Places of Worship
Supplementary Planning Guidance

CONTENTS

Croydon’s planning framework.............................................................................................................................................3
Where should new places of worship be located.............................................................................................................................................3
What should you look for?.............................................................................................................................................5
Building a new place of worship.............................................................................................................................................5
Change of use to a place of worship.............................................................................................................................................5
What will the Council want to know?.............................................................................................................................................6
Conditional planning permissions.............................................................................................................................................8
Buildings of historic interest.............................................................................................................................................9
The ecclesiastical exemption.............................................................................................................................................9
Useful Contacts.............................................................................................................................................10

APPENDICES
1: Places of worship in Croydon.............................................................................................................................................11
2: A brief guide to Christian denominations and other religions in Croydon.............................................................................................................................................18
3: Places of worship by the designated town, district and local centres and by accessibility.............................................................................................................................................29
4: Unitary Development Plan policies and standards.............................................................................................................................................30
5: Examples of conditions attached to recent planning permissions for places of worship.............................................................................................................................................35
6: Listed and locally listed places of worship.............................................................................................................................................37
7: Recent planning permissions and planning applications for places of worship.............................................................................................................................................41

Location of places of worship in Central Croydon, District and Local Centres.............................................................................................................................................45
This guidance is non-statutory guidance which supplements the policies of the Unitary Development Plan (UDP), adopted on 30th January 1997, and sets out the Council’s policies and proposals for the use of land in the Borough.

Only the policies in the development plan can have the special status afforded by S54a of the Town and Country Planning Act, 1990, in deciding planning applications. However, the Government advises that supplementary planning guidance (SPG) may be taken into account as a material consideration, the weight accorded to it being increased if it has been prepared in consultation with the public and has been the subject of a Council resolution. This document has undergone public consultation and was adopted by the Council at its Planning and Environment Committee on 24th February 1999.

Foreword

Croydon has a diverse community within which each person should be valued regardless of race, gender, disability, sexuality, age or religion. Croydon Council is committed to delivering its services according to people’s needs in a way which does not discriminate against any group of people.

The freedom to worship is a basic human right. Many communities only need small premises or rooms for religious use while some denominations require large buildings in large detached sites. The levels of disturbance that can result from the use of these places of worship therefore varies widely. The planning system exists to regulate the use and development of land in the public interest and it has to balance the particular needs of individuals or groups against the amenities of the wider community.

The purpose of this supplementary planning guidance (SPG) is to provide advice and help to anyone who is submitting planning applications for new places of worship.

Councillor Adrian Dennis
Deputy Leader of the Council & Chair of the Planning and Environment Committee

Adopted 24th February 1999
If you need guidance on this document, please ring or get someone to ring the Planning and Development Department on 0181 686 4433 ext. 2289

Bengali

এই ডকুমেন্ট এর ব্যাপারে আপনি যদি কোন পরামর্শ চান তাহলে দয়া করে ফোন করুন অথবা কাউকে দিয়ে প্ল্যানিং এ্যান্ড ডেভেলপমেন্ট ফোন করান-0১৮১ ৬৮৬ ৪৪৩৩ এক্সটেনশন ২২৮৯

Chinese

如果你对这份文件有关的事宜需要得到指导，请你打电话或者托某人替你打电话与相关部门联络，号码0181 686 4433 内线2289。

Gujarati

આ પ્લાનિંગ એન્ડ ડેવેલપમેન્ટ ડેપાર્ટ્મ૆ંટ માટે મામલો વિશે મારફત કરવામાં આવી શકશે, જે વિષયની વિભાગના વડાના માટે 0181 686 4433 એક્સ્ટેન્શન 2289 પર કેન કરવા અથવા કોઈ વીકી પાસે કેન કરવા વિન્દું છે.

Punjabi

ਆਂਦੋਲਤਾ ਦੇ ਸੇਵਾਨੂੰ ਵੀ ਇਹ ਮਾਸਟਰ ਕਰਵਾਓ ਸਹੀਤ ਮਾਤਾ ਦਾ ਵਿਨਦਗੀ ਹੈ, ਜਦੋਂਵਾਂ ਵੇਬ ਵਿਚ ਸਾਇਬਰ ਅਲੇਪੀ ਦੇ ਜੀਡੀਸੀਪੀ ਜੀਡੀਏਪੀ ਜਾ ਸ਼ੁਰੂ ਕਰ ਦੇ ਇੰਸਟੀਟੂਨ ਵਿਚ ਸੰ ਸਕਲ ਦੇ ਇੰਸਟੀਟੂਨ ਵਿਚਕਾਰ: 0181 686 4433 ਏਕਸਟੇਨਸ਼ਨ 2289.

Somali

Haddii aad hagid uga baahato dokumantigan fadlan telifoon u dir ama qof ha kuugu diiro Waaxda Qorshaynta iyo Horumarinta telifoonka 0181 686 4433 ext. 2289.

Urdu

اگر آپ کا اس وستارے کے متعلق رہنمائی کی ضرورت ہے تو ہم بے ہاتھ ایمیل تک پہنچنے کے لیے 0181 686 4433 پر فون کریں یا کسی اور کے فون کریں۔
1.1 The statutory planning policies which the Council applies to applications for planning permission are set out in the Unitary Development Plan (UDP). There are two policies, CS7 and CS8, in the Community Services chapter which relate specifically to places of worship and associated facilities:

CS7 The Council will permit applications for places of worship and associated community facilities so long as such development would not have any significant adverse effect on residential amenity.

CS8 The Council will resist the loss of places of worship and associated community facilities unless it can be demonstrated that there is no longer a need for them.

1.2 This guidance note supplements the policies in the Plan in order to provide help to those preparing planning applications in relation to places of worship and associated community facilities (throughout the guidance, reference to places of worship should also be read as referring to ancillary facilities). Changes to Government guidance have been placing increasing emphasis on promoting sustainable development and the Plan’s policies need to be re-examined in this light - and so the SPG also serves to help bring the Plan more up-to-date.

1.3 Places of worship are community meeting places and Croydon has many of them (see Appendix 1 for a list of the buildings and Appendix 2 for a description of the religious groups). They generally need to be located conveniently to their congregations and can attract large numbers of people. As a result, they may bring increased noise, disturbance and parking problems to an area and can have an adverse effect on the amenities of neighbouring residents and occupiers. All of these issues need to be carefully addressed in both selecting a suitable location for new places of worship and in considering proposals for the redevelopment or extension to existing ones.

Where should new places of worship be located?

2.1 The pattern and distribution of many places of worship is a legacy of the past. Changes in circumstances can lead to existing places of worship being closed, different denominations taking over existing places of worship or new places of worship being introduced into an area.
2.2 The importance of finding the right location for any uses which generate large numbers of people is set out in Government Planning Policy Guidance notes (PPGs). These refer to the Government’s commitment to reduce the need for travel and to achieve more sustainable patterns of development, reducing reliance on the car. Although PPG 6 relates mainly to retail development, it gives examples of other types of 'town centre uses' which would generate similar levels of activity. Places of worship are not specifically mentioned, but the same principles apply to them. PPG6 says that when you are selecting a location for this type of activity you should first consider sites in town centres, then edge-of-centre sites within easy walking distance of centres, and only then sites outside of centres which are well served by a choice of means of transport.

2.3 The Council has looked at where Croydon’s places of worship are presently located. Appendix 3 shows where they can be found in relation to Central Croydon, the District and Local Centres in the Borough and in relation to bus routes (the location of the places of worship in and around designated centres is also shown on the maps at the end of the guidance). The research shows that:

- 24 (13%) of the places of worship are located within a designated centre;
- 79 (43%) are located within 400 metres of a centre; and
- 101 (62%) of those located outside of a designated centre are within a convenient distance of a bus route.

This pattern of distribution is not surprising and probably reflects three things:

- the organisational structure of some denominations - Roman Catholic and Anglican churches are based on a parish system, for example, and are not tied to town centres. Other denominations have no such ‘catchment’ boundaries and have a greater freedom of choice of location;
- land values in town centres; and
- the need to protect other important land uses, such as shops and workplaces.

In line with Government policy, the Council will generally expect places of worship which would generate a greater level of activity to be located within designated centres.

2.4 If suitable sites cannot be found within them, then you should try to find a site within easy walking distance of the centres, on the fringe of residential areas. If this proves unsuccessful, you should look for sites which are well served by public transport.

2.5 As a general rule, predominantly residential areas are not suitable for new activities attracting large numbers of people.

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1 Planning Policy Guidance Note 6 “Town Centres and Retail Developments” (PPG6) and Planning Policy Guidance Note 13 “Transport” (PPG13)
What should you look for?

3.1 Places of worship fall within what is technically known as Class D1 of the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes Order) 1987. This Use Class also includes health centres, bingo halls, museums, public halls, libraries, art galleries, exhibition halls and non-residential schools and training centres. Groups which have large accommodation requirements may find this type of building suitable for redevelopment or conversion, but bear in mind that the Council will look most favourably on those that are on the edge of housing areas, in town centres or on main roads.

