

West Lancashire Heritage and Conservation Strategy.

Theme 1. Looking after our heritage – the need to manage and sustain its value

| Heritage Issue | Proposed aims | Proposed action | What has already been achieved | Targets/ Timescales |
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| 1.1 To continue to monitor the Districts Listed Buildings. | 1.1.1 In line with Government guidance to maintain an up to date <i>Building at Risk Register</i> (BAR register), which records, to a suitable standard, the condition of all the districts stock of listed buildings. | 1.1A Monitor and record the condition of the listed buildings in the District. 1.1B Focus efforts on reducing the numbers of listed buildings considered at risk. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Council has had a BAR register since 1989. • The last full review was completed in March 2005. • Funds between 2005-08 were made available to provide grants to assist in the repair of buildings at risk. | <p>To maintain a 5 yr cycle for the re-surveys.</p> <p>To reduce, by 4 per year, the number of 'at risk' buildings.</p> |

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| <p>1.2 To manage proposed changes in the historic environment in a sustainable way.</p> | <p>1.2.1 That the Council fulfils its duty to ensure that all listed buildings, scheduled monuments and historic landscapes and gardens are adequately protected and their historic character is preserved. 1.2.2 To encourage development that is sensitive to its context and respectful of the character and distinctiveness of the District through the form, scale and use of appropriate materials.</p> | <p>1.2A Increase the understanding of decision makers on the issues, which can effect the historic environment and develop ways of support. 1.2B Provide training to Officers and Council Members on conservation issues. 1.2C Encourage use of good design through an Awards scheme.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to influence the design of development, which affects the historic environment. • Continue to operate Conservation Advisory Panel (CAAP). • West Lancashire Design Awards has operated since 1989. | <p>On going work</p> <p>Meet 12 times a year</p> <p>Awards are run every 2 years.</p> |
| <p>1.3 To ensure we provide specialist conservation and heritage expertise and advice at all levels within the District.</p> | <p>1.3.1 To retain the skills in place within the Council to ensure an appropriate level of service is provided when dealing with developments/sites with heritage issues. 1.3.2 Highlight the 'added value' gained in having conservation skills embedded within the Planning Division.</p> | <p>1.3A To continue to employ at least one trained conservation specialist within the Planning Division. 1.3B Ensure that conservation advice/input is provided on schemes to maximise their value (social, economic and environmental benefits).</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heritage and Environment Section has 2 conservation posts (1 of which is currently vacant and unfilled). • Heritage advice and input is provided on developments in Ormskirk Town Centre (i.e. Aughton Street, Ormskirk Station, Edge Hill University). | <p>To seek to retain 2 posts</p> |

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| <p>1.4 The need to intervene to ensure the proper preservation of the Districts heritage.</p> | <p>1.4.1 By using the powers available avoid any net loss to the value of significant heritage buildings, sites or places.</p> | <p>1.4A To serve Repairs Notices and/or Urgent Works Notices where it is appropriate to do so.</p> <p>1.4B To use Listed Building Enforcement Notices to remedy serious breaches in Listed Building legislation.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the last 5 years threats of Urgent Works Notices have been used on 11 occasions to secure works to listed building. | <p>On-going</p> |
| <p>1.5 Heritage assets are often seen as a constraint rather than an asset in development</p> | <p>1.5.1 Champion the value of heritage and the retention and enhancement of the historic environment as an essential part of successful and sustainable development.</p> | <p>1.5A Have a heritage 'voice' within the Council.</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transportation is designated as the Heritage Champion. | <p>In place</p> |
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