

Mr Phil Weatherby  
PSI Division,  
Communities and Local Government,  
Eland House,  
Bressenden Place,  
London,  
SW1E 5DU

28<sup>th</sup> October 2009

Dear Mr Weatherby,

**RE: Consultation paper on a new Planning Policy Statement 15 – Planning for the Historic Environment**

The Chartered Institute of Building (CIOB) welcomes the opportunity to respond to the Communities and Local Government Consultation paper on a new Planning Policy Statement 15: Planning for the Historic Environment.

The CIOB supports the Governments stated objectives which underlie the change of Planning Policy Statement 15, to:

- Apply the principles of sustainable development to proposals involving the historic environment
- Conserve and where appropriate enhance England's heritage assets
- Contribute to our knowledge and understanding of our past

Having considered the consultation document, we believe that there should be further careful consideration about how these objectives are approached and achieved. In general we support the detailed and thought provoking consultation response produced by the Institute of Historic Buildings Conservation (IHBC) which highlights the need for further development of the document before it is finalised.

In particular we recognise that the final drafting of PPS15 should take into consideration the recommendations and amendments made in the IHBC response to:

1. maintain a balanced approach to conservation of the historic environment
2. ensure that conservation is undertaken by those with the specialist skills and knowledge to carry out the work
3. ensure that any development involving historic is appropriate for the area and makes best use of the asset

In addition to the CIOB endorsement of the IHBC response, we are keen to be involved in discussions about further development of PPS15 and are well represented by the Faculty of Conservation, Maintenance and Refurbishment with specialists in this field.

I very much look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

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