

Ben Taylor

Subject: FW: Site Specific Policy, The Trentham Estate and Gardens, Local Plan for Stafford Borough (20348)

From: Taylor, Alan
Sent: 14 October 2013 14:08
To: Ben Taylor
Subject: RE: Site Specific Policy, The Trentham Estate and Gardens, Local Plan for Stafford Borough (20348)

Ben

Thank you for your e-mail and for discussing the matter with me on 11 October. I am sorry that a family bereavement delayed my response to your original e-mail.

I confirm that EH does support inclusion of a site specific policy in the draft Stafford Borough Local Plan.

The Trentham Estate has a number of very site specific and longstanding heritage and conservation issues relating both to the to the preservation and upkeep of the RPG, the listed buildings, and the designated conservation area. Finding economic solutions to these issues can be challenging within the normal planning framework given the quasi-rural location of the estate in the Green Belt and adjacent to the A34 trunk road.

English Heritage has found the presence of a specific policy for Trentham Gardens in the local plan since the 1990s has been helpful in providing a clear and understandable framework for all parties to work within. We consider that it would continue to be useful to have a further policy along these lines continuing into the new generation plan. Our only comment on your draft text would be to make specific reference to listed or historic buildings, to the Registered Park and Garden and to the designated conservation area in the text rather than the more general wording currently shown to emphasise the significance of these elements.

Alan Taylor
Inspector of Historic Buildings
English Heritage West Midlands