

OTHER ALTERATIONS

Improving access to accommodate all users can greatly enhance both the accessibility of the building and create a welcoming and inviting commercial area. The design of ramps, handrails and other means of improved access should be carefully considered.

Painting shopfronts or the building can dramatically alter the character of the building. For historic buildings, it is important to use a colour palette that is sympathetic to the period of the building and/or its shopfront.

HERITAGE CRIME

Heritage Crime is any offence which harms the value of a heritage asset (such as a Listed Building or a Conservation Area). Crimes such as theft, criminal damage, arson and anti-social behaviour offences can result in damage to heritage assets and can result in tougher sentencing. See Historic England's advice on reporting Heritage Crime: historicengland.org.uk/advice/caring-for-heritage/heritage-crime/report/



PLANNING PERMISSION & FREE DESIGN ADVICE

Shops and commercial premises do not usually benefit from permitted development rights, meaning that external alterations such as those discussed in this leaflet, would require Planning Permission. Where the building is a Listed Building, these alterations may also require Listed Building Consent.

Where alterations would affect a Listed Building, the Conservation Team can provide free design advice on shopfront alterations.

Please see the Council's website or use the contact details below to find out more.



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Historic England



NEWARK &
SHERWOOD
DISTRICT COUNCIL



HM Government

Hi!

Making Improvements to shopfronts

PLANNING ADVICE

Many of the district's shopping centres are located in historic town centres. Well-designed shopfronts can contribute to the vitality and vibrancy of the district as well as enhancing community safety.



Historic England



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DISTRICT COUNCIL

IMPROVEMENTS AND ALTERATIONS TO SHOPFRONTS

Ill-designed shopfront security measures can erode the vitality and viability of commercial areas as they can create hostile and uninviting spaces for the public and dissuade potential investors from an area which appears to be vulnerable to crime.

External roller shutters are a very undesirable solution as their industrial and solid character creates a very unwelcoming appearance to the streetscene, inhibits natural surveillance and attracts anti-social behaviour and vandalism, such as graffiti.

Internal grilles with a lattice screen or internal lattice roller shutters are preferable as these have a minimal impact on the external appearance of the building and can be carefully concealed during the day. If the window itself is made of toughened or laminated glass and/or the building is fitted with an intruder alarm, this can result in a very high degree of security.



Externally mounted and removable grilles can be fixed outside of windows or recessed doorways to protect the shopfront once the shop is closed and, where designed appropriately and removed during operational hours, can be a desirable form of security.

Internal lighting can be an effective way to deter criminals during non-operational hours as it improves the natural surveillance of the street and encourages people to 'window shop' in out of business hours.

Alarm boxes and CCTV cameras can form part of a successful security package. Whilst they should be visible to act as a deterrent, these measures should be designed to be as unobtrusive as possible. For example, CCTV cameras should be small and often can be sited internally.



ADVERTISEMENTS

Traditionally most signage within the district will be located on a fascia above the shopfront and/or from a hanging sign.

On historic buildings, the use of traditional materials (such as timber) for signage and hand-painted lettering will be encouraged. For premises open in the evening a simple trough-light above the fascia and/or the hanging sign will be sufficient to illuminate the business.

Acrylic, built-up lettering with internal or halo-lit illumination will be discouraged as this form of excessive advertising can result in a garish appearance and have a detrimental effect on the street.

The use of plaque signage or the application of individual lettering to a building may be appropriate in certain circumstances, such as when the building is converted from another use.

