

3.9 Adoption and Maintenance

3.9.1 Most Home Zones will be adopted by local highway authorities as “streets that are maintainable at the public expense”. This procedure follows Section 38 of the Highways Act 1980. Similarly the public sewers and drains beneath the surface of the street will normally be adopted by the local Water Company, in England and Wales; and by the local authority or Scottish Water in Scotland.

3.9.2 Many developers will be keen to use good quality materials and creative designs to create attractive and marketable developments. Adopting authorities are encouraged take a positive approach to such proposals, wherever possible.



New shared surface streets on Castle Vale estate were adopted as public highway – see Case Study 8.

G25. Where new Home Zone streets are to be adopted, developers should consult with the relevant authorities at an early stage in the design process to agree the materials and other design specifications that need to be met. Developers should also establish the agencies that will be responsible for the maintenance of each element in the street, as this will have a major bearing on the scheme.

3.9.3 Although the overall responsibility for the maintenance of an adopted street will normally remain with the Highway Authority, it may be appropriate that certain elements, such as planting or street furniture, are maintained by other bodies that are better suited to the task, such as the Parish, Town or District Council. This already applies in many towns and villages, where items of street furniture such as benches are maintained by the District Council under an agreement with the Highway Authority.



Adoptable areas (in green) agreed early in the design process.

First Saturday of every month...



...maintaining the Home Zone

Meet on Saturday at 11am by the Notice Board on Methley Drive

Methleys residents are invited to gather by the notice board on Methley Drive on the first Saturday of each month at 11am, starting from March 2nd. The primary aim is to carry out general maintenance of the shrubs and trees that are planted around the neighbourhood. We may well do a bit of sweeping the streets too!

Please come and join in, you only need to bring yourself, although you may want to bring a pair of gloves!

Residents' maintenance can involve everyone!

3.9.4 Properly constituted residents' groups, Trusts, or maintenance companies, which can be set up by developers in new build schemes, could also have an important role to play in the care and maintenance of a Home Zone, particularly the planted areas.

3.9.5 In many streets in the Netherlands, and in some streets in the UK, residents plant and look after flowers and shrubs in large pots and planters in front of their homes to create a semi-private green space within the street with no formal arrangements.