It is unfortunate that many fine houses have been deprived of their original character by the removal or alteration of architectural details and decorative features. Discovering the original design or missing details is essential before any sympathetic restoration work is attempted. Begin by examining the details of a well-conserved, contemporary neighbouring property. Alternatively, consult the local library. They may have early prints or photographs which may be of assistance.

There are a number of ways of finding the features you may require for your restoration work. Some decorative architectural items are now being made and are available as very good reproductions. You should investigate the possibility of using newly made traditional materials where possible and avoid using salvage materials from unknown sources.

Most of the national amenity societies have good websites as sources of advice. A search on the web for a specific item will often result in several relevant links and information.

Trees
Trees in the Conservation Area are protected. Anyone wishing to cut down, lop, uproot or destroy any tree over 75mm in diameter measured at 1.0m above ground has to give 6 weeks notice to the Local Planning Authority of their intention.

Several Tree Preservation Orders are already in existence which cover certain trees in the Conservation Area. Please contact the Tree Preservation Officer on (029) 2087 3178 for further advice.

Further advice
In addition to these controls, the County Council seeks to conserve and enhance the character of the Conservation Area by formulating and implementing environmental improvements, subject to the availability of resources. Since most of the properties in the Conservation Area are in private ownership its success as a Conservation Area depends on the active involvement and cooperation of local residents.

This document is an update of guidance which was adopted as Supplementary Planning Guidance following full public consultation in 1996. The aim of Supplementary Planning Guidance is to provide additional information to the policies and proposals contained in the Development Plan; it may also be a material consideration in determining planning applications or appeals.

The Guidance is expanded in the Wordworth Avenue Conservation Area Appraisal adopted in December 2008.

Article 4 Direction
In October 1992 a Direction under Article 4 of the General Development Order 1988 became operative. This means that even minor alterations to your property may require planning permission from the Council.

The Direction seeks to ensure that alterations are carried out to the general benefit of all property owners in the area, and plays an important role in ensuring that the uniformity and architectural details of the area are maintained for future generations.

It may be necessary to obtain planning permission from the Council before beginning the following minor developments:

1. Porches
   The construction of a porch outside any external door which faces a highway.

2. Walls, Gates & Fences
   The erection, improvement or alteration of a means of enclosure.

3. Painting
   The covering of original walling material by painting & the changing of the colour of existing painted exterior walls, masonry or windows where they front a highway.

4. Hard-standings
   The construction of a hard surface where it is nearer a highway than the dwelling.

5. Windows & Doors
   The alteration, removal & renewal of all doors & windows in a house where they front a highway.

6. Roofs
   Re-roofing works, changes to roof details and chimneys insertion of roof lights or solar panels

No fee is required for planning applications required as a result of the direction

Remember! If you carry out a development or alteration which requires permission without obtaining it first, you may face enforcement action which could prove troublesome and costly.
living in a conservation area
your property is in the Wordsworth Avenue Conservation Area

The Wordsworth Avenue Conservation Area is comprised of a network of cul-de-sacs, most of which are tree lined and of which Wordsworth Avenue forms the spine. There is an interesting variety of house types within the area, ranging from four-storey villas to two-storey terraced cottages. The enclosed nature of the area gives it a very distinct character, forming a small pocket of residential development feeding on to Newport Road. The designation of the Conservation Area in 1974 gave formal recognition to its historical and architectural quality.

If a building is Listed special controls apply which would override the following advice.

**special planning controls**
Conservation Area status means that the Council possesses a number of statutory powers to safeguard against some changes. These are special planning controls which relate to specific works which would normally be considered Permitted Development, i.e. works which would not require the benefit of planning permission. These are summarised below:

- **wall surfaces**
  Planning permission is required for the covering of brickwork/stonework with any stone, artificial stone or timber facing or any other surface treatment.*

- **satellite dishes and other telecom equipment**
  Planning permission may be required for the installation or replacement of a satellite dish or other telecommunications equipment on a house where it fronts a highway, or within its grounds.*

- **roof extensions**
  Planning permission is required for the enlargement of a property through the construction of roof extensions or other roof alterations.*

- **demolition of buildings**
  Conservation Area Consent may be required for the total demolition of a building or structure over 115 cubic metres (including walls and out-houses). If demolition is being considered, then the Planning Department should be contacted.

  *A fee is payable for this type of application

- **roof extensions and roof lights**
  Roof extensions, loft conversions are possible, dormer windows and roof lights should not be visible from the street unless their design and materials of construction are in sympathy with the character of the property as a whole.

- **colour**
  Often bold or harsh colour on windows and walls can have a jarring effect on the street scene. Paler colours such as white or cream are often more appropriate, or darker blacks, greens and browns

- **enclosures**
  Walls surrounding front or side gardens should be retained and not replaced with uncoordinated varieties of brickwork, blockwork or fencing.

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design guidance

Generally a high standard of design for new buildings and for the alteration or restoration of existing properties will be expected. Any new buildings should be designed to harmonise in form and scale with the area. Existing buildings should be maintained and renovated with care and sensitivity.

The first principle of a Conservation Area is to preserve or enhance, set out below are ways to achieve this. The Council would expect to see this advice followed in planning applications. These objectives should be followed in all new work to ensure the character of the Conservation Area is maintained:

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**windows and doors**
Windows make an important contribution to the style of a house. Original window styles should be retained where possible. Frosted or stained glass door panels and porch details should be retained. New windows should accurately reflect the style and opening methods of those originally fitted to the properties.

**roofs**
Generally, original roofing materials should be maintained. Reclaimed or new natural slates or tiles of the same colour should be used. A good quality textured synthetic tile is acceptable. Decorative ridge tiles & ornamental barge boards should be retained.

**porches**
Original porches and openings should be retained or renovated where necessary using materials to match the original.

**chimneys**
The original stacks and pots are an integral part of the design of buildings. If these become unsafe and require repair they should be rebuilt to the original height and design, even if no longer in use.

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including Article 4 Direction

conservation area

including Article 4 Direction

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Controls imposed by an Article 4 Direction are set out overleaf