

Gloucester City Council

Meeting:	Cabinet	Date:	15 June 2022
Subject:	Adoption of a Local List of Heritage Assets for Gloucester		
Report Of:	Leader of the Council		
Wards Affected:	All wards		
Key Decision:	No	Budget/Policy Framework:	No
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Appendices:	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Local List Selection Criteria2. Draft Local List for Gloucester (Emerging List)3. Consultation Response Report on Draft Local List4. FAQs to owners regarding the Local List		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1.0 Purpose of Report

1.1 The purpose of the report is to adopt a Local List of heritage assets for Gloucester, which is presented at Appendix 2 via cabinet report. This is a proactive means of giving visibility to locally important heritage and community assets and will support the Council's Planning officers in making informed decisions in relation to development proposals.

2.0 Recommendations

2.1 Cabinet is asked to **RESOLVE** that:

- (1) the proposed Local List of heritage assets at Appendix 2 be formally adopted;
- (2) authority be delegated to the Head of Place, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to revise the list on an annual basis and;
- (3) authority be delegated to the Head of Place, in consultation with the Leader of the Council, to make in year additions.

3.0 Background and Key Issues

3.1 Cabinet received a report November 2019 proposing the creation of a Local List of heritage assets. Cabinet resolved to:

- 3.1.1 the principle of preparing, consulting and adopting a list of locally important heritage assets for Gloucester City (The 'Local List') be approved

- 3.1.2 the local list selection criteria that has been consulted upon and included in Appendix 2 of the November 2019 report be used for the identification of such assets, be approved.
- 3.1.3 a panel of experts be established to use the adopted selection criteria to make recommendations on whether to add buildings, structures or other features to the local list, and to authorise amendments, additions and deletions, as required and terms of reference will be established. The result of the panel meeting will be used as the basis for a draft list to be formally consulted upon and for a Cabinet report to be presented on these findings for formal adoption.
- 3.2 The Local List identifies those undesignated heritage assets, which have special local architectural or historic interest and contribute to the character of Gloucester. A Local List provides information on the location of these assets and what it is about them that is significant. Historic England encourages local authorities to produce a list of local heritage assets, and to adopt planning policies to protect them or recognise their significance.
- 3.3 The criteria that has been employed for the nomination and selection of assets to the list is presented at Appendix 1.
- 3.4 The Local List is an evolving tool that will be updated each year once adopted by the council to ensure that it is kept up to date. Locally listed heritage assets still have their permitted development rights, so can be altered. Inclusion within the list is not intended to prevent or delay development. However, assets within the list must be given due consideration in the planning process under the National Planning Policy Framework.
- 3.5 The Council bid successfully for funding from Historic England in 2021 to prepare a Local List and has since employed a Heritage Engagement Officer to research and compile a relevant list. Her work has involved extensive desk-based research to identify assets within the city that have architectural, historic or community value but have not been deemed worthy of a national listing to date. The Officer has also assembled a group of volunteers from across the city to uncover and present assets.
- 3.6 A Local List Nomination Panel was assembled comprising informed individuals and relevant organisations in Gloucester within the heritage and built environment sector, including: Cllr Dawn Melvin, the Principal Conservation Officer, the City Archaeologist, representation from the Gloucester Civic Trust and Heritage Forum and volunteers from across the city. The Panel has met to date on four occasions and has considered each of the assets proposed for inclusion.
- 3.7 Over 200 nominations have been assessed to date according to the selection criteria and, of that number, over 120 have been recommended by the nomination panel. A final list for 2022 will be completed and added to the Heritage and Environment Record (HER). All wards will have had nominations assessed by June 2022. As this is after Cabinet has been asked to adopt the list, and depending on the volume received, the Portfolio Holder will be asked to review the list with a view to adding any that are subsequently received.

- 3.8 The Local List is supported by policies SD8 of the Gloucester, Cheltenham and Tewkesbury Joint Core Strategy (2017), and Gloucester's Heritage Strategy 2019 - 2029.
- 3.9 The public consultation ran for 9 weeks [starting Friday 11 March 2022 – Tuesday 24 May 2022](#). Individual notification was sent to over 350 owners of assets proposed to be included on the list. In addition, the list was promoted widely across the city and social media. Consultation response report is provided in Appendix 3. The FAQs presented to owners is presented in Appendix 4.
- 3.10 The Local List of assets is presented in Appendix 2.

4.0 Social Value Considerations

- 4.1 The social value of the local list has been identified through the following:
- 4.1.1 The multidisciplinary decision-making panel from a variety of backgrounds and interests
 - 4.1.2 Volunteers who have surveyed wards in the creation of the local heritage list. The involvement of the HER and the Know your Place website in holding/recording the local list deeply involved in community engagement
 - 4.1.3 When local people nominate heritage assets of local importance, they can develop a sense of pride of place and belonging to the city

5.0 Environmental Implications

- 5.1 The adoption of the Local List would enhance the visibility and recognition of heritage and community assets and give a degree of protection to them within the planning process. The adopted list will be scrutinised by Historic England to identify those properties that may be considered worthy of a statutory, national listing.

