

**Christchurch and East Dorset Partnership Core Strategy Examination
Statement of Common Ground**

MATTER: Policy HE1 – Protection of Local Historic and Architectural Interest

STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

Between the Local Planning Authorities and English Heritage

24th September 2013

The Local Planning Authorities (Christchurch Borough Council and East Dorset District Council) and English Heritage confirm that they agree the following:

In order to make the Core Strategy (the Plan) sound, the following modifications raised by English Heritage are acknowledged and changes suggested

1. Pre-ambble to Policy HE1

In the pre-ambble to Policy HE1, the **Key Facts Table** (page 174 in the Consolidated Plan & page 166 in the Pre-Submission Plan), should be updated to include details of scheduled monuments and assets on the national at risk register. The following text is suggested for inclusion:

- **Christchurch has 2 scheduled monuments on the National Heritage at Risk Register (2012)**
- **East Dorset has 41 scheduled monuments; 3 buildings and 1 registered park on the National at Risk Register.**

2. Under **Relevant Evidence**, the following documents are also suggested to be included as valuable documents to inform the policy:

- **National Heritage List for England – a searchable database of all nationally designated heritage assets in England and Wales**
- **National Heritage at Risk Register - In addition to historic buildings at risk, the Heritage at Risk Register includes England's most important archaeological sites, registered historic parks and gardens, registered battlefields, and the protected wreck sites that lie off the coastline. An updated survey, listing the buildings at risk in England, is published annually by English Heritage each autumn.**
- **Dorset Historic Environment Record - A wide ranging record of buildings and structures. Most of the buildings in the Historic Environment Record are listed buildings, but it includes historic buildings of all types, wrecks, structures, single finds, remote contacts, and strandings.**
- **Conservation Character Appraisals – East Dorset has written locally prepared statements for each Conservation Area, providing a detailed appraisal about the particular characteristics and attributes of the Conservation Area and where there might be potential for enhancement.**
- **In-house and local knowledge and expertise in built conservation, archaeology and urban design.**

2. Policy HE1

The following changes in bold type are suggested:

The title of the policy should be changed to read **‘Valuing and conserving our historic environment’** (this title be used for the heading of paragraphs 14.5 to 14.8)

Retain paragraph 2 only.

Delete paragraphs 1, 3 and 4.

Insert the following text:

- **The significance of all heritage assets and their settings (both designated and non-designated) will be protected and enhanced especially elements of the historic environment which contribute to the distinct identity of Christchurch and East Dorset. Such key historic elements include the market towns of Wimborne Minster and Christchurch; Christchurch Quay; Highcliffe and Christchurch Castles; 11th Century Christchurch Priory Church and Saxon Mill; site of a civil war siege in 1645; the setting of Wimborne Minster; significant Neolithic, Iron Age, and Roman archaeological landscape; and prominent estates such as Cranborne and Wimborne St Giles.**
- **As part of its Heritage Strategy, a publicly accessible Dorset Historic Environment Record will be maintained; Conservation Area Appraisals will be kept up to date, and Article 4 Directions used where necessary.**
- **A Local List of heritage assets will be created in East Dorset and the Local Lists of heritage assets will be maintained to support the conservation of non-designated assets of distinctive local character.**
- **Both Councils will seek to promote and support initiatives to reduce the number of heritage assets at risk including the sensitive re-use and adaptation of historic buildings.**
- **Working with the Highways Authority, and Town and Parish Councils, highway infrastructure and public realm works will be designed to protect and enhance the historic environment.**

Delivery and Monitoring

The general protection of designated sites from inappropriate development will be carried out through the Development Management process, through pre-application discussions and through the assessment of planning and listed building applications.

Monitoring of the condition of heritage assets will be undertaken through the Heritage at Risk annual survey and through local inspection of sites.

It is respectfully requested that these changes are accepted as minor modifications to the Plan.

This Statement has been agreed by the aforementioned parties.

Dated: 24th September 2013