



**Examination of the Hounslow Local Plan**

**Matter 2: Spatial Strategy and Strategic Policies**

**Question 15h**

**Historic England, Hearing Statement**

**December 2025**

Historic England is the principal Government adviser on the historic environment, advising it on planning and listed building consent applications, appeals and other matters generally affecting the historic environment. Historic England is consulted on Local Development Plans under the provisions of the duty to co-operate and provides advice to ensure that legislation and national policy in the National Planning Policy Framework are thereby reflected in local planning policy and practice.

The tests of soundness require that Local Development Plans should be positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy. Historic England's representations on the Publication Draft Local Plan are made in the context of the requirements of the National Planning Policy Framework ("the Framework") in relation to the historic environment as a component of sustainable development.

## Historic England Hearing Statement

### **1 Introduction**

- 1.1. This statement addresses the Inspector's questions with regard to Matter 2 of the Hounslow Local Plan Examination: Matters, Issues and Questions.
- 1.2. This hearing statement should be read alongside Historic England's comments submitted during the Regulation 19 consultation on the Local Plan, along with our [Statement of Common Ground](#) (SoCG) with London Borough of Hounslow, dated 08/12/2025.

## 2 Matter 2: Spatial Strategy and Strategic Policies

### Issue:

Whether the spatial strategy and strategic policies of the Plan are positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy, and in general conformity with the London Plan, in relation to the scale and distribution of the development proposed?

### Question:

15) Policies P1, P1(a), P1(b) and P1(c) provide specific approaches to guide development proposals in the Great West Corridor; is it positively prepared, justified, effective, consistent with national policy and in general conformity with the London Plan 2021. Responses should specifically address:

h) Are the other specific requirements of development proposals, sufficiently clear to be evident how a decision maker should react to development proposals?

### Response:

- 1.3. The Great West Corridor is both a focus for tall buildings and an area where there is potential for many heritage assets to be affected by such development, including heritage assets of the highest significance.
- 1.4. In our response to the Regulation 19 Draft Local Plan we therefore raised a concern about the lack of a criterion in Policy P1 to signal to developers that the conservation and enhancement of heritage assets will be an important consideration in this area.
- 1.5. Through discussions under the Duty to Cooperate we have agreed a **proposed modification to Policy P1** with Hounslow Council to address this matter. This is recorded on p12 of our [SoCG](#) (HE3) and is as follows:

*Insert new part into Policy P1:*

*“FF. Ensure that development conserves and enhances the significance of heritage assets, including any contribution made by their settings, in and around the Great West Corridor. Particular attention should be paid to the need to avoid harm to the Outstanding Universal Value of the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew World Heritage Site.”*

- 1.6. In our response to the Regulation 19 Draft Local Plan we also queried the supporting text to Policy P1 at paragraphs 2.40-2.41, which is not consistent with the NPPF. To address this issue, we have agreed a **proposed modification to paragraph 2.41** with Hounslow Council, which is recorded on p13 of our [SoCG](#) (HE3) as follows:

*“2.41 Potential developments will need to ~~account~~ conserve and enhance for*

*~~these~~ significance of important heritage assets ~~and their~~ including any contribution made by setting in any proposals in and around the Great West Corridor Area, ~~giving great weight to the assets' conservation...~~*

- 1.7. In relation to Policy P1(a)A, we raised a concern about the reference to 'transforming' Boston Manor Park, a historic parkland incorporating a number of listed buildings. A **proposed modification to P1(a) A** has been agreed with the Council through our [SoCG](#) (HE4, p13) as follows:

*"P1(a) A. Supporting the transformation conservation and enhancement of Boston Manor Park, including conserving the grade II listed structures of the park, appropriately improving the landscaping of the grade I listed Boston Manor House, increasing biodiversity, and providing facilities for the local community;"*