



· INSTITUTE · OF · HISTORIC ·  
BUILDING · CONSERVATION

*Making Heritage Work*

Zach Stamps  
Department for Transport  
Rail Sponsorship  
and International Division  
5/29 Great Minster House  
76 Marsham Street  
London  
SW1P 4DR

James Caird  
Consultant Consultations Co-ordinator  
IHBC Business Office  
Jubilee House  
High Street  
Tisbury  
Wiltshire  
SP3 6HA

28 August 2008

Tel (01584) 876141  
Web site [www.ihbc.org.uk](http://www.ihbc.org.uk)  
E-mail [consultations@ihbc.org.uk](mailto:consultations@ihbc.org.uk)

Dear Sir

### **UPDATING THE SCOPE AND MEMBERSHIP OF THE RAILWAY HERITAGE COMMITTEE**

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.

The Institute welcomes the opportunity to comment on the consultation.

The consultation document is not entirely clear to the outsider on the range of artifacts that may fall within the remit of the Committee. If these include buildings and fixtures to buildings that may in some circumstance be listed buildings or otherwise form part of our built heritage, you may wish to consider including someone with relevant expertise on the Committee. The Institute would be happy to recommend suitable candidates if this were required.

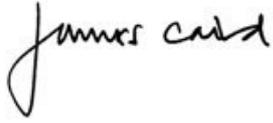
If buildings are not currently within the remit of the Committee, we would like to suggest that they should be. Industrial archaeology is an increasingly important facet of our cultural heritage, and the disposal of property should be in ways which minimize adverse impacts to their architectural and historic character.

We are also concerned about the exclusion of heritage railways from the remit of the Committee on the basis that they are already recipients of historic assets. Heritage railways are more often than not run by volunteers working part time. We think there is a risk that heritage assets may be liable to loss and dispersal because of fluctuating staffing with relevant expertise and inadequate understanding of the rules of the Heritage Railway Association. We do not think there is likely to be much workload for the Committee by including heritage railways as HRs are generally accumulators of heritage assets and artifacts. But their inclusion would set the right tone and be an important

aspect of regulation in the cases where, for example, assets may come up for disposal to raise funds for more pressing requirements.

We hope these comments are useful.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Caird". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

James Caird  
Consultant Consultations Co-ordinator