6.0 Alternative Options Considered

- 6.1 None

7.0 Reasons for Recommendations

- 7.1 To strengthen the visibility and protection of assets within the city that are of heritage or historic value, and to enable an annual review of the list to be carried out by the Council.

8.0 Future Work and Conclusions

- 8.1 Following the adoption of the Local List the assets will be entered on to the Historic Environment Record. The nomination of further assets from outstanding wards will

continue. The Heritage Engagement Officer is employed within the Council until the end of June 2022 to complete this work. Other future work will include:

8.2.1 Consideration given to the designation of new conservation areas or the potential to extend conservation area boundaries

8.2.2 Heritage assets identified through the local list process that may have national importance can be nominated to Historic England for statutory listing.

8.2.3 Local List layer to be created within the HER and Know your Place website

The adoption of the Local List for Gloucester values and protects heritage and historic assets. The engagement of volunteers in the nomination and selection of the list has strengthened the Council's involvement in heritage throughout the city and working through the community.

9.0 Financial Implications

9.1 The Council received funding from Historic England which was used to appoint a Heritage Engagement Officer who compiled the Local List. No additional budget implications are anticipated over and above the central government funding to complete this project.

(Financial Services have been consulted in the preparation of this report)

10.0 Legal Implications

10.1 Paragraph 203 of the National Planning Policy Framework provides that the effect of an application on the significance of a non-designated heritage asset should be taken into account in determining the application and that in weighing applications that directly or indirectly affect non-designated heritage assets, a balanced judgement will be required having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset.

10.2 Non-designated heritage assets can be identified in a number of ways: local heritage lists; local plans; neighbourhood plans; conservation area appraisal and review; and decision making on planning applications.

10.3 The Planning Practice Guidance in respect of the Historic Environment advises that irrespective of how they are identified, it is important that the decisions to identify as non-designated heritage assets are based on sound evidence. Further that clear and up to date information on non-designated heritage assets should be accessible to the public and that it can be helpful if local planning authorities keep a local list of non-designated heritage assets.

10.4 A local heritage list is unlikely to be definitive, in order to maintain a local heritage list's value and relevance, local heritage lists benefit both from periodic on on-going reviews, including in response to further nominations or identification through the decision making process for planning applications and it is recommended that there are mechanisms in place to address such reviews.

(One Legal have been consulted in the preparation of this report)

11.0 Risk & Opportunity Management Implications

11.1

Risks	Opportunities
<p>Not all areas of Gloucester represented</p> <p>Mitigation: Following the adoption of the Local List it is likely that further nominations will be sent to the Council. These will be assessed by Officers and the Portfolio Holder will be invited to add them to the list if appropriate.</p>	<p>Opportunity to canvass underrepresented areas of Gloucester</p>
<p>Unknown histories of locally important heritage assets may go amiss</p> <p>Mitigation: Details of all assets will be permanently recorded on the national Heritage Environment Record.</p>	<p>Opportunity to work with partner organisations and volunteers from within the community to canvas a diverse range of nominations from a variety of interest groups and viewpoints</p>
<p>Local list may have little effect on the planning process</p> <p>Mitigation: Inclusion on the list will be a material consideration for Planning Officers when considering development that impacts the asset.</p>	<p>Opportunity to raise awareness of the breadth and depth of Gloucester's heritage and to protect those assets from inappropriate development.</p>
<p>Owners and residents of Locally listed sites may not wish for the heritage assets to be locally listed</p> <p>Mitigation: all property owners have been informed of the intention to include their asset on the list. The inclusion relates to the asset per se and not the ownership. If an owner is adamant in not wishing their property to be included, it will be removed following consultation with the Portfolio Holder.</p>	

12.0 People Impact Assessment (PIA) and Safeguarding:

12.1 It has been identified that nominations for the local list can provide an opportunity for local people to nominate locally important heritage assets of importance to them so long as they satisfy the selection criteria. The local list panel comprises of a multidisciplinary, group with diverse backgrounds and interests which has enriched the creation of a local list.

12.2 The PIA Screening Stage was completed and did not identify any potential or actual negative impact; therefore, a full PIA was not required.

13.0 Community Safety Implications

13.1 All volunteers have been sufficiently informed and/or supervised to support the delivery of the local heritage list. Safeguarding policy has been followed in working with volunteers for the delivery of the Local List

14.0 Staffing & Trade Union Implications

14.1 None

Background Documents:

1. [Local List Selection Criteria for Gloucester City Council](#)
2. [Heritage Strategy 2019-2029](#)
3. [Joint Core Strategy](#)
4. Draft Local List for Gloucester (Emerging List)
5. Consultation Response Report - Local List
6. FAQs for Owners Regarding the Local List