

LOCAL HERITAGE ASSETS: ENGLISH HERITAGE CONSULTATION

To: Buckinghamshire Historic Environment Forum

Date: 16 March 2011

Authors: Report of the County Archaeologist

A. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1 To advise and seek comments on a guide for local listing.

B. PROPOSED ACTION

2 The Forum is invited to:

- a) **COMMENT on the English Heritage consultation; and**
- b) **AUTHORISE the chairman to make a response on behalf of the forum.**

C. RESOURCES

- 3 At present only Wycombe District allocate a small amount of officer time to local listing. Significant additional resources would be needed to take practical action in this area.

D. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

4. The English Heritage consultation and response form are attached to this report. The consultation asks for responses to eight specific questions.
5. In general it is suggested that the guidance will be helpful to authorities that choose to prepare and maintain local lists but as only one Bucks authority currently does so (and that with very limited resources) it is difficult to see what practical effect the guidance will have locally.
6. It is suggested that the principle that local lists are not restricted to buildings but encompass other types of heritage asset is welcomed but that further thought and case-studies are required on how this would work in practice. There is a need to identify appropriate sources of information and selection criteria for archaeological interest. The possibility of this forum having a formal role as a specialist panel in relation to selection criteria and process could be considered.
7. The role of the Historic Environment Record should be strengthened through an expectation that it will be consulted during the preparation of local listing documentation and informed of all local listings.

E. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Good Practice Guide for Local Listing, Draft for Consultation (English Heritage, February 2011)

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