3.2 A conversion from any of the above to use as a place of worship may be ‘permitted development’, providing a condition has not been attached to the existing use restricting the planning consent to one specific use.

Building a new place of worship

4.1 If you are proposing to build a new place of worship, or to redevelop or extend an existing one, the Council will expect to see a high standard of design and will ensure that your new building complements nearby buildings and maintains or improves the quality of Croydon’s environment. The UDP policies concerning the various aspects of the quality of design of buildings are to be found in the chapter on Design and Layout of Development.

4.2 Good design is particularly important in a Conservation Area or a Local Area of Special Character. The UDP policies concerning the design of buildings in Conservation Areas and the Local Areas of Special Character are described in the chapter on Urban Conservation (policies UC3 and UC5 - see Appendix 4).

Change of use to a place of worship

5.1 Planning permission will be required if you want to change the use of an existing premises which falls outside of Class D1 to a building for public worship or religious instruction. Not all such changes of use will be acceptable because there are other important activities which the Council want to see protected as in the following examples.

5.2 Employment uses: the Council will not normally allow the loss of an employment generating activity in the designated Commercial or Industrial Areas. It would also prefer employment
uses outside of these areas to be used for some alternative form of employment and, if this is not possible, for housing (see Policy EM8 in Appendix 4); many of these ‘EM8 sites’ are found in residential areas and it is likely, due to possible problems of disturbance, they would anyway be unsuitable as places of worship.

5.3 **Shopping frontages**: Some smaller religious groups may look at the possibility of converting shop premises for their meeting rooms. The Shopping chapter of the UDP defines frontages in designated shopping areas where the loss of shops (and other important shopping centre uses, such as building societies and restaurants) will be resisted. Local convenience shops are similarly protected. However, outside of these areas, changes of use from shop to small places of worship will be considered, but only if the new use will not cause disturbance to the neighbouring occupiers.

5.4 The Council is trying to encourage the use of vacant floors above shops and will look more favourably at applications which also propose a residential use of the upper floors of the shops, perhaps as a flat for the denomination’s religious official or meeting room caretaker.

5.5 It is always best to check with the Department of Planning & Development before making any financial or other commitments.

**What will the Council want to know?**

6.1 The level of activity proposed and its effect on the amenities of an area will be an important consideration in the determination of any planning application for redevelopment, extension or change of use. To assess this the Council will need information on the following (some of which are elaborated on below):

- how many people would normally be using the premises, at what times of the day and night, and which days of the week;
- details about any special activities, festivals or ceremonies and how often they occur;
- how much space would be required, and for what purpose (such as for worship, prayer, offices, storage, meetings etc.);
- what additional facilities would be required (such as kitchen, toilets, parking etc.);
- whether there would be music or amplified sound, or other potential sources of noise, and if this could be heard by people living nearby;
- how people would get to the premises (walking, cycling, private car, minibus, coach or public transport);
- parking and access arrangements, and whether drop-off facilities would be provided for larger vehicles or coaches.
- what access arrangements are proposed to assist members of the congregation with disabilities.
any effect on the privacy of neighbours, and visual intrusion
any effect on daylight and sunlight to neighbouring properties
whether there would be any residential accommodation included for staff or visitor
cumulative impact

6.2 **Noise:** many denominations use music or singing in their worship; halls associated with places of worship may also be used for celebrations such as weddings and religious festivals. These activities may generate levels of noise which can be a nuisance to adjoining occupants. Proposals for places of worship located close to housing, hospitals and schools, which are generally regarded as sensitive to noise, would need to be designed to help overcome problems (see policy EP10 in Appendix 4 and planning policy guidance in PPG 24 “Planning and Noise”). Sound generally escapes through windows, doors and other openings, but in most cases, arrangements can be made to mitigate the effects of noise by attention to the internal layout of the building, window details and insulation, and boundary treatment.

6.3 You may know of other places of worship producing similar noise levels for which an assessment has been made of the insulation or other measures necessary to reduce noise. Details of the sound insulation to be provided should be submitted as part of the planning application. Technical advice on this can be obtained from the Environmental Health and Trading Standards Department and the Building Control Division of the Planning and Development Department. The Council may attach conditions to a planning permission limiting the hours of use, or restricting the activities on the site. Conditions may also be applied which specify acceptable noise limits for equipment or for noise levels at the site boundary (see Appendix 5).

6.4 **Parking:** the Council recognises that places of worship will generate some traffic and that many premises are unlikely to have sufficient space on site to provide enough parking - which is why it wishes new provision to be located near to public transport.

6.5 However, groups will be encouraged to make sure that each site meets ‘operational needs’; in any new development, including extensions and where possible if changes of use occurs, you will be encouraged to organise your premises so that the religious official, any caretaking staff, other officials and delivery vehicles can park on site. If the site can accommodate further car parking provision, the car park will be expected to cater for as many of the regular congregation as possible, to minimise on-street parking. Parking and access arrangements should be attractive, safe, convenient and appropriate to the scale of the development, and designed to minimise their visual impact and to ensure that residential amenity is not unduly affected (see Policies BE10 and BE11 in Appendix 4). It is important that noise and pollution from parking areas do not harm the amenity or health of any adjoining residents. Parking areas should be designed to screen cars by retaining existing features and incorporating new planting.
6.6 As there are no specific parking standards for places of worship, parking requirements will be assessed on the merits of each case, and applicants would be required to provide estimates of trip generation. Proposals should include parking spaces designed and reserved for drivers with disabilities (see Policy T27 in Appendix 4).

6.7 Cumulative impact: the existing number and concentration of other places of worship will be taken into account. If it is considered that the cumulative impact of a proposed use and the existing facilities would have a negative impact on an area’s amenity, an application will generally be resisted. However, where new provision adds to the variety of activities that could be of benefit to the local population, then the number of existing facilities in an area will not necessarily work against the new proposal.

6.8 Access: the Council is committed to providing an accessible environment. In the case of new buildings, there will be very few instances where it is neither practicable nor reasonable to design to at least minimum accessibility standards. In relation to existing buildings, where an application proposes changes to access, applicants will be expected to show how they intend to make their premises accessible to people with disabilities (see policies BE26 and BE27 in Appendix 4).

**Conditional planning permissions**

7.1 The Council may attach certain conditions to a grant of planning permission in order to protect the amenities of adjoining residential occupiers. These may restrict the activities of the place of worship, the use of the building, the hours of use, or reduce the noise and disturbance to neighbours. In addition, the Council can grant:

- temporary permission - for example, to enable the Council to assess the impacts of a particular proposal, or to give time for a congregation to find alternative, permanent premises; or

- personal permission - which is limited to the applicant only. This enables the Council to have a greater control over future congregations who may wish to use a particular premises.

7.2 Examples of such conditions are listed in Appendix 5, for illustrative purposes; each case is considered on its merits and the same conditions will not necessarily be applied to every permission.
7.3 The Council may also grant planning permission subject to a planning obligation. These are legally binding agreements which may be entered into by the applicant and/or other party with the Council which control specified aspects of the development. The obligation could, for example, require the land to be used in a specified way, either indefinitely or for a fixed period.

Buildings of historic interest

8.1 Some churches in Croydon are of such special architectural or historic interest that they have been included in the Government’s schedule of ‘Listed Buildings’. Others are of sufficient local architectural or historic interest that they have been included on the Council’s ‘Local List’ (see Appendix 6).

8.2 The Urban Conservation chapter of the UDP sets out the various policies relating to the protection and preservation of Listed Buildings, alterations and extensions to them, their maintenance and repair, and their setting and use. The protection and conservation of buildings on the Local List is also set out in this chapter. The relevant policies are reproduced, for ease of reference, in Appendix 4.

8.3 Ideally, the Council would prefer Listed Buildings to remain in the use for which they were designed. However, there may be instances where the original use is no longer appropriate or viable. In order to maintain the architectural or historic character of the building, the Council may consider other alternative uses, such as places of worship, depending on the circumstances of each case.

