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Draft PPS23 Consultation
Planning Policy Division
Department of the Environment
Millennium House
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Dear Sirs

DRAFT PPS 23 - ENABLING DEVELOPMENT

The Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC) is the professional body of the United Kingdom representing conservation specialists and historic environment practitioners in the public and private sectors. The Institute exists to establish the highest standards of conservation practice, to support the effective protection and enhancement of the historic environment, and to promote heritage-led regeneration and access to the historic environment for all.

Thank you for inviting us to participate in this consultation.

The Institute supports the content of the draft policy as regards the historic environment as it provides similar policy (in alternative wording) to that applying in both England and Wales.

However, we have reservations about the breadth of the range of public benefits it is proposed to cover. It seems to us that this will create a very large number of opportunities for the breaching of normal planning policy and that the adverse impacts would be exacerbated by the lack of detailed policy requirements for many of them that apply to cases involving the historic environment.

Yours faithfully

James Caird

Consultant Consultations Co-ordinator