

URBAN DESIGN PROOF OF EVIDENCE APPENDICES

REF SMBC6/3

PARKGATE, SHIRLEY

THE METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF SOLIHULL
(SHIRLEY TOWN CENTRE REDEVELOPMENT)
COMPULSORY PURCHASE ORDER 2007

SECTION 226(1)(a) OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990
AND SECTION 13 THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) ACT 1976 AND THE ACQUISITION
OF LAND ACT 1981

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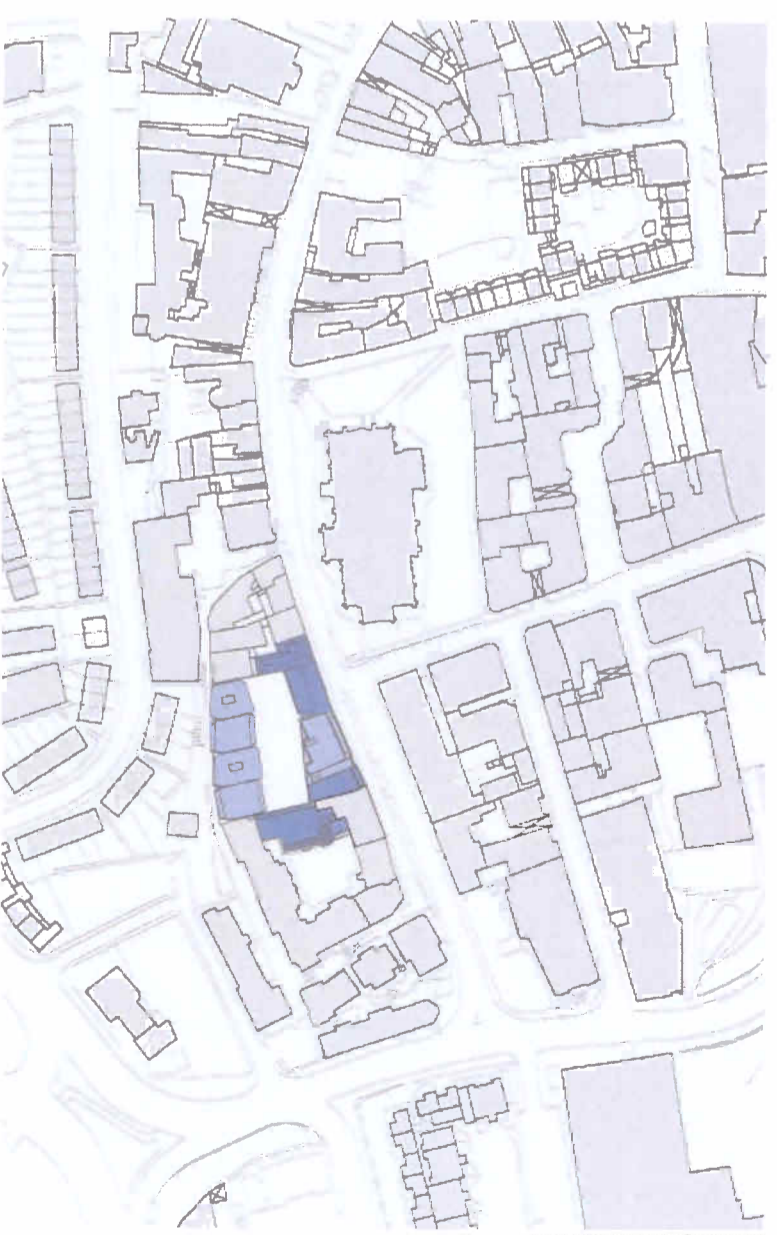
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Design review

How CABE evaluates quality in architecture and urban design



Source: Hill, Armstrong & Forman Murray Architects Ltd

The project in its context

The urban design and historic analysis should inform the thinking about the relationship between the project and its context. This applies equally to place-making and to the architecture.

By design suggests the following as the objectives of urban design:

- **Character** a place with its own identity
- **Continuity and enclosure** a place where public and private spaces are clearly distinguished
- **Quality of the public realm** a place with attractive and successful outdoor areas (that is, areas which are valued by people who use them or pass through them)
- **Ease of movement** a place that is easy to get to and move through
- **Legibility** a place that has a clear image and is easy to understand
- **Adaptability** a place that can change easily
- **Diversity** a place with variety and choice.

In addition to these objectives, any urban design study for projects or masterplans that include tall buildings should also consider their visual impact on a much wider area.

All of these objectives should be thought of in relation to people and their activities as much as to built form. Built form helps shape the life of a place, but it is people who will add liveliness and fun.

Key questions about the project in its context

- Have the important characteristics of the site been identified? Has the urban design analysis informed the design?
- Does the design have a considered relationship with the character of the context?
- Does the project make a positive contribution to the public realm? What effect will it have on people's lives? Will it participate in the life of the city?
- Is there a clear distinction between public and private spaces and is it clear how each functions?
- Does the project make a positive contribution to the way people move around a place and the way they are able to understand it? Does it provide inclusive access for all to the site and buildings? Does it open up options for moving through the wider area?
- Is there good access to public transport? Can the project contribute to improving public transport links?

Parkgate CPO
Figure 1 - Design Review – how CABE evaluates quality in architecture and urban design

