

Listing and the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act

Position Statement on Accepting Requests for Re-assessment of Listed Buildings

December 2015

The Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act (ERRA) gives us the opportunity to revise existing entries on the <u>National Heritage List for England (NHLE)</u> and be more categorical as to where special interest is to be identified. Given the very high number of entries on the NHLE – over 395,000, covering around half a million listed buildings and other assets – it is simply impossible to revise all of these, and we cannot operate an open-door policy, given our many other responsibilities. We are therefore prioritizing applications for re-assessment of listed buildings under the following categories:

- 1. Assets which are the subject of a Listed Building Heritage Partnership Agreement;
- 2. Assets which are the subject of a strategic programme of designation, as identified in the Historic England Action Plan or through the Government's growth agenda (please see our agreed programme of projects on the <u>priorities</u> page of our website);
- 3. Assets which, in the judgment of Historic England, have a demonstrable need for priority re-designation in order to facilitate positively managed change.

With formal amendments to the NHLE, timing in the planning process is an important consideration when deciding whether or not to pursue an application. Amendment requests should not be used as a way of side-stepping consent discussions with the local planning authority, and we might consult the view of local authority or Historic England planning colleagues before deciding to pursue an amendment request. We also expect that ERRA-style amendments should be fairly substantive in order to be taken forward and we will not prioritise requests for minor changes to specify areas or features of exclusion. There is a



process for dealing with <u>minor amendments</u> to NHLE entries, although changes to the extent of designation would not qualify under this process.

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