

	<p><b>ACTION TAKEN UNDER DELEGATED POWERS BY OFFICER</b></p> <p><b>Date</b></p>
<p><b>Title</b></p>	<p><b>Review of The Schedule of Buildings of Local Architectural or Historic Interest (Local List) including the introduction of proposed criteria for new additions.</b></p>
<p><b>Report of</b></p>	<p>Cath Shaw - Enterprise &amp; Regeneration Lead Commissioner &amp; Interim DCE</p>
<p><b>Wards</b></p>	<p>All</p>
<p><b>Status</b></p>	<p>Public</p>
<p><b>Enclosures</b></p>	<p>Appendix A – Existing criteria for Local Listing Appendix B – Proposed draft nomination criteria for new additions to the Local List</p>
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<p><b>Summary</b></p>	
<p>Local heritage listing is a means for the community and the Local Authority to jointly identify heritage assets in the borough –with distinctive elements of the local historic environment that are not already designated in another way (for example Listed buildings or Ancient Schedule Monuments).</p> <p>Local listing provides clarity on what assets are considered to be of significant importance to the Community and formally identifies each asset which enhances the borough’s cultural and diverse qualities.</p> <p>The Council’s current Local List was created in 1986, and has not been comprehensively reviewed since then, although subsequent additions to the list have been approved, often as a consequence of new or revised Conservation Area Character Appraisals. As such the current list and the approved nomination criteria require updating to reflect best practice as provided by Historic England in their ‘Good Practice Guide for Local Heritage Listing’ published in 2012 and updated as ‘Historic England Advice Note 7: Local Heritage Listing’ in May 2016.</p>	

The revised local list will include an architectural description, a photograph and location. Having an up to date list of assets of local importance will help ensure applications for planning permission for works affecting an item on the Local List will be required to show how the significance of the asset has been taken into consideration in the design of the proposed works. Local heritage lists which are built on a strong partnership between Local Authorities and the community are more likely to reflect the breadth of opinion on the historic environment. The community can play an important role in supporting the overall process, especially the development of selection criteria and the nomination of heritage assets.

It is therefore essential that a new set of nomination criteria, reflecting current best practice, is consulted on and adopted by the council, prior to the undertaking of a borough-wide review of the Local List, which will be carried out by volunteers under the supervision of an appointed heritage and community interest consultancy.

## **RECOMMENDATION**

### **To authorise:**

- **a revised draft nomination criteria for the Local List.**
- **a borough wide public consultation exercise with local residents, national and local heritage organisations, amenity groups and interested individuals to identify assets of Architectural or Historic Interest.**

## **1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED**

- 1.1. As part of the agreement for development and regulatory services between the London Borough of Barnet and Capita, a commitment was entered into to undertake a comprehensive review of the Council's Local List of assets of local architectural or historic merit.
- 1.2. This project forms one of the Core Service requirements (output specifications) and will involve a borough-wide consultation exercise to adopt revised nomination criteria and identify heritage assets that are valued as distinctive elements of the local historic environment.
- 1.3. There are presently over 1600 heritage assets on the Local List distributed across the borough, but primarily found in conservation areas. Being on the Local List means that its conservation as a heritage asset is an objective of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which sets out the Government's objectives and policies for the historic environment, and is therefore a material consideration when determining the outcome of a planning application.
- 1.4. A heritage consultant has been appointed to implement the local list project which will involve training and assisting local volunteers to survey the

borough and record local heritage assets. A selection panel made up of community representatives and heritage experts will consider the nominated assets and agree a finalised list, which will be subject to public consultation including with owners.

## **2. REASONS FOR DECISIONS**

2.1. Local heritage lists play an important role in celebrating heritage that is valued by the community at the local level. The process of preparing a local heritage list not only allows local people to identify local heritage that they would like recognised and protected, but is also an opportunity for local authorities and communities to work in partnership. Creating a local heritage list also helps to improve access to clear, comprehensive and current information about the historic environment at the local level through resources such as Historic Environment Records (HERs).

## **3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED**

Not applicable

## **4 POST DECISION IMPLIMENTATION**

4.1 The approach to the updating of the local list for Barnet broadly follows the process set out in the guidance produced by Historic England (HE) “Good practice guide for local heritage listing” (May 2012).

Below is an outline of the main steps involved in the Local List project:

- Seek comments on the revised selection criteria by consultation with key heritage groups and others
- Adoption of selection criteria by Delegated Powers Report following consideration of responses
- Promotion of the project in local press and public libraries to generate interest and a network of volunteers
- Training of volunteers to carry out survey work and on data collection
- Survey of the borough by volunteers to record assets currently on the local list and to identify potential new nominations against adopted criteria
- Invite nominations of heritage assets through public consultation
- Set up selection panel
- Assessment of nominations by selection panel
- Collation of nominations
- Consultation on list of nominations with building owners
- Report to Planning Committee recommending inclusion of heritage assets to Local List
- Notification to owners of newly included Locally Listed buildings
- Updating of Local List and inclusion on website.