The Ecclesiastical Exemption

9.1 Ecclesiastical buildings are fully subject to planning control, but some of those which are for the time being used for ecclesiastical purposes are exempt from listed building and conservation area controls. The exemption only applies to the Church of England and to other denominations and faiths which, in the Government’s view, have acceptable internal systems of control embodying the principles set out in the Government’s code of practice (at the moment being the Roman Catholic Church, the Methodist Church, the United Reformed Church, the Baptist Union and the Church in Wales).
Useful contacts

Council Switchboard: telephone 0181 686 4433

Planning and Development Department,
ext. 5403 Planning Control North Team
ext. 5404 Planning Control South Team
ext. 2289 Forward Planning (UDP Policy)
ext. 2051 Urban Design
ext. 5776 Access Officer

Environmental Health Department
ext. 2849 Noise

Independent professional town planning advice services:
Planning Aid for London
Calvert House, 5 Calvert Avenue,
London E2 7JP Phone: 0171 613 4435

Adopted 24th February 1999
APPENDIX 1

PLACES OF WORSHIP IN CROYDON

ANGLICAN CHURCHES

All Saints
All Saints
All Saints
All Saints
Christ Church Croydon
Christ Church Purley
Emmanuel
Holy Innocents
St Alban
St Andrew
St Andrew
St Antony
St Augustine
St Barnabas
St Edmund
St Edward King & Confessor
St Francis
St George the Martyr
St George
St James
St John the Baptist
St John the Divine
St John the Evangelist
St John the Evangelist
St Jude with St Aidan
St Luke
St Margaret
St Mark
St Mark’s Woodcote
St Mary Magdalene with St Martin
St Mary the Blessed Virgin
St Mary
St Matthew
St Michael & All Angels
St Mildred

56 Bridle Road, Shirley
18 Church Road, Kenley
Addington Road, Sanderstead
Beulah Hill, Upper Norwood
Sumner Road, West Croydon
861-863 Brighton Road, Purley
Normanton Road, South Croydon
192 Selhurst Road, South Norwood
adj. 2 Grange Road, Thornton Heath
adj. 37 Woodcote Grove Road, Coulsdon
Southbridge Road, Croydon
122 Wentworth Way, Sanderstead
St Augustine’s Avenue, South Croydon
adj. 67 Higher Drive, Purley
adj. 55 Mitchley Avenue, Purley
Arnhem Drive, New Addington
Tedder Road, South Croydon
adj. 51 The Glade, Shirley
adj. 5 Barrow Road, Croydon
St James’s Road, Kenley
Church Street, Croydon
adj. 7 Upper Selsdon Road, Selsdon
Sylvan Road, Upper Norwood
Church Path, Old Coulsdon
Shirley Church Road, Shirley
80 Thornton Road, Thornton Heath
Portland Road, Woodside
Chevening Road, Upper Norwood
Coventry Road, South Norwood
Church Road, Woodcote
adj. 17 Canning Road, Croydon
Addington Village Road, Addington
68 Purley Oaks Road, Purley
Park Hill Road, Croydon
Poplar Walk, Croydon
Bingham Road, Addiscombe

Adopted 24th February 1999
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Baptist Churches</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beulah Beulah Crescent, Thornton Heath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Boston Road 55 Boston Road, Croydon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Brighton Road adj. 213 Brighton Road, South Croydon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Croham Road adj. 50 Croham Road, South Croydon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monks Orchard Monks Orchard Primary School, The Glade</td>
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<tr>
<td>Morland Road adj. 201 Morland Road, Croydon</td>
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<tr>
<td>New Addington adj. 41 Arnhem Drive, New Addington</td>
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<tr>
<td>Norbury Bavant Road, Norbury</td>
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<tr>
<td>Old Lodge Lane Reedham Park Avenue, Kenley</td>
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<td>Pawsons Road 5 Pawsons Road, Croydon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Providence Chapel West Street, Croydon</td>
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<td>Purley Banstead Road, Purley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Selsdon adj. 151 Addington Road, Selsdon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shrublands Christian Fellowship Community Centre, Shrublands Avenue</td>
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<tr>
<td>South Norwood adj. 6 Oliver Avenue, South Norwood</td>
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<tr>
<td>Springfield All Saints Parish Hall, Moffat Road, Thornton Heath</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tamworth Road Chapel Tamworth Road, Croydon</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Croydon adj. 1 Whitehorse Road, Croydon</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Wickham &amp; Shirley Wickham Road, Shirley</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Woodside 29 Spring Lane, South Norwood</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Buddhist</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Croydon Buddhist Centre 96-98 High Street, Croydon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Linh Son Temple and Meditation Centre 76 Beulah Hill, Upper Norwood</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Christadelphian</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christadelphian Hall Foulsham Road, Thornton Heath</td>
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CHRISTIAN BRETHREN

Braemar Avenue Room
Bramley Hall
Clifton Hall
Cranmer Christian Fellowship
Denmark Road Gospel Hall
Galpins Road Room
Haling Road Room
Leslie Grove Room
Limpsfield Road Room
Mitchley Hill Chapel
Montpelier Evangelical Church
The Christian Meeting Room
The Vale Christian Fellowship
Upper Selsdon Road Hall
Whytecliffe Road Room

CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST

First Church of Christ Scientist
First Church of Christ Scientist

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES

Old Coulsdon
Selhurst
St John

EVANGELICAL

Celestial Church of Christ
Chinese Church in London
Christians in Action Evangelical Church
Church of the Nazarene
Farnley Christian Fellowship
Follys End Christian Fellowship
Harvest Christian Centre
Ichthus Christian Fellowship Crystal Palace
St Aubyn’s Road, Upper Norwood
LCM Centre, 45 Cromwell Road, Croydon
adj.77 Bingham Road, Addiscombe
55-57 Lower Addiscombe Road
Edenham High School, Orchard Way
5-9 Surrey Street, Croydon
72 Chelsham Road, South Croydon
Rockmount Junior School, Chevening Road

Adopted 24th February 1999
Ichthus Christian Fellowship South Norwood
New Addington Community Church
Selhurst Evangelical Free Church
Selsdon Community Church
Sunbeam Mission
Thomton Heath Evangelical Free Church
Vineyard Christian Fellowship
Westbrook Road Evangelical Church
Wiltshire Road Hall

65-67 Portland Road, South Norwood
Wolsey Chapel, 77-79 Dunley Drive
adj.4 Prince Road, South Norwood
Greenvale Primary School, Sandpiper Road
adj.23 Northwood Road, Thornton Heath
856 London Road, Thornton Heath
John Ruskin College, Selsdon Park Road
24 Westbrook Road, Thornton Heath
adj.20 Wiltshire Road, Thornton Heath

JAIN

Oshwal Mahajanwadi

1 Campbell Road / London Road, Croydon

JEHOVAH’S WITNESSES

Kingdom Halls of Jehovah’s Witnesses
Kingdom Hall of Jehovah’s Witnesses
Kingdom Hall of Jehovah’s Witnesses

Pioneer Place, Featherbed Lane
58 Woodman Road, Coulsdon
adj.119 Norbury Avenue

JEWISH

Croydon & District Synagogue

The Almonds, Shirley Oaks Road

LONDON CITY MISSION

London City Mission Centre
London City Mission Hall

45 Cromwell Road, Croydon
105 Portland Road, South Norwood

METHODIST CHURCHES

Addington
Christ Church
Coulsdon
Downsview
Kenley & Purley
Norbury

Huntingfield, Addington
114 Lower Addiscombe Road, Croydon
83 Brighton Road, Coulsdon
33 Downsview Road, Upper Norwood
Sylverdale Road, Purley
adj.2 Pollards Hill North, Norbury

Accepted 24th February 1999
Parchmore 53 Parchmore Road, Thornton Heath
Sanderstead 102 Limpfield Road, Sanderstead
Shirley adj.2 Eldon Avenue, Shirley
South Norwood adj.23 Suffolk Road, South Norwood
West Croydon adj.89 London Road, Croydon

MORMONS
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints Ashen Vale, Selsdon

MUSLIM
Croydon Mosque & Islamic Centre 525 London Road, Thornton Heath
Baitus Subhan Ahmadiyya Mosque 59 St James’s Road, Croydon
Ismaili Prayer Centre (under construction) 205-209 Addiscombe Road, Croydon

ORTHODOX
St Constantine and St Helen Greek Church 69a Westow Street, Upper Norwood
St. Mary and St. Shenouda Coptic Church adj.19 Rickman Hill, Coulsdon

PENTECOSTAL
Abundant Life Fellowship Youth Centre, 28 Winterbourne Road
Coulson Christian Fellowship 84-90 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon
Croydon Community Church Endeavour Hall, 273 Norbury Crescent
Elim Pentecostal Church adj.1 Stanley Road, Croydon
Elim Pentecostal Church adj.14 Mersham Road, Thornton Heath
House of Judah Bible Church Wellesley Hotel (YMCA), Wellesley Road
Logos Bible Church Stanley Halls, South Norwood Hill
New Life Christian Centre 5 Cairo New Road, Croydon
New Testament Church of God 183 Handcroft Road, Croydon

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS
Friends Meeting House adj.7 Downs Court Road, Purley
Friends Meeting House 60 Park Lane, Croydon

Adopted 24th February 1999
ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES

Our Lady of the Annunciation
Polish Community Chapel
St Aidan
St Andrew
St Chad
St Columba
St Dominic
St Gertrude
St John the Baptist
St Mary Help of Christians
St Mary
The Good Shepherd
The Holy Family
Virgo Fidelis

147 Bingham Road, Croydon
8 Oliver Grove, South Norwood
129 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon
27 Brook Road, Thornton Heath
Whitworth Road, South Norwood
37 Queenhill Road, South Croydon
243 Violet Lane, Croydon
46 Purley Road, South Croydon
48 Dale Road, Purley
372 Coulsdon Road, Old Coulsdon
70 Wellesley Road, Croydon
25 Dunley Drive, New Addington
117 Limpsfield Road, Sanderstead
adj.143 Central Hill, Upper Norwood

SALVATION ARMY

Salvation Army Citadel
Salvation Army Citadel
Salvation Army Hall
Salvation Army Hall
Salvation Army Hall
The Salvation Army Citadel

