

Policy D1 - Architecture and Placemaking

To ensure high standards of design, new development must be designed with due consideration for its context and make a positive contribution to its setting. Factors such as siting, scale, massing, colour, materials, orientation, details, the proportions of building elements, together with the spaces around buildings, including streets, squares, open space, landscaping and boundary treatments, will be considered in assessing that contribution.

To ensure that there is a consistent approach to high quality development throughout the City with an emphasis on creating quality places, the Aberdeen Masterplanning Process Supplementary Guidance will be applied.

The level of detail required will be appropriate to the scale and sensitivity of the site. The full scope will be agreed with us prior to commencement.

Landmark or high buildings should respect the height and scale of their surroundings, the urban topography, the City's skyline and aim to preserve or enhance important views.

Policy D4 - Aberdeen's Granite Heritage

The City Council will encourage the retention of granite buildings throughout the City, even if not listed or in a conservation area. Conversion and adaptation of redundant granite buildings will be favoured. Within conservation areas, neither conservation area consent nor planning permission will be given for the demolition or part removal of granite buildings (excepting those buildings that make an insignificant contribution to the character of the conservation area). Consent will not be given for the demolition of granite-built garden or other boundary walls in conservation areas. Where a large or locally significant granite building that is not listed or in a conservation area is demolished, the City Council will expect the original granite to be used on the principal elevations of the replacement building.

The City Council will seek to retain original setted streets and granite pavements in conservation areas, and elsewhere if they contribute significantly to a sense of place. Where the opportunities occur, greater use will be made of granite in resurfacing historic streets in the City Centre.

The City Council will seek to retain coach houses and other large granite-built outbuildings adjoining rear lanes in conservation areas and conversion to appropriate new uses will be encouraged.

Policy D5 - Built Heritage

Proposals affecting Conservation Areas or Listed Buildings will only be permitted if they comply with Scottish Planning Policy. In relation to development affecting archaeological resources further details are set out in Supplementary Guidance on Archaeology and Planning.

Planning permission for development that would have an adverse effect on the character or setting of a site listed in the inventory of gardens and design landscapes in Scotland or in any addition to the inventory will be refused unless:

1. the objectives of designation and the overall integrity and character of the designated area will not be compromised; or
2. any significant adverse effects on the qualities for which the area has been designated are clearly outweighed by social, economic and strategic benefit of national importance.

In both cases mitigation and appropriate measures shall be taken to conserve and enhance the essential characteristics, aesthetics, archaeological and historical value and setting of the site.