



ENGLISH HERITAGE

EAST OF ENGLAND

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Your Ref:CIL/1/MW

6 September 2013

Dear Ms Wood

**Hertsmere Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL): Draft Charging Schedule**

Thank you for consulting English Heritage on the draft charging schedule for the Community Infrastructure Levy in Hertsmere Borough.

As stated in our letter of 30 April 2013, English Heritage does not wish to make detailed comments on the level at which the CIL charge is set. We recognise, however, that it will be important to ensure that the charge does not have an adverse effect on the protection that the Council affords to heritage assets. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out a presumption in favour of sustainable development and clearly identifies the historic environment as a relevant matter for consideration in achieving this. In certain contexts, it may be appropriate to consider exemptions or discretionary relief from CIL, where the viable future of a heritage asset is at issue, or its significance is threatened by intrusive development.

With regard to the Draft CIL Regulation 123 List, we note that CIL money is not identified for heritage-related infrastructure provision. However, as identified in our earlier response, historic open spaces and public realm works in historic areas may warrant particular attention. We note that heritage assets will continue, for the present, to be eligible for s106 contributions; the important issue will be to ensure that this aspect is not vulnerable to being sacrificed as the last call on a prospective developer's financial contributions.

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We do not wish to object to the draft schedule, but hope that there will be opportunities for discussion and flexibility in the future where significant heritage issues arise, to ensure heritage protection is sustained in accordance with the NPPF.

Yours sincerely

Katharine Fletcher  
Historic Environment Planning Adviser, East of England

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