

# INSTITUTE OF HISTORIC BUILDING CONSERVATION

## Consultation response from on-line form

Consultation: Protecting Community Assets (Wales)

Response date: 11 September 2015

Question 1 – Do you feel the definition of Assets of Community Value contained in the Localism Act 2011 is appropriate for use in relation to protecting assets in Wales? **No**

Please say why you have answered this way.

**We agree with the Consultation that there may be a case for a tailored Welsh definition.**

Question 2 – Please give your views on the following three questions

1 - Should Community Assets registers be administered at a National level or by Local Authorities? **National**

2 - Should communities have power to initiate asset transfer from Public Sector Bodies? **Yes**

3 - Should communities have greater opportunity than in England to bid and purchase privately owned community assets when they are put up for sale ("first refusal")? **Yes**

Question 3 – Which is your preferred option for the development of an Assets of Community Value Model in Wales? **C**

In relation to your responses for Questions 2 and 3 please say why you have answered this way.

**We think there is a case for a National register of assets. This would provide a standard approach and a one-stop-shop, avoiding in particular a variable standard of service delivery because of local financial constraints. We think that the scheme in England can be viewed as having insufficient scope and robustness. A Welsh dimension would be desirable. The option to be avoided is 3A which would not deliver the requirements of the Act.**

Question 4 – What issues related to resources (including costs and community support) do you feel are most important in protecting community assets?

**The requirements for registration should not be so open as to allow wildly speculative proposals. There should be a requirement for applications to set out how it is envisaged that the community asset would be protected in practice were the opportunity to arise.**

Question 5 – Do you have any further comments or queries related to this consultation? If so, please use this space to report them. **No**

JC  
11/09/15