

Urbanism Awards 2023 nomination: Mill Street, Perth

'This street forms a route between Perth's Concert Hall, its newly remodelled Theatre, City Art Gallery and the River Tay – now loosely branded as Perth's 'cultural quarter'.

'Until recently this was a slightly non-descript back street to the rear of Perth's High Street – a space dominated by highway requirements, parked cars and asphalt.

'An innovative shared space scheme implemented by Perth and Kinross Council in 2017 to coincide with the reopening of the remodelled theatre, which now features a striking new entrance oriented towards the street. This has had a transformative effect, creating a more inclusive space for people, but also providing an enhanced setting for adjacent buildings and enabling businesses to utilise the street space for external seating.

'Given these recent changes, I feel this street would now be worthy of further assessment by the Academy. Whilst the project has been conceived primarily as a regeneration initiative, clearly it strongly underpinned by strong urban design principles. New paving has greatly enhanced the ambience of the street, with innovative street design re-balancing its role as a space for people and route for active travel.

'This place was recently identified as part of an exercise at the Scottish Local Authority Urban Design Forum (LAUDF) which sought to provide an overview of some of Scotland's best urban places.'