMPROVING GATEWAYS AND APPROACHES TO THE TOWN CENTRE AND IT'S RING ROAD INCLUDING LINKS E.G. A62 KIRKLEES SMART CORRIDOR
- COHESIVE APPROACH TO MATERIALS AND FURNITURE
- CONSIDERING SPATIAL HEIRACHY AS GOLD, SILVER AND BRONZE
- RETAINING EXISTING TREES AND PROMOTING NEW TREE PLANTING
- INCORPORATING GREEN STREETS® METHODOLOGY & PROMOTING GREEN/BLUE INFRASTRUCTURE WHERE APPROPRIATE
- CONSIDERING ACTIVE, HEALTHY STREETS, PROMOTING WALKING & CYCLING, STREET TREES, CLEAN AIR & WHERE PEOPLE FEEL SAFE
- INCORPORATING CLEANSING REQUIREMENTS AND CONSIDER FUTURE MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS
- COHESIVE HIGHWAY DESIGN WHICH CONSIDERS FUTURE MAINTENANCE & REPAIRS AND REINSTATEMENT STANDARDS FOR ALL UTILITIES AND STREETWORKS
- FURNITURE TO GIVE COHESIVE DEVELOPMENT THROUGHOUT THE TOWN, WHILST CONSIDERING END USERS & MAINTENANCE & MANAGEMENT OF THE STREETS AND PUBLIC REALM
- INCORPORATING SAFETY THROUGHOUT THE TOWN CENTRE IN TERMS OF COUNTER TERRORISM MEASURES FOR OUR PUBLIC SPACES
- A MODERN APPROACH TO LIGHTING PRINCIPLES, CONSIDERING TECHNOLOGY AND SUTAINABILITY AS WELL AS LIGHTING AS AN ATTRACTION AND SAFEGUARDED ROUTES
- INCLUDING CREATIVE THINKING TO INCORPORATE PUBLIC ART IN VARIOUS FORMS AND ENCOURAGE COMMUNITY BUILDING
- ENCOURAGING ALTERNATIVE NIGHT TIME ACTIVITIES TO DEVELOP AND ENLIVEN THE NIGHT TIME ECONOMY WHILST SAFE-GUARDING VISITORS
- USING A DESIGN GOVERNANCE APPROACH ON ALL FUTURE PUBLIC REALM/HIGHWAY SCHEMES
- CREATION OF A BESPOKE HUDDERSFIELD TOWN CENTRE BUDGET

***confirmation of ratification of this document:**

- **Consult with Neighbourhood Management, Huddersfield District Committee, Leadership Management Team and Cabinet.**
- **Engagement with stakeholder organisations, eg. taxi, bus, Metro, cycle users, town centre businesses, Huddersfield Partnership, the Healthy High Street etc.**

