

**Tamworth Local Plan 2006-2031  
Examination**

**Statement of Common Ground**

**as agreed between**

**Tamworth Borough Council  
and Historic England**

**June 2015**

## **Introduction**

- 1.1 This Statement of Common Ground has been prepared jointly between the parties consisting of Tamworth Borough Council (“the Council”) and Historic England.
- 1.2 The Statement sets out the confirmed points of agreement between the Council and Historic England with regard to the submitted Tamworth Local Plan 2006-2031, which will assist the Inspector during the examination of the Plan.

## **Background**

- 2.1 Historic England has been involved in the preparation of the Tamworth Local Plan by providing on-going comments and advice on site selection and policy development, primarily in respect of the impact of policies and site specific allocations on heritage assets. The Council has previously agreed to a number of modifications in respect of Historic England representations (MOD008-MOD021 inclusive).
- 2.2 Historic England has maintained an objection (LP034t) to the allocation of three sites on Spinning School Lane, Tamworth (site references 507, 508 and 509) and has requested their removal at technical, Draft and Pre-submission consultation stages. The basis of the objection is the lack of evidence that the impact of development on the setting and significance of the heritage assets, namely the Saxon Defences, had been considered.
- 2.3 The Council prepared a Heritage Impact Assessment (K9) to support the Pre-submission Local Plan which acknowledges that the presence of the scheduled ancient monument is a constraint and that there is potential for harm. However, it concludes that providing the archaeological importance of the site is acknowledged and appropriate mitigation is put in place, the sites could be developed (K9, page 57). In order to clarify the measures that will be expected to be considered in respect of these sites, the Council is proposing to make two changes to Table 5.1 that accompanies Policy HG1: Housing.

## **Agreed matters**

### **1. Proposed changes to Table 5.1 Housing Allocations Guidance**

- 3.1 In response to the Historic England representation LP034t the Council is prepared to make modifications to Table 5.1 under Policy HG1: Housing (page 83), new text is shown in bold:


507, 508 and 509 Club, Spinning School Lane, Former Magistrates Court and Police Station and Youth Centre, Albert Road

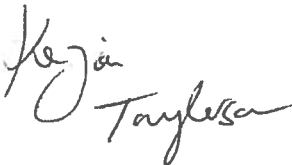
“.....This site contains an archaeological scheduled ancient monument (Saxon Defences) **which should be protected and conserved, in line with the NPPF.**”

Insert new bullet point after bullet point ending “.....Extensive Urban Survey Historic Urban Character Area: Lower Gungate and Spinning School Lane”:

- “A desk based archaeological assessment undertaken by an appropriate qualified professional and if required, a field based archaeological assessment, also undertaken by an appropriate qualified professional. If loss, wholly or in part, of archaeological remains is unavoidable, appropriate recording should take place and all records should be added to the Historic Environment Record, in a timely manner.”

**Statement of Common Ground**

Signed on behalf of Tamworth Borough Council		
Name and position	Signature	Date
MATTHEW BOWERS HEAD OF PLANNING AND REGENERATION		2/6/15

Signed on behalf of Historic England		
Name and position	Signature	Date
Kezia Taylerson Historic Environment Planning Adviser		2 June 2015