

DESIGN GUIDELINES MATERIALS AND COLOUR

The choice and use of materials would be considered in detail after an In Principle Consent is given, but sustainability would be an important starting point and this would give an emphasis on local materials. The 'native' materials of the site, which historically would have come from within 400m, are granite, glacial and river borne boulders, pebbles, gravel and sand soil, turf, grass and heather, birch, pine and other trees and all the products that can be made from these materials. To sustain contemporary life, other materials and products would be required too, eg. glass, metal roofing, solar collectors, etc. How the materials are used, with good design and workmanship, is important for durability as well as aesthetic satisfaction. The scales and textures that can be obtained vary greatly and need careful consideration.

In nature, colour does not normally last long, soon changing or fading with the power of the sun, wind and rain. However, decorative coatings prolong the durability of well designed structures, as well as providing richness, meaning and interest. Colour is one of the easiest ways of giving distinctive identity. Colour can also help make a place fit into, or stand out from, its setting. In places, especially in the Higher Density areas, it may be sensible to limit the variety of colour to bring cohesion and order, whereas in other places, such as commercial shopfronts etc., some lively chaos of personal expression may be best encouraged.



Timber wall painted with Swedish Falu Rödfärg



Local river stones used as paving and wall material



Shingle roof



Timber wall without paint



French granite could be used as ground floor wall material and for paving.



Zinc roof