



ENGLISH HERITAGE

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Date: 23 April 2012

Dear Mr Regan

Lewisham Town Centre Area Action Plan Development Plan Document And Site Allocations Development Plan Document

Thank you for your letter of 9th March 2012 and the invitation to comment on the above Lewisham Town Centre Area Action Plan and Site Allocations Submission Documents and their accompanying documents.

Lewisham Town Centre Area Action Plan

Pages 86 and 87 – We welcome the clarity provided within the document regarding tall buildings, which provides a plan-led approach in line with English Heritage's *Guidance on Tall Buildings* (2007). We hope that this will help ensure that development is sensitive to Lewisham Town Centre's Heritage Assets and to the historic characteristics of its surrounding residential neighbourhoods.

Site Allocations

Evelyn Street Local Employment Location, Deptford (page 55): we note that site SA13 comprises around three quarters of the proposed Deptford Creekside Conservation Area. To ensure that the proposed Conservation Area retains its integrity it is crucial that any development of this site, including new development,

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preserves the character and appearance for which the area is intended to be designated, and conserve the Conservation Area's historic significance as a heritage asset, as required by the National Planning Policy Framework.

We suggest that any proposals should be informed by a through understanding of the site's historic significance, including drawing closely on the Deptford Creekside Conservation Area Character Appraisal (December 2011). This could be made clear in the supporting text.

Sustainability Appraisal

We have no further comments to make on the Sustainability Appraisals at this stage.

Conclusion

Finally, English Heritage would strongly advise that the local authority's conservation staff are involved throughout the preparation and implementation of the LDF as they are often best placed to advise on; local historic environment issues and priorities; sources of data; and, consideration of options relating to the historic environment.

This advice is based on the information provided by you and for the avoidance of doubt does not affect our obligation to advise you on, and potentially object to any specific development proposal which may subsequently arise from this or later versions of the DPDs and their sustainability appraisals, and which may have adverse effects on the historic environment.

I hope you find this response helpful in preparing the Lewisham Town Centre Area Action Plan AAP and Site Allocations DPD and we look forward to being consulted again in the future.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Bishop', written in a cursive style.

Nick Bishop
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