



Chapter 2

Key Principles

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Improving the environmental quality of Haringey's streetscape is a major aim of the Council's Better Haringey programme. To deliver this the Council has developed some key principles to create a safer, more user friendly and attractive streetscape. These are:

- Reduce street clutter.
- Co-ordinate the different elements of the streetscape.
- Limit the range of materials.
- Protect and enhance the historic character.
- Enhance the identity of Haringey.
- Promote accessibility for all.
- Design streets as places for people.

- Use of sustainable materials.
- Promote ease of maintenance

REDUCE STREET CLUTTER

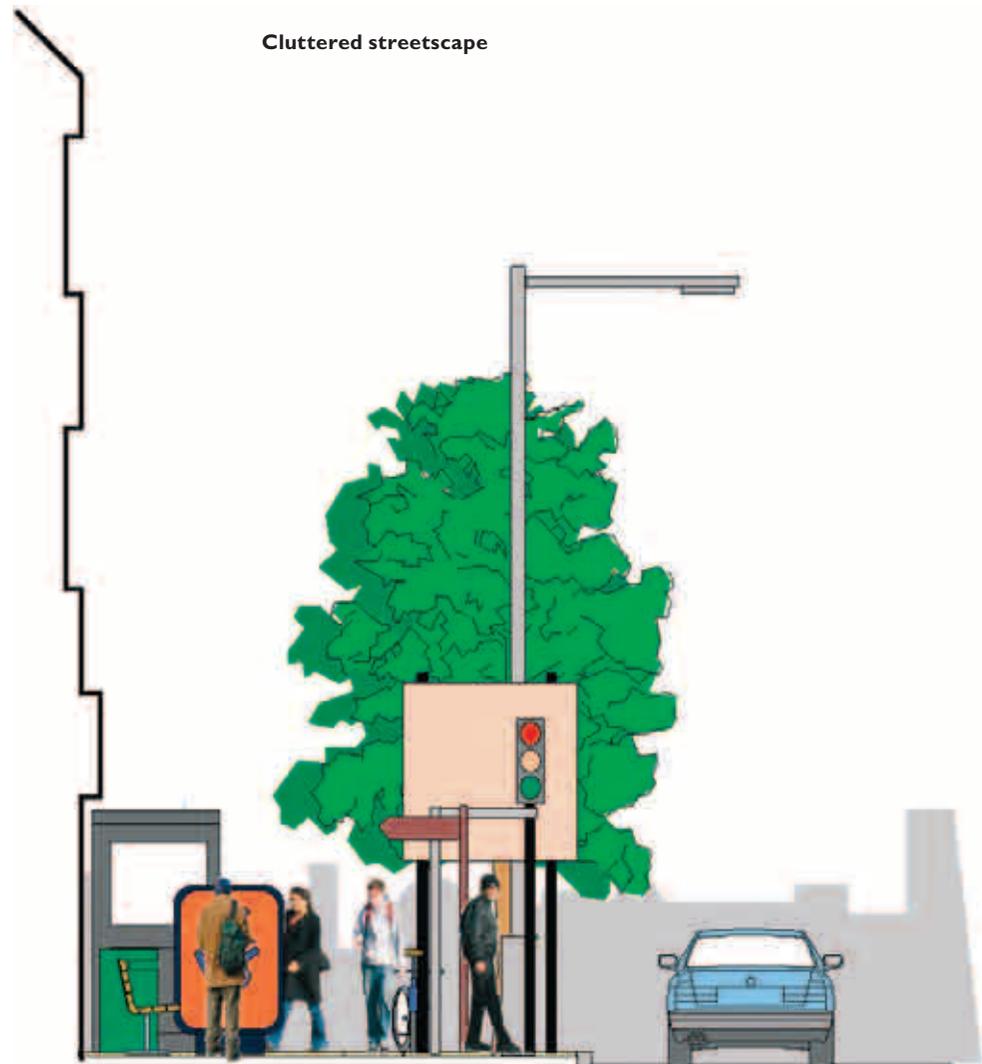
The Council recognises that some streets within the Borough suffer from street clutter. This is not user friendly. It reduces the area of footway for pedestrians, creates obstructions and is unattractive. To reduce street clutter the following actions will be taken:

- Maximise the available clear footway area for pedestrians by locating street furniture in a particular part of the footway.
- Remove redundant street furniture.
- Remove unauthorised signage and trading on forecourts.



Good practice – furniture located on the kerb side, maximising clear width for pedestrians (Wood Green Town Centre).

- Where appropriate, reduce amount of guardrailing and bollards.
- Prevent duplication of posts and structures by combining elements of street furniture.



CO-ORDINATE THE DIFFERENT ELEMENTS OF THE STREETScape

Haringey wants to co-ordinate the design and colour of streetscape elements across the Borough. Promoting the consistent use of a co-ordinated range of streetscape elements, such as furniture and footway materials, throughout the Borough is an important way of enhancing Haringey's identity.

