



Supplementary Planning
Guidance (SPG)

CONTROL OF SUNSHADES AND CANOPIES ON COMMERCIAL FRONTAGES



NOTE

This policy statement is based on a policy adopted by the former Kyle and Carrick District Council in 1994 with regard to enquiries and applications being made.

A marked increase has been recorded recently in the number of enquiries and applications being made for the use of retractable and non-removable canopies and sunshades in the commercial centres of South Ayrshire. This policy statement has been prepared to assist in controlling the proliferation and unnecessary use of these components of shopfront design, and in particular to avoid the possible erosion of the established character of buildings and frontages of important architectural quality.

- I On all buildings included in the Scottish Ministers' List of Buildings of Architectural or Historic Interest, or on frontages of considerable architectural merit, the use of sunshades and canopies will generally be restricted to premises where they are functionally necessary. In certain circumstances, however, the introduction of a functional canopy may destroy the architectural character of a frontage and in such instances alternative means of protecting goods from sunlight should be investigated.
- I Where canopies or sunblinds are to be introduced on Listed Buildings or on frontages of considerable architectural merit, these should be of a traditional single flat sheet type with lath; be of a self colour and, if more than one colour is proposed be of a restrained nature; be fully retractable and be capable of being retracted into an integral blind box built behind the fascia line. This concealed blind box should be positioned, wherever possible, at the lower edge of the fascia to ensure that the fascia sign is unobscured. The canopy or sunshade itself should be positioned between, and not over, pilasters.
- I On buildings which are not listed or do not form part of a frontage of considerable architectural merit applications to erect sunblinds or canopies will be treated on their individual merits. Consideration will be given to the scale, design and colour of the proposed blind in relation to its setting.
- I In all cases where a canopy or blind is proposed the nature and extent of any advertising or projecting sign already on the building will be taken into account in considering the application.
- I It should be borne in mind in considering any application, that traffic requirements may totally prejudice the introduction of canopies or sunshades. In particular blinds should not obscure traffic signs or create a hazard to pedestrians.

**FURTHER
INFORMATION**

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