



Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council

Forward timetable of consultation and decision making

Executive 24 September 2025

Wards affected: All Wards

Heritage Strategy 2025-2029

Report of Director (Community & Development Services)

1. Purpose of report

- 1.1 To inform the Executive of the drafting of the Heritage Strategy 2025 – 2029 and accompanying Background and Action Plan document.

2. Recommendation

- 2.1 That Executive endorse the Heritage Strategy and accompanying Background and Action Plan document to guide conservation and heritage activities in the borough over the next five years.

3. Background to the report

- 3.1 The borough has a unique and distinctive heritage which is required to be preserved and enhanced for present and future generations by statute and national policy. The Borough Council require an overarching strategy to achieve this so the purpose of the Heritage Strategy 2025 - 2029 is to guide conservation and heritage activities in the borough over the next five years. This is a refreshed version of the Councils 2018 - 2023 Heritage Strategy.
- 3.2 The historic environment is a valuable asset which contributes to broader strategic objectives including economic development, urban and rural regeneration, culture and tourism, leisure and recreation, good design and town planning, development of skills and education, addressing climate change and achieving sustainable development. The Heritage Strategy aims to help define, reinforce and bring these diverse aspects together and to complement mutual objectives within existing Council strategies including the:
- Corporate Plan

- Climate Change and Biodiversity Strategy
- Culture Strategy
- Economic Regeneration Strategy
- Hinckley Town Centre Strategic Vision
- Tourism Strategy

- 3.3 The Heritage Strategy provides a vision, key aims and objectives for the borough's heritage. It is supported by a detailed Background and Action Plan document which reviews the national and local heritage context, summarises key issues and challenges for the heritage sector and service delivery before setting out detailed actions and initiatives to achieve the aims and objectives of the strategy. Successful delivery and lessons learned from initiatives identified within the Council first Heritage Strategy 2018 – 2023 have been considered in the preparation of this refreshed version of the Strategy.
- 3.4 Agreement was provided by SLT and Executive Leads for public consultation of a draft version of the Heritage Strategy and Background and Action Plan documents. The views from national and local heritage organisations, statutory and relevant stakeholders, borough residents, borough council members and departments were sought during the consultation period of 16 June and 25 July 2025.
- 3.5 Public consultation on the Strategy was focused on the following questions:
- Question 1. What do you consider to be Hinckley and Bosworth's heritage?
 - Question 2. What aspects of the borough's heritage do you value, care for and enjoy?
 - Question 3. Are there any themes of the borough's heritage you would like to highlight?
 - Question 4. What do you consider to be the issues affecting the heritage of the borough?
 - Question 5. How could the borough's heritage be better managed and enhanced?
 - Question 6. Do you have any comments on the proposed vision, strategic aims and objectives of the Heritage Strategy?
 - Question 7. Do you have any general comments on the proposed Heritage Strategy and Action Plan documents?
- 3.6 Consultation comments received are summarised in Appendix 1 of the Background and Action Plan document. Relevant officer responses and how the comments have been incorporated within the final version of the Strategy and Action Plan are also identified. The vast majority of the consultation comments received were of a positive nature and reinforced the proposed content of the Strategy and Action Plan.
- 4. Exemptions in accordance with the Access to Information procedure rules**

4.1 This report is to be taken in open session.

5. Financial implications [CS]

5.1 On page 23 of the Background and Action Plan document there is an option to increase the Environmental Improvement Programme budget. Any such increase would require approval in accordance with financial procedure rules.

5.2 Should additional funding be required for projects and initiatives identified within the Action Plan approval will need to be sought in accordance with financial procedure rules.

6. Legal implications [SN]

6.1 None raised directly by this report. However, the legal implications for individual projects and initiatives outlined in the Action Plan will be considered as they progress.

7. Corporate Plan implications

7.1 The Strategy would contribute to the following priorities of the Council:

- Places - Creating clean and attractive places to live and work
- Prosperity- Encouraging growth, attracting businesses, improving skills and supporting regeneration.

7.2 The Council is committed to refreshing the Heritage Strategy under the Prosperity theme of the Corporate Plan.

8. Consultation

8.1 A summary of the consultation undertaken on the Strategy and Action Plan document is included within section 3.4 – 3.6 of this report.

9. Risk implications

9.1 It is the council's policy to proactively identify and manage significant risks which may prevent delivery of business objectives.

9.2 It is not possible to eliminate or manage all risks all of the time and risks will remain which have not been identified. However, it is the officer's opinion based on the information available, that the significant risks associated with this decision / project have been identified, assessed and that controls are in place to manage them effectively.

9.3 The following significant risks associated with this report / decisions were identified from this assessment:

Management of significant (Net Red) risks		
Risk description	Mitigating actions	Owner
None		

10. Knowing your community – equality and rural implications

- 10.1 Projects suggested in the Action Plan generally have a good spread over the whole of the borough and this includes the rural area.
- 10.2 It is considered that this report will not have any effect on equality for any of the protected characteristics and therefore no further analysis or action is necessary.

11. Climate implications

- 11.1 A key objective of the Strategy is to address the wider challenges posed to the historic environment by climate change with a number of potential projects and initiatives identified within the Action Plan to meet this objective.

12. Corporate implications

- 12.1 By submitting this report, the report author has taken the following into account:
- Community safety implications- none directly arising from this report
 - Environmental implications- the Strategy seeks to protect and enhance the borough's heritage and historic environment
 - ICT implications- none directly arising from this report, although some ICT support may be required for implementation of projects e.g. website development
 - Asset management implications- none directly arising from this report, although initiatives are proposed in the Action Plan regarding implementing energy efficiency improvements to Council owned heritage assets
 - Procurement implications- none directly arising from this report
 - Human resources implications- none directly arising from this report
 - Planning implications- planning permissions will be sought where required for any projects
 - Data protection implications- none directly arising from this report
 - Voluntary sector- assistance and partnerships will be sought from the voluntary sector to allow for development and delivery of projects and initiatives

Background papers: Heritage Strategy 2025 – 2029
Heritage Strategy Background and Action Plan 2025 - 2029

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