

2 Public Realm Strategy - The approach

The approach and theme

The approach for Canvey is to create a simple, elegant and cohesive streetscape with a sparkle of interest, and to infuse the design of public realm with reference to the Dutch architectural aspects of Canvey that make it unique.

How to realise the Dutch and Seaside themes in the public realm

Seaside Town:

- Reflected in the look and feel of the paving
- The colour of the furniture and feature elements
- Movement of the wind expressed through banners/flags
- Palette of materials including wood and beige colours

Dutch Heritage:

- Bold colours
- The origin and type of materials
- Patterns and architectural form

The arrangement

- Create a pedestrian friendly environment that is functional, aesthetic and safe that caters to different user groups.
- Create a place in which people wish to spend time.
- Enhance the generous footpaths in the town centre clearing them of clutter, to ensure unobstructed pedestrian movement and sightlines
- Bury all overhead cables and lines to reduce clutter on footpaths and in the airspace over the town
- Develop strategies for maintenance, markets, events and public art to ensure the continued good management and layout of the town centre

Trees and planting

- Introduce as many street trees as possible to green and soften the town centre, creating visual links and providing seasonal interest. Plant trees on both sides of the streets opposite one another where possible.
- Create opportunities for hanging baskets and planting boxes within the public realm
- Trees are to be an upright shape, small leaved and have a clear stem. They are to be located between underground services and in positions to ensure clear sightlines for motorists and CCTV cameras

Crossings and Parking

- Zebra crossings between junctions are to be located in line with desire lines and raised to increase pedestrian priority, increase drivers awareness and slow down traffic.
- Provide on street parking and loading pull in bays that provide short stay parking opportunities within the town centre.
- Provide 17 taxi spaces in a few taxi ranks around the town centre that are located close to shopping areas.

Street Furniture

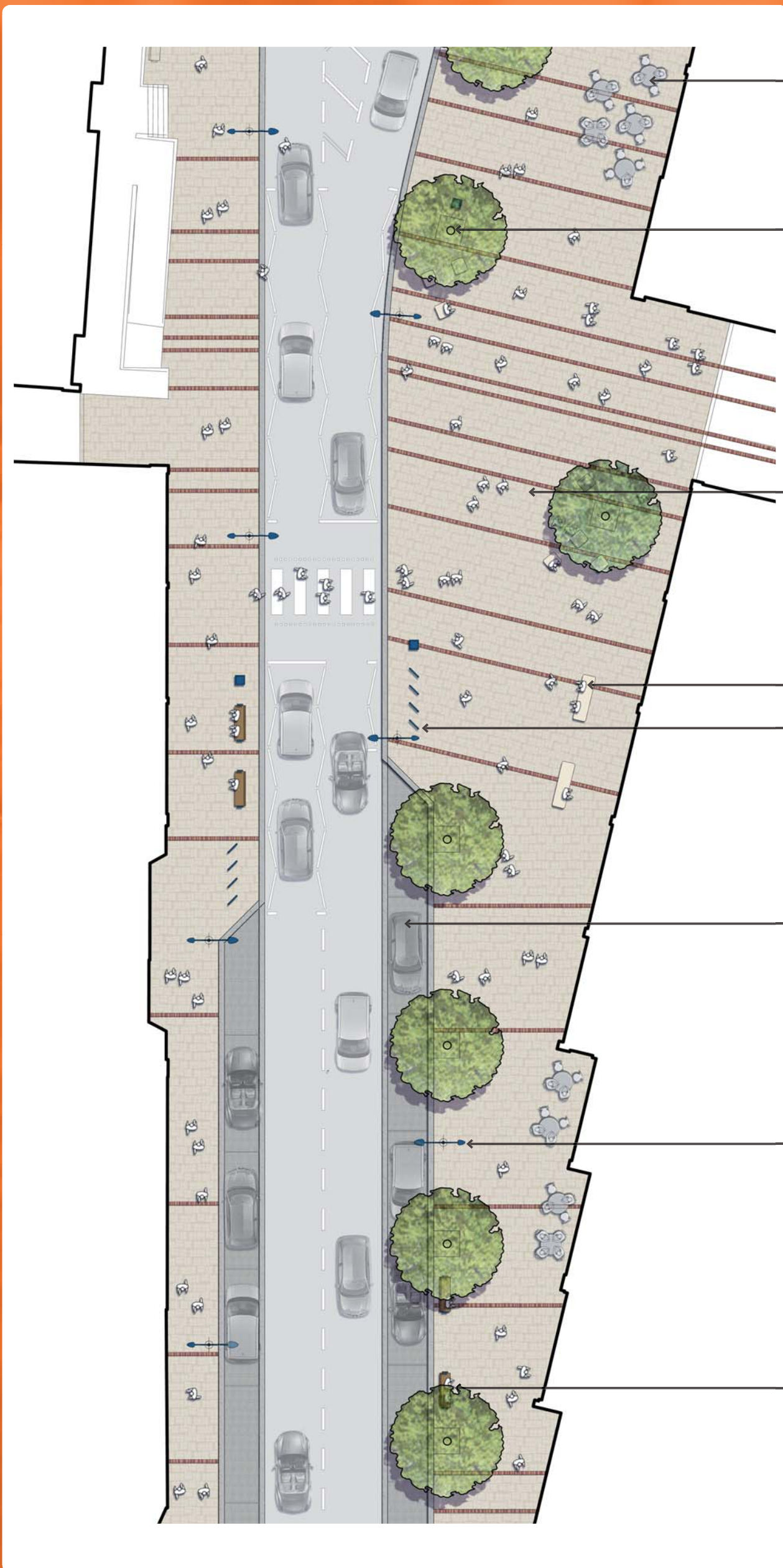
- Create an appropriate palette of street furniture, lighting and paving materials that will unify the town centre, and are robust and easy to maintain.
- Seating should be located where people want to sit and in a range of environments whether this be in the sun or in the shade, close to activity or at a distance, in groups or alone.
- Cycle stands will be functional and easy to use and arranged in clusters
- The use of bollards will be avoided where possible
- Light columns are to create a feature in the town centre, and their design is to express the seaside feel of the town.
- Design a family of signs to facilitate way finding, including maps, information panels, interpretation signs, plaques and directional signs

Materials

- Higher quality materials are to be used in the more significant and busy pedestrian areas, but a consistency between surfaces throughout the town centre is important
- Street furniture will be coordinated through simple and elegant forms, the use of steel, timber and concrete with all metal work painted a uniform deep sea blue.

This way to...
The Street Plan

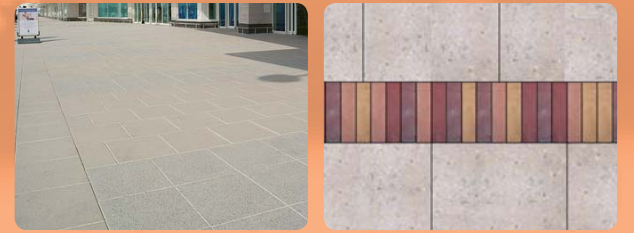
3 Public Realm Strategy - The elements



Flexible open spaces for events, markets and cafe spill outs



Street Tree planting



Durable concrete paving with feature bands of dutch clay pavers



Feature benches in key locations within the public realm



Co-ordinated palette of street furniture



Wide granite kerbs and grey vehicular pavers in parking areas



Light columns with fixtures for banners, hanging baskets and festive lights



Greening up the streets with hanging baskets and planters



Seats with arm and back rests

This way to...
The Street Plan