66 High Street, Thornton Heath
157 Brighton Road, South Croydon
156 Whitehorse Road, Croydon
45 Hares Bank, New Addington
58 Westow Street, Upper Norwood
Booth Road, Lower Church Street

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Church of God of Prophecy
Church of God Seventh Day
Mount Zion Sanctuary 7th Day Church of God
New Addington Seventh Day Adventist
Norbury Seventh Day Adventist Church
Selhurst Seventh Day Adventist Church

56 Elmers Road, Woodside
19 Derby Road, Croydon
333a Sydenham Road, Croydon
Applegarth Junior School, Fieldway
Norbury Manor Primary School, Abingdon Road
95 Selhurst Road, South Norwood

SIKH

Nanak Community Centre

St James’s Church Hall, St. James’s Road
SPIRITUALIST

Croydon National Spiritualist Church
West Croydon Spiritualist Church
1a York Road, Croydon

Chatsworth Road, Croydon

SUKYO MAHIKARI

Sukyo Mahikari
Suffolk Hall, Suffolk Road, South Norwood

UNITED CHURCH

South Croydon United Church
Aberdeen Road, Croydon

UNITARIAN

Unitarian & Free Christian Church
1 The Flyover, Park Lane, Croydon

UNITED REFORMED CHURCHES

East Croydon
Purley
Sanderstead
South Norwood
St Paul
Upper Norwood
26 Addiscombe Grove, Croydon
906 Brighton Road, Purley
3 Sanderstead Hill, South Croydon
Enmore Road, South Norwood
adj.2 Croham Park Avenue, South Croydon
St Margaret’s C of E, Chevening Road

OTHER DENOMINATIONS

Assemblies of the First Born
Church of God
Church of God Apostolic
Emmanuel Inspirational Church of God
Faith Temple Church of Christ Inc U.K.
New Testament Assembly
Rehoboth Bethal Church Apostolic
Rhema Christian Ministries
Shiloh United Church of Christ Apostolic
Vision of Hope Assembly
St. Philip’s Church, Beech Road, Norbury
All Saints Church, Upper Norwood
St. Luke’s Church Hall, Woodside
St. Andrew’s Church Hall, Southbridge Road
West Croydon Methodist Church
St. Jude’s Large Hall, Thornton Road
United Church Hall, Heathfield Road
St. Joseph’s College, Beulah Hill
Lawrence Road, South Norwood
St. Stephen’s Church Hall, Warwick Road

Adopted 24th February 1999
APPENDIX 2

A BRIEF GUIDE TO CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS AND OTHER RELIGIONS IN CROYDON

ANGELICAN

The Church of England was established after the Act of Supremacy was passed in 1534, which declared Henry VIII, and not the Pope, to be the Supreme Head of the Church. The roman mass was renamed “holy communion”, preaching from the scriptures became more important, and congregational singing was introduced, based initially on the psalms. The doctrines of the church are contained in the Thirty-nine Articles, founded on Holy Scripture, and the form of worship is directed by the Book of Common Prayer. The Church of England is divided into two provinces: Canterbury with 30 dioceses and York with 14 dioceses. These are divided into archdeaneries and deaneries, and sub-divided into about 13,000 parishes. The Church was particularly influential in Croydon through its association with the Archbishops of Canterbury, six of whom were buried at the Parish Church between 1583 and 1757. The most well known is John Whitgift (1583-1604), who founded the Almshouses in North End and Whitgift School. In 1807 the See of Canterbury acquired Addington Palace to replace Old Palace, and six archbishops lived there until 1896. Five archbishops are buried nearby at St. Mary’s Church, Addington.

BAPTISTS

The Baptist Church dates back to the 17th century, and followed the Congregationalists in their form of government, but consider that baptism ought not to be administered to children at all, nor to adults in general, but only to those who profess repentance and faith. Preaching plays an important part of the service, and the pulpit is a prominent feature of church interiors. Particular or Strict baptists believe that Christ died only for the elect, while General or Open Baptists believe that Christ died for all. Most Baptist churches belong to the Baptist Union of Great Britain, which was re-formed in 1812. Croydon has connections with the preacher Charles Haddon Spurgeon through the Baptist Theological College (Spurgeon’s College) in South Norwood, and the West Croydon Tabernacle, which was built by his brother. There are two Strict Baptist chapels in Croydon, at West Street and Tamworth Road.
BUDDHISM

Buddhism was founded near Benares (Varanasi) in the 6th Century BC by Prince Siddhartha Gautama, whose sacred name, Buddha, means “The Enlightened”. It rejected the Hindu gods and caste system, and instead concentrated on compassion for all regardless of background. The Buddha realised that man’s selfish desire was the cause of unhappiness and suffering. Awareness of the consequences of desires, thoughts and actions and the following of the Eightfold Path could lead ultimately to “Enlightenment” or “Nirvana”, a transcendental state of total peace and tranquillity. Followers of the Eightfold Path practise right understanding, right thought, right speech, right action, right livelihood, right effort, right mindfulness, and right concentration. There are many forms of Buddhism throughout the world, as each country has integrated the religion into its own culture. There are five fundamental precepts common to all the variants, namely: to abstain from taking life, from taking the not-given, from sexual misconduct, from false speech and from intoxication. There are six virtues to be practised: charity, purity, patience, courage, contemplation and knowledge. In 1981 a branch of the Western Buddhist Order opened meeting rooms in High Street, Croydon. In 1997 the Vietnamese Buddhist Society converted part of a house in Beulah Hill into a temple and meditation centre.

CHRISTADELPHIAN

The name, meaning brother of Christ, was founded by John Thomas (1805-71), who migrated from London to New York, and after joining a group known as the Disciples of Christ, preached independently. He formed a Christian sect in 1848, which adopted the name Christadelphian in 1864, mainly to justify its followers’ objections to serving in the Civil War. The Bible is their only creed and they reject the orthodox views of the Trinity. They believe that Jesus will return and rule the world for 1,000 years. The local organisation is called an ecclesia, and ministers are elected and unpaid. Their first place of worship in Croydon was Queen’s Hall, 40 Brighton Road, in 1930. Since 1951 they have met at Foulsham Road, Thornton Heath.

CHRISTIAN BRETHREN

A Protestant body which originated in Dublin in 1825, and was initiated by John Nelson Darby (1800-82), a Church of Ireland clergyman, together with several like minded persons. Mr Darby then moved to Plymouth, where a meeting commenced, and later lived in Switzerland. Since then the movement has spread, not only throughout the British Isles, but all Western countries and into every continent. In 1848 it divided into what is sometimes termed the “Closed or Exclusive Brethren”, who form a universal community or fellowship, and the “Open Brethren”, who practise the autonomy of each congregation. The Open Brethren are led by a team of Elders and welcome any Christian to join their communion service. Both branches believe in the Holy Trinity and the Bible as the word of God. They baptise adults by total immersion and administer the sacrament, but do not acknowledge any form of church government or any office of the ministry. There are five places of worship of the Open Brethren in Croydon.

Adopted 24th February 1999
CHRISTIAN SCIENTIST

This denomination was founded in Boston, Massachusetts, in 1866 by Mary Baker Eddy, who defined it as “the law of God, the law of good, interpreting and demonstrating the divine Principle and rule of universal harmony”. Its main doctrines are those of Christians in general, but includes the belief that disease and pain are mental delusions, without reality, and would have no existence if one had a true knowledge of “immortal truths” and of God. Freedom from disease follows from the absolute knowledge of the truth concerning God and man. One of the leading points of Christian Science is that God is the Life, Mind, and Soul of man, yet man, as the reflection of God, possesses perfect identity and personality. Their first church in Croydon was opened in Dingwall Road in 1920.

CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

Its followers are known as Mormons, as they accept the Bible and the Book of Mormon as divine revelations. The latter is said to have been written by the prophet Mormon on gold plates and hidden until revealed by an angel to its founder, Joseph Smith (1805-44). They originated in 1830 from New York, but were forced to flee westwards. Joseph Smith was killed by a mob while in prison at Cartage, Illinois, but his followers finally settled in Salt Lake City, Utah, in 1848. They practised polygamy, which was outlawed by Congress in 1870, and in 1890 it was no longer taught as a doctrine. They now believe in the eternal family unit, which involves marrying for eternity by “sealing” in a temple. They also believe that Jesus Christ will found a new Jerusalem in America. The growth of the sect is largely due to the abilities of Brigham Young (1805-77) and to missionary zeal. Their only church in Croydon was opened in Ashen Vale, Selsdon, in 1976.

