

TEWKESBURY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Report to:	Executive Committee
Date of Meeting:	2 March 2022
Subject:	Local Heritage List Selection Criteria for Tewkesbury Borough. Supplementary Planning Document
Report of:	Planning Policy Manager
Corporate Lead:	Head of Development Services
Lead Member:	Lead Member for Built Environment
Number of Appendices:	Two

Executive Summary:

The Local Heritage List Selection Criteria for Tewkesbury Borough Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) was put before Executive Committee on 17 November 2021 to be approved to go out for consultation. The purpose of the Local Heritage List Selection Criteria SPD is to identify and utilise a robust and standardised procedure for nominating assets onto a Local Heritage List. The SPD therefore includes guidance on identifying the historic, archaeological, or architectural value of a non-designated heritage asset.

The SPD was consulted on for 6-and-a-half weeks from Wednesday 1 December 2021 and ending 4pm on Friday 14 January 2022. Only minor comments were received. However, in accordance with Regulation 12 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended), a consultation statement is required to be produced to show how the Council has responded to representations from the consultation. This is then required to be consulted on for a period of four weeks prior to adoption.

This report therefore recommends that the amended SPD and consultation statement be consulted on for four weeks between March and April 2022. Providing no substantive comments are received, it is recommended that the SPD be submitted to Council for adoption.

Recommendation:

- 1. To APPROVE the Consultation Statement and amended SPD for consultation: Local Heritage List Selection Criteria for Tewkesbury Borough.**
- 2. To APPROVE the amended SPD to be put forward to Council for adoption, at the end of the consultation period, subject to no substantive comments being made during the consultation.**
- 3. To DELEGATE authority to the Head of Development Services, to make any necessary minor amendments to the draft document as considered appropriate prior to adoption.**

Reasons for Recommendation:

To consult on the draft Supplementary Planning Document and Consultation Statement in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012.

Resource Implications:

Resource implication on officer time to conduct the consultation, review responses and make amendments as appropriate.

Legal Implications:

The preparation of an SPD is not a statutory requirement, but a decision for each local planning authority based upon demands for further information to assist in the delivery of sustainable development and to provide further guidance on policies within the Development Plan. An SPD cannot in itself establish planning policy; it must be consistent with national and local planning policies. Before a local planning authority can adopt an SPD, it must carry out formal public consultation, followed by the provision of a Consultation Statement setting out who was consulted in the preparation of the SPD; a summary of the issues raised; and how those issues have been addressed. This must then be consulted on along with the amended SPD. The SPD can then be put forward for adoption. Once adopted, the SPD will be a material consideration in the determination of planning applications.

Risk Management Implications:

There is no statutory requirement to prepare SPDs. However, it is considered important that Tewkesbury Borough Council has appropriate planning guidance for Local Heritage List Selection Criteria. This coincides with the DLUHC (formerly MHCLG) funding to develop a Local Heritage List as supported by Historic England. The scheme has enabled the recruitment of an officer to set up and test the procedures for the development and maintenance of Local Heritage List Selection Criteria and produce a Local Heritage List. It is therefore important to maximise the additional resources available to develop a Local Heritage List and an SPD to support this.

Performance Management Follow-up:

Subject to the adoption of the SPD, the effectiveness of the SPD and the policies and guidance contained within will be monitored by the Conservation Officer.

Environmental Implications:

The SPD contains further detail and advice in relation to the emerging JCS and Tewkesbury Borough Plan policies on design and quality of the environment. The specific objective of the guidance is to improve the character and appearance of the historic environment within Tewkesbury Borough.

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1** A Local Heritage List consists of a list of undesignated heritage assets, which have special local architectural or historic interest and contribute to the character of a place. A Local Heritage List provides information on the location of these assets and what it is about them that is significant. In 2019, the Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) now known as the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities DLUHC, announced it would support the development of local heritage lists across the country. This national campaign has provided £1.5million to 22 counties to develop Local Heritage Lists. In Gloucestershire, Gloucester City Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council have been selected as part of this campaign to involve local communities in listing non-designated buildings, green spaces, and other non-designated heritage assets as part of the planning process.

