

PORTRUSH PUBLIC REALM



A PLACE BY THE SEA...

The design philosophy for the project was to connect the East & West Strands with a new promenade, drawing inspiration from surrounding nature. The town centre would have a contrasting but complementary character appropriate for a seaside resort. Connectivity would be improved to create a better visitor experience.

Portrush sits within the North Antrim Coast SAC, & Ramore Head & Skerries NNR. Its geological heritage influenced the design of the promenade with materials reflecting sand & dark dolerite of the shore. Bespoke seats allude to the Causeway rock formations.

A PLACE TO ENJOY...



Opportunities for meeting, sitting out at a pavement café, shopping, having a picnic or just looking at the view. All within a high quality, contemporary environment which is uplifting and welcoming.



A PLACE TO EXPLORE...



The design theme links the town centre and the coast, marking views across the peninsula with gateway sculptures alluding to the seagulls flying over the harbour and a shoal of salmon swimming close to the fishery. Working with the local heritage group we incorporated paving markers at key locations within their walking trail of the town. Sculptural railings reflect aspects of the town including ice-cream cones, boats, sand-castles and poppies at the War Memorial.



A PLACE FOR ALL...



An access audit and consultation with disability groups helped define what needed to change. Where possible footways were widened, new controlled and uncontrolled crossings were installed. Seats were introduced across the town to create rest points for the elderly. Service cabinets were relocated out of line of travel and footways had edge colour contrast. Stepped areas were made DDA compliant with new ramped access connecting the shoreline. Parking bays for Blue Badge holders were increased. A new layout around the War Memorial created better access and a lovely place to sit. New LED lighting provided greater uniformity and increased the feeling of safety.