CONGREGATIONAL

The Congregational Church can trace its origins back to the Puritans of the 16th century. It gained prestige when Oliver Cromwell joined its cause, but declined after his death. It found new vigour through its association with the Evangelical Revival, between 1750 and 1815, and its links with the Liberal Party, whose victory in 1906 is regarded as the peak of its influence in English society. The Congregationalists found government by bishops unacceptable, and believed that in any one place Christians would gather together and form a fellowship which would be self-governing and impose its own discipline. They usually place more emphasis on the preached word than the use of the sacraments of baptism and communion. Most Congregationalist churches entered the United Reformed Church (q.v.) in 1972 but some, including three in Croydon, remained separate and formed the Congregational Federation.
**COPTIC ORTHODOX**

This is an Egyptian church with similar origins to that of the Greek Orthodox church. The head of the church is the Patriarch of Alexandria, who is regarded as the successor of St. Mark, who introduced Christianity to the Copts. The church broke its ties with Constantinople in the 5th century. The form of worship is similar to other Orthodox churches, but the Coptic language is still used in the liturgies, and the Eucharistic liturgy is performed by the priest barefoot. Their only church in the Borough was opened in 1989, when they took over St Francis’s Church in Rickman Hill, Coulsdon.

**EVANGELICAL**

Evangelical churches place emphasis on preaching the gospel. The name generally implies an earnestness in doctrinal views, particularly on justification by faith and the authority of the Scriptures. Some of the churches in Croydon belong to the Fellowship of Independent Evangelical Churches. There are six Christian Fellowship groups in Croydon, but The Vale and the Cranmer Christian Fellowships belong to the Brethren. Some of the Open Brethren groups have been described as Independent Evangelical fellowships, so the distinction between the Evangelical Church and the Open Brethren is small. The Chinese community use the London City Mission in Cromwell Road as their place of worship, and a Nigerian church occupies the former church hall of the now demolished Upper Norwood United Reformed Church.

**GREEK ORTHODOX**

The Greek Church’s form of Christianity has evolved from the separation of Eastern and Western Europe, which gave it the opportunity to adopt diversities in language, customs and thinking. It is similar to Roman Catholicism in that it has seven sacraments: baptism, communion, confirmation, penance, Holy Orders, matrimony, and extreme unction, but it is the only Orthodox church which holds that the Holy Ghost proceeds from the Father only. It has its own form of baptism and eucharist, and rules about marriage for the parochial clergy. It does not allow any carved, sculptured or molten image of holy persons or subjects, which must be painted and usually inlaid with precious stones. Penance is often undertaken by fasting, on Wednesday and Friday of every week and four annual fasts. Mass is considered most important and preaching less important in their service. Singing is allowed, but no instrumental music. In Britain most of the congregation is Cypriot. Their only church in Croydon was consecrated in 1980, and was formerly St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church, Upper Norwood.
HINDUISM

The name Hindu is derived from the word coined by ancient Persians to describe those who lived on the opposite side of the River Indus. Although there is great diversity within their religion, most Hindus follow similar beliefs and paths towards ultimate reality. They emphasise the importance of attaining purity, avoiding pollution, and regular worship at home and in the temple. They accept the authority of the Vedas, which are ancient scriptures of Aryan origin, and also the Upanishads, which are spiritual texts written between 800-500 B.C. Hindus believe their lives are governed by a cycle of birth, death and rebirth until the soul gains release (moksha). This can be achieved by following a sacred code of conduct and moral behaviour. There are several traditional paths to release, but principally the paths of devotion, action and knowledge. Hindus worship the “Trimurti” or three gods in one, namely Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva, and also their consorts: Saraswati, Lakshmi and Parvati, as well as other gods. The Hindu tradition embraces various schools of philosophy, and the population is divided into four “varnas” or social categories: Brahmins (religious leaders), Kshatriyas (noblemen and warriors), Vaishyas (merchants and peasants), and Shudras (serfs), which are subdivided into many occupational groups. A fifth group, who were obliged to carry out “unclean” tasks within society, were known as “untouchables”, but now the name “dalit” is preferred. Hinduism is the second largest religion in Croydon after Christianity, but there are no temples in the Borough.

ISLAM

Islam means “submission” to God, and a believer, or Muslim, is “one who submits himself to God”. It originated in 7th century Western Arabia, and quickly spread to North Africa and the Indus valley. It distinguishes between the verbal profession of faith (Shahada) and the inner faith (Iman), but connects them closely in that the true intention of the heart leads to the performance of the external duties of Islam, so that no distinction is possible between the religious sphere of life and practical life. Muslims believe in the unity of God and worship only one God (Allah) and believe that Prophet Muhammad is his messenger and servant, but also acknowledge the Old Testament prophets and Jesus Christ. Their sacred book is the Koran, and their duties include five daily prayer sessions and ceremonial washing; giving alms; fasting during the month of Ramadan; pilgrimage to Mecca at least once in their lifetime; and the profession of faith. There are two main forms of Islam: Sunnism and Shi’ism, the former being descended from the Turkish Seljuk dynasty and the latter from the Fatimid caliphate in Egypt and Syria. The latter is divided into various sects, such as the Ismailis, Khojas and Bohoras. Another sect, the Ahmadis, was founded in India by Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (1839-1908), who proclaimed himself to be the Promised Messiah and Mahdi, whose advent had been foretold by the Holy Prophet of Islam Muhammad. Muslims have two mosques in Croydon, a Sunni mosque which was built in London Road between 1984 and 1989, and an Ahmadiyya mosque converted from a primary school in 1993. An Ismaili Prayer Centre is under construction.
JAINS

Their name is derived from the ancient jinas, meaning “those who overcome”. Their doctrine was taught by 24 Tirthankaras, meaning “ford makers”, who make a way for others to follow across the stream of existence from continued rebirth and dying to freedom from rebirth. They migrated in the 3rd century BC from eastern India to Gujarat and Rajasthan, and follow many of the doctrines in common with Buddhism, such as the denial of the authority of the sacred knowledge of the Hindus (Vedas), and devotion to the quest for the release from mortal existence (Moksha). Jains revere certain holy mortals, and practice non-violence to living beings (Ahimsa). As a result they maintain a strict vegetarian diet, and show extreme tenderness to animals. Their only church in Croydon is the Oshwal Mahajanwadi, which was opened in 1982, and was previously the West Croydon Congregational Church, London Road.

JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES

This sect was founded in Pittsburgh by Charles Taze Russell (1852-1916). Witnesses interpret the Bible literally and reject the Holy Trinity. They believe that the millenium leading to the second coming of Jesus Christ has begun, and that after the final battle (Armageddon) they will rule with Christ. They refuse military service, stimulants and blood transfusions, and promote their faith through the “Watchtower” magazine. Their largest place of worship in Croydon is in Featherbed Lane, Addington, which was opened in 1987.

JUDAISM

A key concept of Judaism is the Torah, meaning “teaching”, “law” or “rule”, which is based on the first five books of the Old Testament (Pentateuch). The Torah forms part of the Hebrew Bible, which is accompanied by oral teachings explaining the texts. It is through the Torah that God conveys His will to the Jewish people and through them to the whole of mankind. Judaism affirms that the Jews are God’s “Chosen People”. It is essentially a social and family religion concerned with every aspect of life. It lacks an official creed or central authority, stress being laid on the right behaviour, rather than doctrine. The place of worship (synagogue) contains an Ark in the eastern wall where the Torah scrolls are kept, and a platform where they may be read. In the traditional synagogue women sit in a separate gallery, but in reformed synagogues congregations are mixed. Saturday is the day of worship, and the service does not include instrumental music, only singing or chanting. Rabbis are scholars and teachers rather than priests, and there are five major and two minor festivals each year. The first synagogue in Croydon was at Elmwood Road, Broad Green, in the 1920s.
LONDON CITY MISSION

The London City Mission was founded in 1835 to bring the gospel to the poor. In Croydon during the late Victorian period there were three mission halls at Gloucester Road, Cairo Road and Portland Road, South Norwood, of which only the latter survives. A Gospel Temperance Society and the Band of Hope, a movement aimed at young people with the intention of keeping them away from alcoholic drink when they became adults, used the Portland Road Mission for meetings. The London City Mission also ran the Ragged School in Old Town, which was built to provide education for destitute and vagrant children.

METHODIST

The Methodist Church originated in the 18th century following the Evangelical Revival under John Wesley (1703-91). It was not his intention to form a separate church, but to revive religious life by emphasising personal salvation. He travelled extensively and preached many sermons, often in the open, while his brother Charles wrote many hymns. He used the Book of Common Prayer, and remained within the Church of England, but separation became inevitable after he personally ordained men to work in America and Scotland. The present Methodist church was formed after the union of separate Churches in 1932 and is the largest of the Free Churches.

PENTECOSTAL

The name is derived from Pentecost (Whitsun) when the Holy Spirit descended on Peter and the apostles “as tongues of fire”, enabling them to speak to the assembled crowds in many languages. Its modern origins lie in the Holiness movement, which found followers among the poorer and culturally neglected people in Kansas and Texas at the turn of the 20th century. It spread through the preaching of William Seymour, who set up a mission in Los Angeles in 1906. Pentecostalism does not have a consistent doctrine, and services are characterised by extemporary sermons, enthusiastic singing, prayer in unison and spiritual healing. Its churches are common in Third World countries, but few in Western Europe. In Britain it originated in 1904 through the preaching of Evan Roberts, a South Wales miner, who established the Elim Pentecostal Church. In 1907 the Assemblies of God was founded by Alexander Boddy. He wanted to keep the movement within the Church of England, but in 1924 it was declared to be another denomination, although it retains some of the features of more formal worship.

