

PA02 Freemantle and Shirley**Context**

- The area is to the north-west of CA2: Station Heights.
- Bounded by Mountbatten Way to the south and PA1: Operational Docks beyond.
- PA3: Polygon is to the east (the division is Hill Lane).
- The area is gently rising from south-east to north-west.

Grain

- The area is fine grain.

Scale

- Predominantly traditional two storey with some three storey modern blocks of flats
- Pitch roofs throughout, mostly ridge parallel to the road.

Uses

- Residential with some commercial – small scale retail.
- Local shopping parade.
- Some light industrial.

Public Realm

- In reasonable repair.
- Mostly modern paving and finishes.

Connectivity

- Reasonably well connected to the east and north with a good grid of streets though the emphasis is on north-west south-east travel.
- Poor connectivity to the docks area, due to ownership and train and road infrastructure.

Views

- Views along Shirley road towards the city.
- St Michael's spire forms a key landmark on the skyline.

Building types

- Mix of interwar and post war semi and detached houses.
- Some grander Victorian villas (semis and detached) further north-west.

Architectural qualities

- Victorian villas are of good building stock with decorative features.



Languard Road looking west

Heritage Assets

- Two good Victorian churches (Christ Church, 1865 by William White, and St James, 1836 by W. Hives).
- Atherley Road and Howard Road have some fine groupings of Victorian villas.

Materials

- Traditional – brick, clay tiles, natural slate.
- Modern – render, concrete interlocking tiles.

Condition

- Generally good condition.
- Loss of original garden walls and hedges is a significant issue in this area.

Ownership

- Private individual ownership, some local authority and some housing association.

Intervention

- Encourage walking and cycle routes into and from the city.
- Control where possible the loss of garden walls and the use of front gardens as parking.
- The introduction of street trees to some of the wider roads.

Key design principles

- The domestic scale of the suburbs is important and is all too easily damaged by inappropriately scaled development.
- Plot size to garden and amenity space is important to maintain.
- Seek to retain trees in front and back gardens.