

Stockport Town Centre Residential Design Guide Glossary

Active frontage: the street-facing sides of buildings that engage with the public realm. This engagement is typically created through features like frequent doors and windows, minimal blank walls, and uses that promote activity within and around the building.

Character: the specific qualities and identity that make a place unique. It is shaped by its architecture, culture and historical significance.

Context: the surrounding environment and conditions in which a building or urban area exists. It includes the physical, social, cultural, and historical aspects that influence the design and development of a place

Conservation Area: an area of special architectural or historic interest, the character of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance.

Blue Infrastructure: A network of water-based elements including natural features such as rivers, lakes and ponds and engineered structures such as canals, sustainable drainage systems and wetlands.

Green Infrastructure: A network of natural and semi-natural areas including parks, green roofs, street trees, wetlands and sustainable drainage systems.

Heritage asset: A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance meriting consideration in planning decisions, because of its heritage interest. It includes designated heritage assets and assets identified by the local planning authority (including local listing)

Landmark - A building or structure that stands out from its environment due to its design, architectural quality, height, size or other aspect of design. Both new and old buildings could be considered as landmarks.

Legibility: The ease with which people can understand and navigate an area or site.

Locally Listed Building: These buildings are identified and designated by the council and are afforded formal recognition in the planning system.

Node: key points of interest or intersections such as a square or transit station.

Public realm: The publicly accessible spaces within an urban environment. This includes streets, pathways, parks, plazas, and other open spaces where people can freely move and interact

Urban grain: the pattern and arrangement of buildings and streets within a built environment. Areas with a fine urban grain have a high density of smaller buildings and closely spaced streets.