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

The Religious Society of Friends, or Quakers, was founded in the 17th century under George Fox (1624-1691). During the Civil War, when theological disputes were common, he came to believe that every individual was capable of receiving direct revelation of the truth from God without a priest
or bible as intermediary, this he called The Inner Light. Worship as a result, consists of listening for the message of God largely in silence, without the sounds of hymns or music, and there are no ordained ministers, formal liturgy or sacraments. Quakers place emphasis on social concern, and have been instrumental in anti-slavery reform and prison reform. They are noted for their business acumen and tolerance of other religious views. The first Quaker meeting house in Croydon was built at Back Lane, as Park Lane was called, in 1721. A new meeting house was built in 1816, but was destroyed by a bomb in 1940. There are now two meeting houses in Croydon and Purley.

**ROMAN CATHOLICISM**

Roman Catholics acknowledge the Pope as the “Vicar of Christ” on earth, and his authority is descended from Jesus Christ through his apostle Peter as first Bishop of Rome. Its doctrines are found in the Apostle’s creed, the Nicene creed, the Athanasian creed and that of Pius IV. It is distinguished from other Christian communities by the invocation of saints and dogmas on Papal infallibility and the immaculate conception of the Virgin Mary. Roman Catholics believe that the Mass is the mystical sacrifice of the body and blood of Christ, which are present in the eucharist. They recognise seven sacraments: baptism, communion, confirmation, penance, Holy Orders, matrimony, and extreme unction. After Henry VIII was declared Supreme Head of the Church, the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales ceased to exist. Catholic priests put their lives in danger by saying Mass, and one priest in Croydon, George Beasley, was taken to Newgate prison in 1591 and hanged in Fleet Street. The Church was restored in England and Wales in 1850, and in Scotland in 1878. Catholics reappeared in Croydon in the late 1830s, but their numbers remained small until the end of the century, when there were only two churches: St. Mary’s and Virgo Fidelis. There are now 30 dioceses in mainland Britain and more than 3,300 parishes.

**SALVATION ARMY**

In 1865 William Booth (1829-1912), a minister of the Methodist New Connexion, decided to devote his energies to helping deprived people in London’s East End. He and his wife began the Christian Mission, which was renamed as the Salvation Army in 1878. It adopted military uniforms, bands and ranks, and became noted for its social work and popular evangelism. It is the largest provider of hostel accommodation in Britain, and its other services include prison chaplaincy, work with alcoholics and tracing families. A building in Tamworth Road, Croydon, was discovered in 1976 to be one of only four remaining Christian Mission chapels in the country. It was opened by Mrs Booth in 1873 and was the first mission built outside London. In its early years the movement faced opposition, but received support from Joshua Allder, a Baptist and the founder of Croydon’s largest department store.
SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

This church originated in the United States in the 1830s, and was officially constituted in 1863. Its beliefs can be traced back to the Protestant Reformation and Puritanism. It holds the traditional view of the incarnation and the divine human nature of Christ, and advocates a simple lifestyle based on the teachings of the Bible. Seventh Day Adventists observe Saturday as the day of rest and worship, and perform baptism by total immersion. Their service has a strong biblical content with music and congregational singing. Each congregation appoints its leaders and is responsible for the upkeep of its church, but has links with other congregations.

SIKHISM

Sikhism was founded by Guru Nanak in the 15th century as a dissenting offshoot from Hinduism. He rejected the caste system and preached universal tolerance and the knowledge of God through worship, meditation, service and lifestyle. During the 17th century Sikhs were persecuted by the Moghul emperors, but under the military leadership of Ranjit Singh they became a powerful confederacy in the Punjab, centred on Lahore. The sacred text, the Guru Granth, is taken from the writings of the Gurus. There are no priests and anyone can lead the worship and singing. Ascetism is discouraged and a family lifestyle is encouraged. A person becomes a Sikh after a certain age and formal initiation. Sikhs must not cut their hair, and most of them wear a steel bracelet on their wrist. The Nanak Community Centre, St James’s Road, was opened in 1989, and has a place of worship (gurdwara), where the Sikh holy book, the Guru Granth Sahib, is kept.

SPIRITUALIST

It is a mainly Christian faith which centres on communication with the spirits of the dead through a “medium” or person gifted in such communication. There are usually prayers or hymns before a “seance”, during which the medium attempts to make contact with a “guide” or spirit helper who assists other spirits in communicating. Manifestations of contact may include rappings, musical sounds, table-turning, writing and the materialisation of a spirit formed of “ectoplasm”, a diaphanous substance said to be exuded from a medium’s body. It originated in 1848, when a Mr and Mrs Fox of Hydeville, New York State, were disturbed by repeated rappings in their house. The unseen rapper was able to communicate with one of their daughters that he was the spirit of a murdered pedlar. There have been spiritualist societies in Croydon since the beginning of the century, and a church in Bedford Park, Croydon, from 1934 to 1956, when the congregation moved to the present church in Chatsworth Road.
SUKEYO MAHIKARI

This is a new Japanese sect, which was founded by Kosuke Koyama, who had a visionary experience. He believed that in primordial times unruly gods forced righteous gods into retirement behind the rock door of heaven on Mount Fuji. They killed one righteous god and thus plunged the world into a pale light. However, this god will return and restore the full light needed to overcome the darkness which causes disease. Members occupy a former Methodist church hall in South Norwood, and practice a spiritual art known as the Art of True Light, which is given silently.

UNITED REFORMED CHURCH

This is the third largest of the Free Churches, and was formed in 1972 after the merger of the Congregational Church in England and Wales, whose origins can be traced back to the Puritans in the 16th century, and the Presbyterian Church of England, whose doctrine and form of worship was closely related to the Church of Scotland. In 1981 there was a further merger with the Reformed Association of the Churches of Christ. The United Reformed Church is composed of approximately 1,800 local congregations, 160,000 adult members and 1,800 serving ministers, both men and women. Each local church arranges its own worship, witness and service, and has an elected body of ordained elders. Local churches share together in 75 District Councils, which are gathered into 12 Provincial Synods. Five of the six churches in Croydon were formerly Congregational churches, the other being a Presbyterian church.

UNITARIAN AND FREE CHURCH

This church originated in the 17th century during a period of scientific discoveries and questioning of Christian doctrine. The Presbyterian Church became influenced by the revival of the 4th century Arian doctrine, which maintains that Jesus Christ was a good man but not divine. Some congregations followed Arianism and rejected the Trinitarian in favour of the Unitarian position. There is one church in Croydon, which was opened in 1959 at The Flyover after moving from its site on the corner of Wellesley Road and Station Road where it was built in 1883.

UNITED CHURCH

There is one church in Croydon, situated at the junction of Heathfield Road and Aberdeen Road, which was built in 1865 as the South Croydon Congregational Chapel. After the demolition of their church at the corner of Brighton Road and Bartlett Road in 1979, the Methodists united with the United Reformed Church and formed the South Croydon United Church.
OTHER CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS

Since the 1950s an increasing number of immigrants have set up their own places of worship. Some of them do not belong to any established denomination or religion, and some of them have names which imply that they belong to branches of the Pentecostal church. Many of these congregations participate in a mixture of Christianity and West African or Caribbean religious services. Some of them worship in the church halls of Anglican churches.
# APPENDIX 3

## PLACES OF WORSHIP BY THE DESIGNATED TOWN, DISTRICT AND LOCAL CENTRES AND BUS ACCESSIBILITY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Places of Worship:</th>
<th>No.</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

### A. Proximity to Designated Centres

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In or near to a designated centre</th>
<th>103</th>
<th>55</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Within Central Croydon</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within District Centres</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within Local Centres</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Within 400m of any centre</td>
<td>79</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| Not in or near to a designated centre | 83 | 45 |

All Places of Worship 186 100

### B. Bus Accessibility outside of Town Centres

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Convenient to bus route (within 100m)</th>
<th>101</th>
<th>62</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>and within 400m of any centre</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>but more than 400m of any centre</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Not convenient to bus route (more than 100m)</th>
<th>61</th>
<th>38</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>but within 400m of any centre</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>and more than 400m of any centre</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Places of Worship outside centres 162 100
APPENDIX 4

UNITARY DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICIES AND STANDARDS

Parking and Access Arrangements

**BE10** The design and layout of access roads, footways, footpaths, parking and service areas should be attractive, safe, convenient and appropriate to the type and scale of development.

**BE11** Parking and service arrangements should be designed to minimize their visual impact and to ensure that residential amenity would not be unduly affected.

**T23** In considering applications for development the Council will have regard to the parking standards set out in Appendix 2.

**T27** The Council will require adequate and appropriately positioned parking spaces to be provided in new development for people with disabilities in accordance with the Council’s parking standards.

Parking Standards (Policies T23 and T27)

The UDP does not contain any specific parking standards for places of worship and so the requirements will be assessed on the merits of each case. Applicants may be required to provide estimates of trip generation.

