

Newark and Sherwood Amended Core Strategy DPD

MATTER 19 – Core Policy 14 – Historic Environment

Statement on behalf of Newark and Sherwood District Council

January 2018

Question 19: Does Core Policy 14 relate clearly national policy towards the historic environment?

- 19.01 As part of the review of the development plan an assessment of all the policies against current government policy and guidance was undertaken. Whilst Core Policy 14 (CP14) was found to be consistent with the NPPF, the Council considered that CP14 would benefit from greater clarity in respect of the NPPF focus around the conservation of heritage assets in a manner appropriate to their significance.
- 19.02 To provide clarity over the consistency with the NPPF CP14 minor amendments were proposed at the Preferred Approach Strategy stage (CS/20) to include the following wording at bullet point 1:

The continued preservation and enhancement of the character, appearance and setting of the District's heritage assets and historic environment in <u>line with their identified significance</u>. <u>Such assets and environments comprise</u> Listed Buildings (inclusive of the protected views of and across Southwell's principal heritage <u>assets</u>), Conservation Areas, Registered Historic Parks and Gardens, Scheduled Monuments <u>and</u> other archaeological sites and <u>undesignated assets</u> of local importance;

- 19.03 Historic England welcomed the overall revisions (see CS/11 Appendix 3) but recommended the following amendments to ensure CP14 was in line with NPPF terminology:
 - First bullet point replace 'preservation' with 'conservation'
 - In the last sentence –replace 'undesignated assets' with 'non-designated assets'

To ensure consistency with the NPPF, CP14 was amended to take account of the recommendations made by Historic England [Representor 032] who has since provided confirmation that it has no outstanding issues in respect of CP14 as submitted.

19.04 Tarmac Trading Ltd [Representor 035] has however made representation that CP14 as submitted is not consistent with national policy paragraphs 128 and 132 for the following reasons: Applications for new development should be accompanied by a proportionate assessment to describe the significance of heritage assets affected; CP14 as submitted assumes that all assets should have the same level of protection regardless of their significance, policy should distinguish between designated and non-designated assets rather than seeking the conservation and enhancement of both. Tarmac Trading Ltd recommended that the first sentence of bullet point 1 of CP14 should be reworded as follows:

'The continued preservation conservation and enhancement where appropriate of the character, appearance and setting of the District's heritage assets and historic environment, in line with their identified significance.

19.05 The Council's view is that Paragraph 128 of the NPPF clearly sets out what the applicant is required to submit as part of any planning application in terms of heritage assets and as such it is not necessary to duplicate this aspect of national policy in CP14. To provide greater clarity with Paragraph 132 of the NPPF the following wording was inserted into (CP14 as submitted) the third line of bullet point 1 'in line with their identified significance'. The District Council consider that inclusion of this text provides the appropriate clarity and is of the opinion that no further amendments are necessary. Therefore the District Council is satisfied that CP14 as submitted does relate clearly national policy towards the historic environment.