

Statement to B&NES Cabinet 12 September 2012 by BATH PRESERVATION TRUST

Item 15 Neighbourhood Planning

I continue to be Alan Langton. I am the Widcombe Association representative on the Fobra Localism Sub Committee but speak now solely as a Trustee of the Bath Preservation Trust.

The revised Neighbourhood Planning Protocol has introduced a greater degree of balance and we are pleased to see that enforcement gets a mention and there is a specific section on Heritage Assets.

My substantive comment relates to that section.

It is astonishing that this section does not mention the World Heritage Site. World Heritage Sites are described in the NPPF (para 132) in the category of heritage assets of the highest significance. People considering neighbourhood plans need to know the extent of the World Heritage Site, to understand what makes the Site significant, and to appreciate that special considerations apply across the World Heritage Site.

We therefore recommend that the World Heritage Site must be adequately referenced in Part 3 of the Neighbourhood Planning Protocol before adoption in order to make it fit for purpose.