providing an attractive and exciting shopping environment for customers and visitors to the town. This planning application aims to satisfy both objectives. At present it is all too easy for shoppers and visitors walking along Derby Street to miss Getliffes Yard. It is considered that its entrance onto Derby Street would benefit from a landmark that draws attention to the historic courtyard. Given the constraints of the public highway, such a landmark would have to be above 2.3m high which has led the applicant to consider the proposal for a canopy. Planning policy guides the proposed scheme towards one that enhances the character of the Conservation Area. Whilst there is a variety of ages and styles of buildings in the town centre, its character is principally Victorian.

DESIGN

General

The application proposes a canopy at the entrance to the Getliffes Yard courtyard. On the basis of the Victorian character of the Conservation Area, the scheme has been developed to reflect a Victorian theme whilst also being mindful of the nature of the existing glazed canopy at the rear.

Use

The application proposes a structure that has a dual use- as a shelter and as an eye-catching feature.

Amount

The application proposes a single structure.

Layout

The layout has been designed to avoid existing pedestrian flows on Derby Street by positioning the columns of the canopy wholly within Getliffes Yard. A projection over Derby Street of 1.0m is considered proportionate taking account of the scale of adjacent buildings, and the highway requirement to avoid high sided vehicles.

Scale

The footprint of the proposed canopy measures 2.9m wide by 4.5m; its height to ridge is 4.3m and to eaves, 3.8m.

Landscaping

Given the nature of the proposal and the site, landscaping is urban and is fulfilled by the stone setts within the existing floorscape.

Appearance

The proposal has been designed with the purpose of enhancing the character and appearance of the Conservation Area. The principal character of the area reflects its Victorian buildings. Getliffes Yard itself is a product of Victorian development. The proposal has therefore adopted a Victorian approach using ornate detailing to the columns, eaves height gantry rail and truss members. The framework is proposed in colour coated metal.

ACCESS

VEHICULAR AND TRANSPORT LINKS

These are not affected by the proposal.

INCLUSIVE ACCESS

The proposal does not alter the use of the site by less abled people.