

FAQs

Q What is a Conservation Area?

This is an area that has been selected and defined locally as one that is of special architectural or historic interest, and where it is desirable to look after its character or appearance. Conservation Areas have a legal status and are protected by national legislation (Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990).

Conservation Areas are not about protecting plants and animals, although trees and landscaping can be important parts of the history and character. Larger trees in Conservation Areas are protected.

Q How many Conservation Areas does Bournemouth have?

Bournemouth has 20 Conservation Areas?

Q Why are you only consulting on these three Conservation Areas?

We already have information in the form of Appraisals and Management Plans for some of Bournemouth's Conservation Areas. We have selected these three as they don't have this information available and they are under significant pressure for change. We need to understand these areas better to inform future decisions on new development – changes to buildings and design of streets and public spaces.

Q What is the context for this work?

This work will provide information as part of a strategy for the whole of Bournemouth (Local Plan). The Local Plan ties together the need for – a sustainable environment, a healthy society, local centres, all types of transport, housing, a thriving economy and jobs, natural environment, sport and leisure, a quality built and historic environment.

This work is also prepared in the context of the fact that Government is setting new and higher housing targets for Bournemouth – potentially changing from around 700 new homes a year to 1,400. This has implications for both our general built environment and need for infrastructure and specifically in relation to this work, our duty to understand and protect what's of value in our historic environment.

Q What things can I influence through this consultation?

We are asking whether these Conservation Areas should be Conservation Areas at all in your opinion, or whether they should be, but the boundary should change – made larger or shrunk.

We want to understand what the community value and don't value in these areas and how much potential you think there is for change or not – buildings demolished and replaced, altered/extended, architectural features that should be kept and reinforced or

can be lost. What should our streets, shopfronts, signs and adverts be like in Bournemouth?

It would be helpful to understand what you think about old buildings sitting alongside new ones – size of buildings, architectural style. Whether you recognise different character areas with their own distinctive identity – building layout – terraced, detached – architectural style – Victorian/Edwardian, Art Deco. How well does this work? How could it be done better?

Q What is the purpose of an Appraisal and Management Plan?

This is to provide the local community with information on the historic development of the area, to raise awareness of why the area is locally and historically important and suggest how the area can be preserved and enhanced for the future.

It will also be used to provide guidance to landowners, developers and those involved with making planning or other decisions affecting the character or appearance of the area