



ENGLISH HERITAGE

The Executive Director of Planning and Borough
Development
Fao: The Policy Team
Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

Our ref:
Your ref:

BY-EMAIL: planningpolicy@rbkc.gov.uk

3 September 2013

Dear Sir/Madam

Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea – Partial Core Strategy Review: Basements, Conservation and Character, and Miscellaneous Matters

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea's Partial Review of its Core Strategy (pertaining to the policies on Basements, Conservation and Design, and a range of Miscellaneous Matters). As the Government's adviser on the historic environment, English Heritage is keen to ensure that the protection of the historic environment is fully taken into account at all stages and levels of local planning.

English Heritage has reviewed the document in light of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), which includes, as one of its core principles, that heritage assets be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance, so that they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations. Having done this, English Heritage advises that we are broadly content with the soundness of the proposed revisions in terms of the historic environment.

We would ask the Royal Borough to consider the potential for a more detailed approach to matter of retrofitting heritage assets for improved energy performance, perhaps via a dedicated Supplementary Planning Document. We also note that the relevant reference (Footnote 20 on page 58, Miscellaneous Matters) is out of date and is probably best replaced with a reference to our website as follows: www.english-heritage.org.uk/your-property/saving-energy .

For the avoidance of doubt it must be stated that this advice is based upon information provided by you and 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 SPD, and which may have adverse effects on the environment.

Yours sincerely

Claire Craig
Historic Environment Planning Adviser (London)

