

Appendix A: Table of Historic England’s comments on the Draft Bedford Local Plan

Page	Section	Support/ Object	Comments	Suggested Change
8	Site Assessment		See letter for comments on site assessment.	
12	Vision	Object	Fifth paragraph: We welcome the reference to the need to respect and protect the boroughs built and wider historic environment. For greater consistency with the NPPF, we suggest that instead of valued you use the word ‘enhanced’	Replace valued with ‘enhanced’ in line with NPPF
14	Theme 4 Better Places	Support	We welcome reference in this theme to local landscapes, settlement character, and conservation and enhancement of the historic environment.,	
20	Option2a – 2d		See letter for detailed comments on components of these options	
27	5.2	Object	Include reference to the High Street Heritage Action Zone in Bedford.	<i>Add reference to the Bedford High Street Heritage Action Zone</i>
48	Bedford Borough Design Guide	Object	We welcome the preparation of a Design Guide. It would be helpful to mention the historic environment in paragraph 7.28. It would be helpful to have a specific policy in the Plan for the Design Guide to sit under. We have been consulted on the SEA for the Design Guide and look forward to commenting on the Design Guide itself as it emerges.	<i>Mention historic environment in para 7.28.</i> <i>Include a policy in the Plan for Design Guide.</i>
	Tall Buildings and the skyline	Object	Given the growth pressures that will be experienced by Bedford over the coming years, we strongly recommend that the matter of Tall buildings and the skyline needs to be addressed in a new DM policy. We recommend that you commission a tall buildings study. See our advice note HEAN 4 and the consultation draft of HEAN 4. Any policy should indicate what considerations are needed for taller buildings, where buildings may or may not be appropriate etc. and in	Commission a Tall buildings and the skyline study. Include a new policy in the Plan for Tall Buildings.

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			particular consider the impact on the historic environment. We would be happy to advise further regarding the detail of such a study.	
	Supporting documents			
	Landscape Character Assessment	Object	We welcome the section on Historic Landscape Character within the LCA (paras 2.15 – 2.84) which provides helpful context. However, we continue to request that the finer grained historic landscape characterisation is updated to better inform future development and growth options.	<i>Update Historic Landscape Characterisation to inform future development and growth options.</i>