This does not mean a 'blanket approach' to streetscape design. We also want to respect the diversity of the urban fabric. The specification of co-ordinated elements is a framework that allows for specific design responses at key locations, such as in town centres and conservation areas. For example, Wood Green has a range of distinctive streetscape elements that depart from the standard elements. Other parts of the Borough, (e.g. Seven Sisters and Bruce Grove town centres) have particular street lighting columns.



Our goal is to co-ordinate the design and colour of streetscape elements across the Borough.



LIMIT THE RANGE OF MATERIALS

Another key principle for Haringey is to limit the range of materials to ensure visual coherence across the Borough and ensure value for money. It is important that street furniture and materials throughout the Borough are limited to promote a consistent and distinctive Haringey style. One example is street nameplates and lighting. Using a more limited range of high quality products can also help to ensure value for money in longer-term maintenance costs.



We want to limit the range of street furniture to promote a consistent and distinctive Haringey style e.g. street nameplates



We want to protect and enhance the historical character. Special streetscape elements will be retained or reinstated where appropriate



PROTECT AND ENHANCE THE HISTORIC CHARACTER

There are 28 conservation areas in Haringey, many of these have been designated because of their special architectural or historical interest. A full understanding of how the streetscape elements contribute to the character of the conservation area is essential before works take place. Historical streetscape elements, such as a particular type of footway materials and street lighting, will be retained or reinstated where appropriate. Where new or replacement elements are required they should be sympathetic to the historic character of the area in order to protect and enhance it. This does not imply that a 'traditional' or 'historic' approach to streetscape design will always be appropriate. In many places simple design styles will be suitable.

ENHANCE THE IDENTITY OF HARINGEY

It is important that where possible the design of street furniture and paving materials reflects and enhances a distinctive Haringey identity. This will be done for example by standardised Haringey gateway signs at the Boroughs boundary to help visitors and residents orientate themselves, and provide clear gateways into the Borough. Additional signing and illumination for key Haringey landmarks and locations may also be considered, as long as this does not add to street clutter and is part of a consistent Borough design.

PROMOTE ACCESSIBILITY FOR ALL

Accessibility for all users is one of the most important considerations in streetscape design. The requirements of all groups, including those with mobility and sensory impairments, will be considered. Most street furniture will be located within a designated area close to the kerb to maximise the clear area for pedestrian movement. Removing unnecessary street furniture will ensure clear passage free from obstacles and trip hazards and improve the accessibility of an area.

DESIGN STREETS AS PLACES FOR PEOPLE

Designing people friendly streets is a key principle for streetscape design. Streets provide an opportunity for a range of activities throughout the day and evening.

To encourage people to use Haringey's streets, street clutter will be reduced, street furniture placed where it does not cause obstruction and adequate illumination provided. This will be combined with planning policies to encourage active street frontages and the opportunity for passive surveillance from surrounding buildings.

Footways will be maintained to provide even and drained surfaces and steps taken to reduce the potential for flyposting and graffiti. The aim is to encourage greater use of streets by residents, workers and visitors for walking, shopping and meeting. In some places consideration will be given to appropriate pedestrian only schemes.

The attractiveness and success of Haringey's street environment is dependent on the architectural form and activities on the edge to streets and spaces. This Manual should be read alongside other Council policies and area strategies on urban design and planning, which encourage the vision of a vibrant and safe streetscape within Haringey.



We believe streets are places for people and will encourage people to use them through good design

USE OF SUSTAINABLE MATERIALS

The Council will encourage the use of materials from sustainable sources wherever possible and seek innovative approaches to energy efficiency. The Council's approach is detailed in Chapter 3: Sustainability and Energy Efficiency. This chapter describes sustainable materials and methods for highway maintenance in the Borough as well as identifying ways the Council is improving energy efficiency.

PROMOTE EASE OF MAINTENANCE

It is vital to consider the ongoing maintenance of design elements and materials as a conscious part of the design. This includes the longevity of the structure or material and the potential replacement cost. The Council will encourage the use of high quality materials with a long life span and limit the number and the variety of materials used.

It is also important to ensure that streets are designed so they can be easily cleaned. Providing litter bins with a regular emptying regime, ensuring street furniture is not damaged or defaced and regular street cleansing all help to ensure the long term visual quality and physical condition of Haringey's streetscape is maintained.



New street furniture or footway paving should be designed, made, and located with the minimum cost for on-going cleansing requirements. For example, it is important to ensure that the gap between the footway and the base of the guard railing is wide enough for a broom to pass through. It is also recognised that tree pits grills can act as litter traps. Therefore, porous resin-bound gravel should be provided within tree pits to allow water to reach the roots and to enable the safe passage of pedestrians.