- 1.2** The Local Heritage List Selection Criteria SPD provides the basis for deciding which nominated heritage assets identified are adopted onto the Local Heritage List. The purpose of this Local Heritage List Selection Criteria SPD is to identify and utilise a robust and standardised procedure for nominating assets onto a Local Heritage List. The SPD therefore includes guidance on identifying the historic, archaeological, or architectural value of a non-designated heritage asset. It also outlines nomination categories and the general principles of selection.
- 1.3** The creation of a Local Heritage List Selection Criteria SPD is considered best practice by Historic England and DLUHC for local planning authorities in accordance with the NPPF. Tewkesbury Borough Council's Local Heritage Strategy identifies a Local Heritage List within its Action Plan. Policy HER5 of the emerging Tewkesbury Borough Plan which concerns Locally Important Heritage Assets also stipulates the importance of a Local Heritage List. The selection criteria SPD highlights the relevant statutory and local policies pertaining to the creation of a Local Heritage List.
- 1.4** The publication of the SPD runs in tandem with the creation of a Local Heritage List for Tewkesbury Borough. Thus, the Local Heritage List Selection Criteria for Tewkesbury Borough SPD enables Tewkesbury Borough Council to test the nomination process and provides evidence for the robustness of the selection process.

2.0 UPDATE

- 2.1** As approved by Executive on 17 November 2021, a period of formal public consultation was undertaken for a 6-and-a-half-week period from Wednesday 1 December 2021 until Friday 14 January 2022 on the Local Heritage List Selection Criteria for Tewkesbury Borough Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). Over 165 organisations and individuals were informed of the consultation and invited to comment, including all the Parish Councils in the Borough, neighbouring local authorities, Gloucestershire County Council, as well as statutory consultees. In addition to this, a notice of the consultation was placed in the local press through the Gloucestershire Echo as well as advertised on the Borough Council's website news feed.
- 2.2** A total of eight responses were received, however four of these were from statutory consultees confirming they had no comments on the SPD. The responses were positive and welcomed the purpose of the document. Suggestions for further development of the document were noted. These were then considered, and appropriate amendments were made to the SPD.
- 2.3** A summary table of these issues, and the Council's response, is provided in the Consultation Statement. The Consultation Statement is required under Regulation 12 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. It is required to be consulted on for at least four weeks. The Consultation Statement sets out who was consulted, the main issues raised and how those issues have been responded to.
- 2.4** This report therefore seeks Member approval to consult on the Consultation Statement, along with the amended SPD for a four-week consultation period in early 2022. It also seeks Member approval to put forward the SPD for adoption to Council following the consultation, providing there are no substantive comments arising out of this consultation.

3.0 RELEVANT COUNCIL POLICIES/STRATEGIES

3.1 Joint Core Strategy Policy SD8 - Historic Environment.

Draft Tewkesbury Borough Plan (2011-2031) Policy HER5 - Locally Important Heritage Assets.

Tewkesbury Borough Council Draft Heritage Strategy August 2021.

4.0 RELEVANT GOVERNMENT POLICIES

4.1 National Planning Policy Framework.

5.0 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (Human/Property)

5.1 Resource implication on officer time to conduct the consultation, review responses and make any amendments as appropriate.

6.0 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS (Social/Community Safety/Cultural/ Economic/ Environment)

6.1 The preparation of the Local Heritage List Selection Criteria for Tewkesbury Borough SPD provides a rare opportunity to develop a standardised method of assessing non-designated heritage assets of local importance. In turn, the selection criteria will provide officers, historic societies, and members of the public the means to register non-designated heritage assets of local importance. This will increase awareness of locally important heritage assets in the built environment with regards to planning and development. It is also an opportunity for local people and institutions to celebrate what makes Tewkesbury Borough special and locally distinctive.

7.0 IMPACT UPON (Value for Money/Equalities/E-Government/Human Rights/Health and Safety)

7.1 None.

8.0 RELATED DECISIONS AND ANY OTHER RELEVANT FACTS

8.1 None.

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Appendices: 1 – Amended Local Heritage List Selection Criteria for Tewkesbury Borough. Strategic Planning Document.
2 – Consultation Statement.