



· INSTITUTE · OF · HISTORIC ·  
BUILDING · CONSERVATION

*Making Heritage Work*

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Dear Sirs

### **VISION FOR NATIONAL PARKS: GOVERNMENT PRIORITIES**

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.

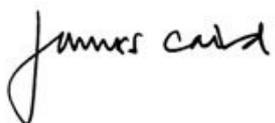
The Institute welcomes the updating of Government advice for National Parks and is supportive of the way the draft Circular does this. We do think, however, that a small number of issues might be given slightly greater prominence.

1. Paragraph 7.5, "Landscape, heritage and quality of space", refers to the principles to be addressed in dealing with these topics but not techniques, beyond the production of the statutory management plan. Bearing in mind that the adoption of the ELC in England is relatively recent and several of the techniques deriving from its principles (Landscape Character Assessment, Historic Landscape Assessment and Historic Area Assessment) have recently been subject to new guidance, we feel that these should be referred to. This could be done by footnotes of which we notice a complete absence.
2. Several of the National Parks have above-ground mining heritage. We think the desirability of preserving this deserves specific mention.
3. Although quality of place is touched upon, we feel that it could be expanded upon to encourage high quality and sustainable design.

continued/

We hope these comments are of use.

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