

## FOREWORD

I am delighted to be introducing the Islington Urban Design Guide. It will be an integral part of the borough's new Local Development Framework, and a key document that will help shape Islington's future development.

Islington benefits from stunning architecture, both contemporary and old. It has also retained much of its original urban fabric and character. This is a reflection on the Council's efforts over the years in accommodating good quality modern design and resisting poor schemes that would otherwise have had a detrimental impact upon Islington's townscape. This has helped make the borough an attractive place for business, residents and visitors alike.

Islington's popularity has placed significant development pressure upon the borough in recent years that are important for its continued regeneration. This guide sets out principles and standards that will enable regeneration by promoting creative, high quality, contemporary architecture whilst being sensitive to Islington's historic built environment and helping to improve those areas that suffer from a poor environment that need more attention. The guide will complement and strengthen existing design / design related policies, and will make it easier to resist inappropriate development, while encouraging high quality designs that will contribute to improving the quality of Islington's built environment.

Urban design is not just about aesthetics, it embraces how a place functions. Along with other design guidance including the Islington Streetbook, the Islington Urban Design Guide will be an important tool in helping to realise the A1 Borough project and other environmental improvement schemes throughout Islington by creating a safe, accessible and sustainable environment as well as a high quality townscape.

The Islington Urban Design Guide puts forward a street-based vision of future development. Islington's streets are the meeting place for one of London's most diverse boroughs. The Council's "One Islington" vision seeks to unite our borough by delivering high quality universal services, tackling social divisions, protecting our environment and re-building civic pride.



Councillor Lucy Watt  
Deputy Leader and Executive Member for the Environment

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