

The Future of Heritage Protection

Introduction and HTF perspective

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Creating a framework for the historic environment

- no legislation but.....
- The Government's Statement on the Historic Environment for England 2010
- PPS 5
- Historic Environment Planning Practice Guide March 2010

What PPS 5 offers

- an up to date policy document
- an approach to development management which is consistent with other aspects of the system
- designated and undesignated assets in their context
- a potentially more robust approach to the development management process
- some attempt to reconcile climate change and conservation tensions
- guidance on enabling development

What hasn't been resolved

- lack of legislation – not necessarily too problematic
- achieving consistency and clarity without some of the old specifics
- tensions between climate change and heritage protection
- a certain 'creative ambiguity' about what would justify the loss of an asset



But now there are important new 'external' pressures



Changes in the planning system

- abolition of regional strategies
 - no housing targets
 - translating national guidance to LPA policy
- 'localism'
 - what does localism mean locally?
- changes to greenfield/brownfield
- deliverability of sites
- public expectation



Squeeze on public spending

- no Council Tax rise
- reduced external income
- no Housing and Planning Delivery Grant
 - and no news on incentives yet
- reduction in other grants
- significant further cuts to come
- Member priorities?

External pressures will be intense

- developing a local approach will require time, energy and commitment
- viability of sites will be compromised by competing requirements
- cuts will reduce staff when front loading approach requires people with expertise and time
 - "Engagement with the relevant local authority specialists can be particularly helpful in developing an understanding of significance."



Welcome to the world, PPS5
