

## LONDON REGION

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30<sup>th</sup> January 2006

Dear Ms Longworth

## Ealing Local Development Framework Statement of Community Involvement for Submission – January 2006

Thank you for your letter of 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2006 inviting comments on the Statement of Community Involvement for Submission (SCI).

We have no further comments to make at this stage of the LDF process.

Yours sincerely

Graham Saunders Regional Urban Designer

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F.A.O. Samantha Powell

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10<sup>th</sup> February 2006

Dear Ms Powell

London Borough of Ealing Tywford Avenue Community Open Space – Draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD2) - January 2006

Thank you for your letter of 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2006 and the invitation to comment on the above SPD on Tywford Avenue Community Open Space.

English Heritage recognises the importance of the historic environment as a driver for economic regeneration, social cohesion and improved better quality of life for all. Within this context, as the Government's adviser on the historic environment English heritage is keen to ensure that the protection of the historic environment is fully taken into account at all stages and levels of the supplementary planning process.

In general, we support the SPD, but we would encourage you to ensure that the implication of this important policy document does not adversely affect or undermine the physical and social value of the historic environment and its heritage assets.

We welcome the inclusion of archaeological matters in the draft SPD however the reference to the *Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979* is not appropriate for this particular case and that the document should instead follow the guidance set out in *PPG16 Archaeology and Planning* and the polices set out in the Council's adopted UDP.

As stated under point iv) the northern portion of the site is an Area of Archaeological Interest as defined by the Council's adopted UDP. As advised by my colleague Kim Stabler (Archaeology Advisor, GLAAS), this is due to the plethora of prehistoric material, mainly flint hand axes and blades, that have been recovered from the vicinity. These artefacts, some which have been found *in situ*, indicate early settlement in the Creffield Road/Twyford Avenue area dating from the Paleolithic period onwards (500,000 – 38,000 BP). However it is considered that these finds are of local and regional importance but not of international importance and therefore not registered as a scheduled ancient monument.

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With this last point in mind it is inaccurate to state that it is a criminal offence under Section 33 of the 1979 Act to carry out work on site without the notifying the local authority as the Act in this applies to Schedule Ancient Monuments and not an Area of Archaeological Interest.

Rather we would suggest that the informative should conclude with something along the lines of that as the site is designated as being within an Area of Archeological Interest, and in accordance with the Local Planning Authority's archaeological policies and guidance given in PPG16, applicants must submit an archaeological desk based assessment with any planning application for the site, which will inform as to the need for further investigation or mitigation. Should significant remains be encountered on the site, there will be a presumption towards preservation in situ.

In addition it should be noted that the adjoining school contains a grade II\* listed building, therefore we would suggest that reference is made to the statutory designation of Twyford School and that care should be taken in the development proposals so that they do not adversely affect its setting.

Finally, English Heritage would strongly advise that the Council's own conservation staff is closely involved throughout the preparation an implementation of the SPD. They are often best placed to advise on: local historic environment issues and priorities, sources of data; interpretation of policies which reflect the needs of the local historic environment; and suggest opportunities for securing wider benefits for the future conservation and management of historic assets.

Yours faithfully

Graham Saunders Regional Urban Designer

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