

## HAGLEY ROAD WEST (AREA 5)

### MAX WATTS

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The A456 Hagley Road runs between central Birmingham and Shropshire. For this project, I chose the Hagley Road West section that runs between the A4123 Wolverhampton Road junction, bordering the Birmingham suburb of Quinton, and the A4030 Lordswood Road junction, bordering the Birmingham suburb of Edgbaston. I chose this road because some of my most treasured family memories are linked to the time I lived in the vicinity of the Hagley Road West, such as preparing for the birth of my son and the joy of finally holding him for the first time.

Part of the historic Staffordshire/Worcestershire border runs along the Hagley Road West alongside Lightwoods Park, and today this is the boundary between Birmingham City Council and the Metropolitan Borough of Sandwell. Lightwoods House and Park is situated at the south end of the Hagley Road West, near to the boundary with Harborne. The house was built in 1791, and the boundary of Lightwoods originally crossed two counties: Staffordshire and Shropshire.

The road is an eclectic mix of commercial and residential properties varying in contemporary and historic design. At the Wolverhampton Road junction, the Trigate building is a local landmark comprised of business offices and meeting rooms. Opposite the Trigate building, there is a McDonald's restaurant and fitness gym. Moving south towards Birmingham, there is a Hyundai car dealership, on one side of the road, and Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Primary School is situated on the opposite side of the road off Winchfield Drive. Approaching the Lordswood Road junction, Lightwoods House and Park can be found on the side of the Hagley Road West bordering Sandwell. On the Harborne side of the road, there are some large residential properties set back from the Hagley Road West, screened by a row of tall conifers.