Para 2 of the Standards Chapter makes it clear that the Council may be prepared to accept a lower parking standard where:

- accessibility by public transport is particularly good; or

- adequate public off-street parking is available nearby; or

- the proposal involves the change of use of an existing building and the demand for parking would be no greater than that of the previous use.
Exceptionally, the Council may be prepared to accept a higher standard where it can be demonstrated that this would not cause increased congestion and delay to existing traffic in the vicinity and would not have an adverse effect on road safety.

Exceptionally, the Council may be prepared to accept no parking provision where a development meets at least one of the criteria set out above, where it meets other Plan objectives and where the provision of parking on-site is physically not practicable.

Parking should be provided within the development site. In Central Croydon, the Council will be prepared to accept commuted payments towards the cost of new off-street public parking spaces.

Parking areas, other than for flats and houses, should include spaces designed and reserved for drivers with disabilities. These spaces should be located so as to give easy access to the building. Developers should have regard to the Institution of Highways and Transportation’s recommendation that 5% of the total parking spaces should be reserved for drivers with disabilities.

Parking spaces, other than those within the curtilage of a dwellinghouse, should be capable of being accessed without moving other vehicles.

Where a change to a use requiring a higher parking standard can occur without needing planning permission, the Council may impose conditions to prevent such change of use.

For any development likely to generate significant servicing movements, applicants should provide estimates of the servicing needs of the development.

**DAYLIGHT AND SUNLIGHT**

**BE16** In considering design and layout proposals the Council will take account of the incidence of sunlight and potential energy saving benefits. It will also ensure that those proposals cause no significant loss of sunlight or daylight amenities for occupiers of adjacent properties.

**PRIVACY AND VISUAL INTRUSION**

**BE17** In controlling development the Council will require that new and existing occupiers are protected from undue visual intrusion and loss of privacy.
NOISE

EP10 The Council will only grant planning permission for noise sensitive development where arrangements have been made to mitigate the effects of noise in accordance with the approach of government advice. Where appropriate, the Council will seek to enter into agreements to achieve these aims (see Policy IMP1).

EP11 Development likely to generate a significant increase in the level of noise, or which would increase the ambient level beyond the standard considered noisy, will not be permitted close to residential properties, schools and hospitals.

CONTROL OF DEMOLITION IN CONSERVATION AREAS

UC2 The Council will not grant consent for the demolition or partial demolition of buildings which make a positive contribution to the character or appearance of a Conservation Area. Where exceptionally, demolition is permitted, consent will be granted subject to conditions which link demolition to the implementation of an approved redevelopment scheme.

DESIGN OF DEVELOPMENT IN CONSERVATION AREAS

UC3 The Council will require that development within Conservation Areas preserves or enhances their particular character or appearance. Development on nearby sites that would have a visual effect on the character of the Conservation Area should respect the setting of that area.

PRESERVATION AND ENHANCEMENT OF CONSERVATION AREAS

UC4 The Council will continue to preserve or enhance the special quality and character of Conservation Areas by:-

a) publishing updated and expanded proposals statements for all Conservation Areas;

b) implementing the specific enhancements set out in proposals statements, as resources permit;

c) maintaining strict control over the display of advertisements; and

d) using appropriate legislative powers.

Adopted 24th February 1999
LOCAL AREAS OF SPECIAL CHARACTER

UC5 The Council will seek to protect the individual character, quality and setting of the Local Areas of Special Character as defined on the Proposals Map.

USE OF LISTED BUILDINGS

UC10 The Council will encourage the retention of listed buildings in their original use. Where the Council is satisfied that a change of use is necessary to preserve a building, uses which would not adversely affect its architectural or historic character will be encouraged.

MAINTAINING EXISTING EMPLOYMENT GENERATING ACTIVITIES

On 24th February 1999, the Council approved a revision to UDP policy EM8, to be used for the purposes of planning control. The relevant part of the revised policy, rather than the UDP policy, is reproduced here. The adopted policy can be seen in the UDP.

EM8 Outside the Metropolitan Town Centre and the Town, District and Local Centres and the Commercial and Industrial Areas, the Council will seek to retain industrial and warehousing uses providing they do not have a significant adverse effect on residential amenity. Where sites are unsuitable for an alternative industrial or warehousing use, housing will be the preferred use. Some community uses, such as those set out as exceptions to Housing policy (see policy H1), may be acceptable. Uses, such as retail and leisure facilities, that should be located in established town centres will not be acceptable.

In coming to a judgement on the suitability of a site for continued industrial or warehousing use, the Council will take into account the following considerations:

a) whether the site has been genuinely marketed for an appropriate alternative employment use for at least 18 months;
b) whether the site has been vacant for some or all of the period of marketing;
c) whether re-use or redevelopment for residential or the community facilities identified above, would prejudice the continued use of adjacent employment sites;
d) whether the site is suitable for housing or the other uses indicated; and

e) whether the proposal would continue appropriate employment on the site.

PROTECTING CONVENIENCE SHOPS

SH15 The Council will not permit development involving the loss of a convenience shop where this would result in an increase in the number of people living more than 400 metres from alternative provision. However, the Council will consider sympathetically applications for other appropriate uses where property has been vacant for at least a year and where genuine attempts have been made to market them for retail (A1) use.
APPENDIX 5

EXAMPLES OF CONDITIONS ATTACHED TO RECENT PLANNING PERMISSIONS FOR PLACES OF WORSHIP

NB: the following are provided for illustrative purposes only; the same conditions are not necessarily applied to every permission

Conditions relating to noise:

“Unless otherwise previously agreed in writing the development shall not commence until sound proofing details have been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The development shall only be carried out in accordance with such measures which shall be permanently retained.”

“The noise level emanating from any activity carried on in the meeting rooms being so attenuated that the noise level at the site boundaries shall not exceed (... a defined figure) dB(A) measured (... over a specified period of time).”

“No amplification or loud speaker system shall be used on the site without the prior written consent of the Local Planning Authority.”

Conditions relating to hours of use:

“The meeting rooms only being used between the hours of 8.00 a.m. to 11.00 p.m.”

Conditions relating to the use of the building:

“The premises shall be used only for the purpose specified in the application and for no other purpose within Class D1 of the Schedule to the Town and Country Planning (Use Classes) Order 1987.”

“Religious gatherings, prayers, festivals and other meetings shall only take place within the buildings.”

“Unless previously agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority, the number of festivals held...
in the premises shall not exceed three in any one year and the number of weddings shall not exceed six in any one year."

**Conditions relating to the privacy of adjoining occupiers:**

“No window or glazed door shall be provided in the following elevations other than as specified in the application without the prior written consent of the Local Planning Authority:-
(1) eastern     (2) northern.”

“Unless previously agreed in writing with the Local Planning Authority, the use of the rear garden in connection with the church shall only take place four times each calendar year between 1000 hours and 2200 hours.”

**Conditions relating to personal permission:**

“This permission shall not enure for the benefit of the land but only for the benefit of ..... (the applicant)."

**Conditions limiting the period of the permission:**

“This permission is granted for a limited period expiring on 01/01/2000 when the use shall be discontinued.”
## APPENDIX 6

### LISTED & LOCALLY LISTED PLACES OF WORSHIP

### LISTED BUILDINGS

#### ANGLICAN CHURCHES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Grade</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>All Saints</td>
<td>56 Bridle Road, Shirley</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>All Saints</td>
<td>18 Church Road, Kenley</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>All Saints</td>
<td>Onslow Gardens, Sanderstead</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>All Saints</td>
<td>Beulah Hill, Upper Norwood</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II*</td>
<td>Holy Innocents</td>
<td>192 Selhurst Road, South Norwood</td>
<td>II*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>St Alban</td>
<td>adj.2 Grange Road, Thornton Heath</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>St Andrew</td>
<td>Southbridge Road, Croydon</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II*</td>
<td>St Augustine</td>
<td>St Augustine’s Avenue, South Croydon</td>
<td>II*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>St George</td>
<td>adj.5 Barrow Road, Croydon</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II*</td>
<td>St John the Baptist</td>
<td>Church Street, Croydon</td>
<td>II*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II*</td>
<td>St John the Evangelist</td>
<td>Sylvan Road, Upper Norwood</td>
<td>II*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>St John the Evangelist</td>
<td>Church Path, Old Coulsdon</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>St John the Evangelist</td>
<td>Shirley Church Road, Shirley</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>St Luke</td>
<td>Portland Road, Woodside</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>St Mark</td>
<td>Coventry Road, South Norwood</td>
<td>II</td>
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<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>St Mark’s Woodcote</td>
<td>Church Road, Woodcote</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II*</td>
<td>St Mary Magdalene with St Martin</td>
<td>adj.17 Canning Road, Croydon</td>
<td>II*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>St Mary the Blessed Virgin</td>
<td>Addington Village Road, Addington</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>St Michael &amp; All Angels</td>
<td>Poplar Walk, Croydon</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>St Peter</td>
<td>St Peters Road, South Croydon</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>St Saviour</td>
<td>St Saviour’s Road, Croydon</td>
<td>II</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td>St Stephen</td>
<td>adj.9 Warwick Road, Thornton Heath</td>
<td>II</td>
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</table>