- 4.2** Once adopted, the selection criteria will be used as a means of assessing any non-designated heritage assets that are submitted to the Council for inclusion on Barnet's Local List. It will also be useful as a guide for future nominations of heritage assets to the Local List. An extensive public consultation exercise will be undertaken by the consultants to raise public awareness of the project. A consultation page will be set up on the Council's website explaining the purpose of the local list, the adopted criteria and how interested parties can submit nominations. This may be achieved electronically, using an online nomination form or letters can be sent directly to the Urban Design and Heritage team.
- 4.3** Several training events for volunteers living / working in the borough, will take place to help them assess possible assets against the revised selection criteria, will be delivered by Urban Vision Enterprise CIC. These events will take place at weekends, mornings and afternoons at locations across the borough. Following training the volunteers will undertake a survey of assets across the borough.
- 4.4** Following the public consultation, a list of all the nominated assets will be scrutinised by a panel of suitably qualified individuals including representatives from heritage organisations (including Historic England), residents groups, council members and officers. The panel will assess each nominated building and consider whether it fulfils the requirements of the proposed criteria, and is appropriate for inclusion on the local list.
- 4.5** Once this revised list has been finalised, the owners of the assets proposed for inclusion on the Local List will be notified and their views sought. Following consideration of any representations or objections received, the final list of proposed additions will be compiled and a report will be submitted to, the Policy and Resources Committee recommending the approval of the new additions to the Local List.
- 4.6** Following consideration and adoption by the committee of the updated Schedule of Buildings of Local Architectural or Historic Interest, the full list will be published on-line, with photographs, a description of the heritage assets and an explanation of which criteria they are considered to have met. A map showing their location in the borough will also be provided. This online archive will then form part of the Council's Historic Environment Record (HERs).

## **5 IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION**

### **5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance**

The Core Strategy specifically refers to a commitment to review the Local List (Paragraph 10.4.6), the need for community engagement and for suggestions for additional assets that make a contribution to Barnet's historic character to come forward. This will provide an opportunity for communities to have their views on local heritage heard. The project has been identified as one of the core service requirements to be delivered by Regional Enterprise (Re) for the London Borough of Barnet.

- 5.1.1** It also meets the strategic objective of protecting the Barnet environment. Local listing designation accords with the Council's 'Three Strands Approach'

of Protection, Enhancement and Consolidated Growth, and in particular Strands 1 and 2.

## **5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)**

5.2.1 The cost of the exercise will be borne by Regional Enterprise (Re) as part of the core service requirements agreed with the London Borough of Barnet. A sub-contract will be agreed with Urban Vision Enterprise CIC who will oversee and manage the project including the training and supervision of local volunteers.

5.2.2 The use of IT and the internet will be the primary source of contact between the Regional Enterprise and interested parties, although letters can be sent directly to the Urban Design and Heritage team. All consultations will be placed online, the preferred form of contact will be electronic, through either online forms and social networks, or via email, and the finalised adopted list will be published on the council's website.

## **5.3 Legal and Constitutional References**

5.3.1 The Historic Environment Practice Guide, produced jointly by the Department for Communities and Local Government, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport and Historic England in March 2010, provides guidance on compiling the evidence base for plan making. As part of this process, Local Planning Authorities are advised to consider compiling a local list of heritage assets.

5.3.2 Historic England considers that 'Local lists play an essential role in building and reinforcing a sense of local character and distinctiveness in the historic environment. Local lists can be used to identify significant local heritage assets to support the development of Local Plans. Encouraging the use of local lists will strengthen the role of local heritage assets as a material consideration in the planning process.'

5.3.3 In May 2012 Historic England produced the first comprehensive guide for Local Planning Authorities on developing local heritage lists, based on examples of good practice from around the country.

5.3.4 Barnet's Development Management Policies indicate that there is a presumption in favour of the retention of Barnet's Locally Listed buildings and, where planning applications are received, the impact of any proposed external alterations or new development nearby will be carefully assessed to ensure the character of the building or its setting is not harmed.

5.3.5 Control over the demolition of a Locally Listed building which lies outside of a conservation area, however, falls outside planning powers. Only the merits of the replacement building would be considered as part of the planning application process.

5.3.6 Council owned buildings have not in the past been considered for inclusion on

the Local List. However, this policy has now been clarified and in order to apply it consistently throughout the borough regardless of ownership, all assets of local historic or architectural merit will be considered for Local Listing, on the proviso they meet the agreed criteria for inclusion.

## **5.4 Risk Management**

5.4.1 Both Government and Historic England support the identification of local heritage assets by Local Planning Authorities, including the preparation of a list of buildings of local historic merit. Without such a list there would be an increased risk in the Local Planning Authority's ability to defend development control decisions and a potentially harmful consequence on the historic environment.

## **5.5 Equalities and Diversity**

5.5.1 The updating of the Local List and criteria will be of benefit to Barnet's diverse local community and will contribute to the borough's rich built heritage. The adoption of the new criteria and additions to the local list will also enhance Barnet's reputation as a desirable and pleasant place to work and live.

## **5.6 Consultation and Engagement**

5.6.1 A consultation exercise will take place with relevant national and local heritage bodies on the suitability of the proposed criteria to be the basis for assessing new nominations to the Local List.

5.6.2 Following approval of new nomination criteria, the training of volunteers will take place under the supervision of Urban Vision Enterprise CIC. A survey of the borough will then take place over several months to ensure that existing buildings on the local list are recorded and that new nominations are identified.

5.6.3 An extensive public consultation exercise, seeking nominations to the Local List will also take place following the approval of new nomination criteria for the Local List. All nominations will be assessed by a selection panel comprised of heritage experts, local residents, and officers, in order to ensure that proposed heritage assets comply with the adopted criteria.

[5.6.4](#) A third consultation exercise will then take place, with the owners of buildings proposed to be added to the Local List, providing them with the opportunity to comment on the nominations. These responses will be taken into consideration when finalising the list of additions to the Schedule.

## 6 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 6.1 The Schedule of Buildings of Local Architectural or Historic Interest (the Local List)
- 6.2 Historic England Good Practice Guide for Local Listing - May 2012
- 6.3 NPPF (National Planning Policy Framework) - March 2012



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