



# SOUTH NORTHAMPTONSHIRE COUNCIL

## TOWCESTER CONSERVATION AREA APPRAISAL

**TOWCESTER** is a place of special character and historic interest.

South Northamptonshire Council is in the process of reviewing the Towcester Conservation Area and has produced a draft Conservation Area Appraisal and management plan for the settlement. The document sets out the features that contribute to the distinctive character of the area and identifies opportunities for its protection and enhancement.

A draft plan is available for public consultation until Friday 9 December 2011. Copies are available for viewing at:

- the Council's website at <http://www.southnorthants.gov.uk/688.htm>
- the Council Offices in Towcester
- Towcester Town Council.

The comments and views of residents of the town are an important part of this process so please contact the Heritage team at South Northamptonshire Council should you have any queries.

## What is a Conservation Area?

*"an area of architectural or historic interest the character and appearance of which it is desirable to preserve or enhance".*

It is not the intention of designation to prevent the continued evolution of places. The challenge within the conservation area is to manage change in a way that maintains, reinforces and enhances the special qualities of the area.

## Summary of Towcester's Special Interest

Towcester is relatively unique in that there has been continuous occupation within the historic core of the town from the Roman period through Saxon and medieval times to the present day. Each period has left its legacy in modern day Towcester.

Much of the town's special interest lies in the survival of its ancient street plan which originates from the Roman period and the survival of the medieval town layout which has remained largely unaltered over the last millennia.

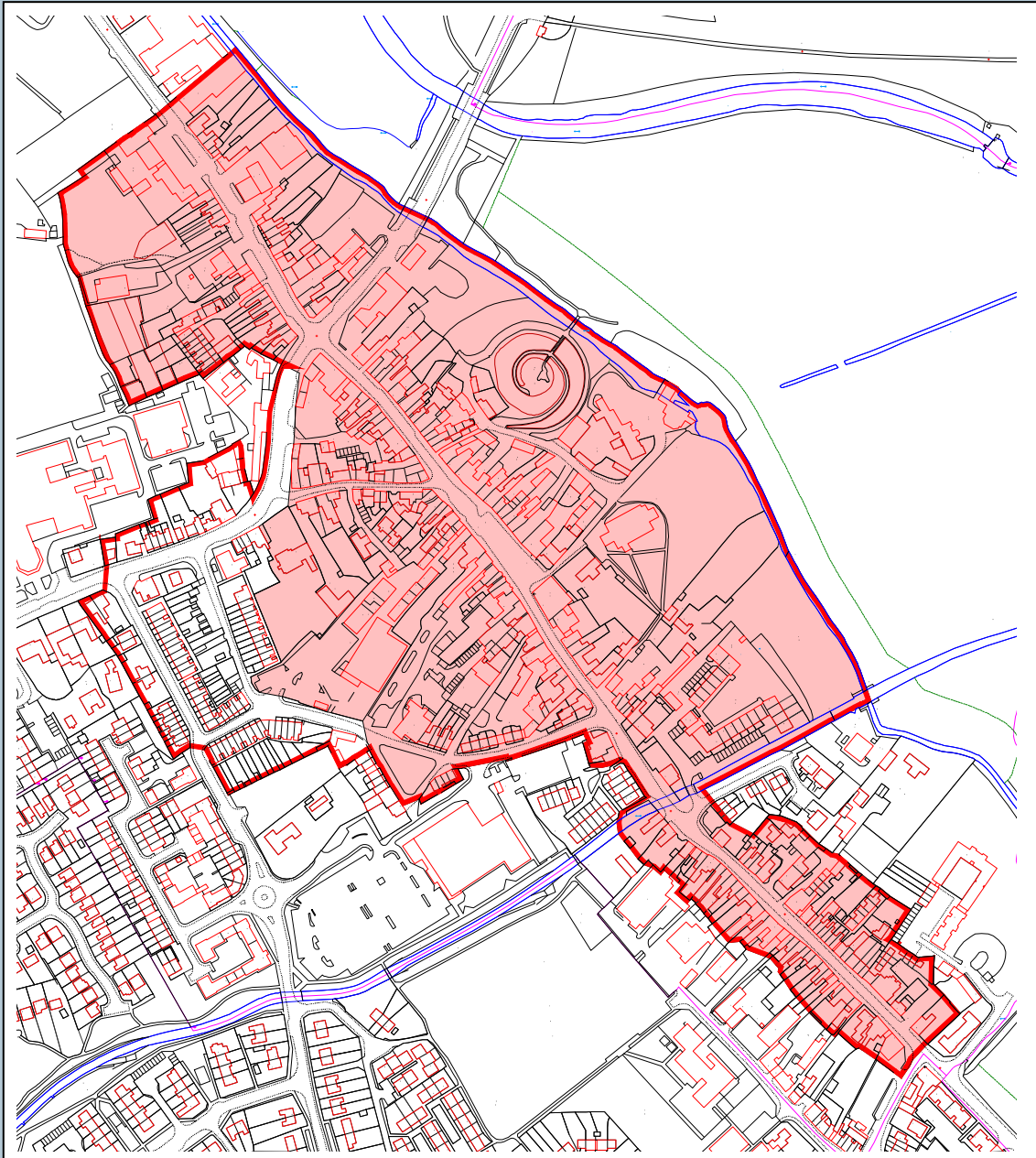
Watling Street, and the buildings along it define the character of Towcester where many buildings retain their seventeenth century fabric behind later facades. The town's built environment is of high quality and reflects its long history as a prosperous market town.

## Proposed Boundary change to Towcester

Towcester Conservation Area was first designated in June 1970, amended in November 1977, July 1994 and in February 1998

It is proposed to extend the boundary to include a section of Brackley Road, Richmond Road, Queens Road and Pomfret Road to acknowledge the contribution of the development within the Victorian period, the layout of which closely follows the boundary of the Roman defences.

The outline of the proposed Towcester Conservation Area is shown below.



### What next?

If you have any comments or questions relating to the changes that are proposed for the Towcester Conservation Area please contact the Council Heritage Team at [heritage@southnorthants.gov.uk](mailto:heritage@southnorthants.gov.uk) or on 01327 322249. The closing date for comments is Friday 9 December 2011.