#### BAPTIST CHURCHES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>West Croydon</td>
<td>adj.1 Whitehorse Road, Croydon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Adopted 24th February 1999
JAIN
Oshwal Mahajanwadi

METHODIST CHURCHES
Coulsdon

GREEK ORTHODOX
St Constantine and St Helen

UNITED REFORMED CHURCHES
St Paul

LOCALLY LISTED BUILDINGS

ANGLICAN
Christ Church Croydon
Emmanuel
St Andrew
St Edward King & Confessor
St James
St John the Divine
St Jude with St Aidan
St Mary
St Matthew
St Mildred
St Oswald
St Paul
St Philip’s Church and Hall

BAPTIST CHURCHES
Beulah Church and Hall
Croham Road
Norbury
Pawsons Road
Providence Chapel
Purley Hall
Tamworth Road Chapel
Woodside

Baptist Crescent, Thornton Heath
adj. 50 Croham Road, South Croydon
Bavant Road, Norbury
5 Pawsons Road, Croydon
West Street, Croydon
Banstead Road, Purley
Tamworth Road, Croydon
29 Spring Lane, South Norwood

Adopted 24th February 1999
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCHES

St John  adj.129a Bensham Manor Road

EVANGELICAL

Celestial Church of Christ  St Aubyn’s Road, Upper Norwood
Church of the Nazarene  55-57 Lower Addiscombe Road

METHODIST CHURCHES

Downsview  33 Downsview Road, Upper Norwood
Kenley & Purley  Sylverdale Road, Purley
Parchmore  53 Parchmore Road, Thornton Heath
Shirley  adj.2 Eldon Avenue, Shirley
South Norwood  adj.23 Suffolk Road, South Norwood

MUSLIM

Baitus Subhan Ahmadiyya Mosque  59 St James’s Road, Croydon

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS

Friends Meeting House  60 Park Lane, Croydon

ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCHES

Virgo Fidelis  adj.143 Central Hill, Upper Norwood
St Aidan  129 Chipstead Valley Road, Coulsdon
St Chad  Whitworth Road, South Norwood
St Dominic  243 Violet Lane, Croydon
St Gertrude  46 Purley Road, South Croydon
St John the Baptist  48 Dale Road, Purley
St Mary  70 Wellesley Road, Croydon

SALVATION ARMY

Salvation Army Hall  157 Brighton Road, South Croydon

SEVENTH DAY ADVENTIST

Selhurst  95 Selhurst Road, South Norwood

UNITED CHURCH

Adopted 24th February 1999
South Croydon United Church & Hall  Aberdeen Road, Croydon

UNITED REFORMED CHURCHES

Purley  906 Brighton Road, Purley
South Norwood  Enmore Road, South Norwood
APPENDIX 7

RECENT PLANNING PERMISSIONS AND PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR PLACES OF WORSHIP

93/2254/P 2 Prince Road, South Norwood
Demolition of existing church and erection of church building to include lounge and vestry.
Selhurst Evangelical Church
Planning permission granted 30 August 1994  Completed

94/1152/P “The Almonds”, Shirley Church Road, Shirley
Erection of single storey building to form synagogue and ministers residential accommodation; alterations to vehicular access and formation of parking area.
Croydon Synagogue
Planning permission granted 3 November 1994  Completed

94/2299/P Shirley Methodist Church, Eldon Avenue, Croydon
Demolition of existing church building; erection of single storey building to provide a replacement church; construction of pitched roof over link extension; formation of ingress and egress and provision of 21 parking spaces.
Shirley Methodist Church
Planning permission granted 29 August 1995  Completed

95/0093/P 66 High Street, Thornton Heath
Erection of single / two storey building for use as place of worship with community rooms.
The Salvation Army
Planning permission granted 19 September 1995  Completed

95/0355/P 3-11 Woodside Green, Woodside
Erection of single / two / three storey building to provide church with meeting rooms and hall and 6 flats on first and second floors; use of ground floor of existing building as creche, alterations to vehicular access and provision of 28 parking spaces.

Adopted 24th February 1999
Woodside Green Christian Centre
Planning permission granted 19 September 1995
Not started

95/1422/P
1a York Road, Croydon
Continued use as a spiritualist healing centre and meeting hall; retention of link extension at rear.
West Croydon Spiritualist Centre
Planning permission granted 19 October 1995
Completed

96/0214/P
Corner of Holmesdale Road and Oliver Avenue, South Norwood
Erection of single / two storey building to provide church with associated facilities and caretaker’s flat; formation of vehicular access and provision of 4 parking spaces
South Norwood Baptist Church
Planning permission granted 30 July 1996
Not started

96/0632/P
205-209 Addiscombe Road, Croydon
Demolition of no.207 Addiscombe Road; alterations; erection of three / four storey infill building with first and second storey projections to the rear of nos.205 and 209; use of premises as a place of worship with community facilities including function and seminar rooms with associated offices; provision of 57 surface level parking spaces at rear and 4 spaces within building at lower ground floor level and 9 spaces to the front.
The Ismaili Centre
Planning permission granted 20 March 1997
Under construction

96/2485/P
76 Beulah Hill, Upper Norwood
Use of part of ground floor as place of worship.
Vietnamese Buddhist Society UK
Planning permission granted 20 February 1997
(expiring on 13 Feb 1999)
Completed

97/0907/P
5-9 Surrey Street, Croydon
Use of second floor in conjunction with existing use as a place of worship on first floor Follys End Christian Fellowship
Planning permission granted 12 June 1997
Not started

97/1482/P
65-67 Portland Road, South Norwood
Use of ground floor for purposes within Class A1 (retail) and for religious worship meetings; provision of 3 parking spaces.
Ichthus Christian Fellowship
Planning permission granted 13 May 1998
Completed
97/2040/P Queen’s Hall, adj.40 Brighton Road, Croydon
Alterations; use as community hall within Class D1 (non-residential institution) and Class D2 (assembly and leisure); provision of 31 parking spaces.
The Raguvanshi Association
Planning permission subject to a legal agreement

97/2515/P 38-40 Parsons Mead, Croydon
Use of ground and first floors as community conference and activities centre to include a place of worship; use of second floor as two bedroom flat.
Faith Growth Centre
No decision

98/0640/P 390 Sydenham Road, Croydon
Use as place of worship and community hall; erection of entrance lobby and external staircase.
Emmanuel Inspirational Church of God
Planning permission granted 2 June 1998 Not started

98/1788/P 92 Parchmore Road, Thornton Heath
Use as a place of worship with offices and a nursery / creche; provision of 9 parking spaces.
The Redeemed Christian Church of God
Planning permission refused 10 December 1998

98/1846/P 21-23 Woodville Road, Thornton Heath
Use of warehouse at rear (fronting Norwich Road) as a place of worship.
Tabernacle of Praise Ministries
Planning permission refused 22 December 1998

98/2127/P 390 Sydenham Road, Croydon
Use as community hall and place of worship; provision of 18 parking spaces.
The Mahai Lakshmi Satsang
Planning permission granted 17 December 1998

98/2470/P Former Greenfields School site, Pioneer Place, Featherbed Lane, Croydon
Demolition of existing buildings; erection of single storey building with accommodation in roof space, for use as residential care home for up to 39
persons in connection with the primary use of the site for religious purposes.
The Kingdom Hall Trust

98/2479/P  Emmanuel Church, Normanton Road, South Croydon
Demolition of choir vestry and erection of single storey extension with basement to provide entrance porch, meeting room, small hall, offices, storage, ancillary facilities, external play area and erection of lych gate and steps; alteration to and formation of vehicular accesses on to Harewood Road and Hurst Way and provision of 4 parking spaces.
Emmanuel Church PCC

98/2524/P  Parchmore Methodist Church, 53-55 Parchmore Road, Thornton Heath
Alterations to front elevation to provide new entrance.
Parchmore Methodist Church

98/2674/D  St. Margaret’s Church, Chevening Road, Upper Norwood
The installation of 6 no radio equipment cabinets at ground level and 3 panel antennae on pole mounts attached to flank elevation.
St. Margaret’s Church
Planning permission refused 23 December 1998

98/2675/P  Purley Baptist Church, Banstead Road, Purley
Demolition of church hall; siting of two portable buildings and formation of car park.
Purley Baptist Church

98/2775/P  Emmanuel Church, Normanton Road, South Croydon
Continued use of portable building as creche and children’s activity club.
Emmanuel Church

1 Planning Policy Guidance Note 6 “Town Centres and Retail Developments” (PPG6) and Planning Policy Guidance Note 13 “Transport” (PPG13).

2 Since the adoption of the UDP two churches on the Local List have become Listed Buildings. These are All Saints, Bridle Road, and St. Mark’s, Coventry Road.

3 Formerly West Croydon United Reformed Church

4 Formerly Church of St Andrew

5 Joynsons Memorial Hall

6 Formerly Upper Norwood United Reformed Church

7 Formerly St Michael’s School
Adopted 24th February 1999

PLACES OF WORSHIP
Central Croydon & District/Local Centres