

SP12 Heritage

Distinctive elements of Ryedale's historic environment will be conserved and where appropriate, enhanced. The potential of heritage assets to contribute towards the economy, tourism, education and community identity will be exploited including:

- The nationally significant prehistoric archaeological landscapes of the Yorkshire Wolds and the Vale of Pickering
- The individual and distinctive character and appearance of Ryedale's Market Towns and villages
- Large country houses and associated estates and estate villages, with Castle Howard being of international importance
- The unique distribution of Saxon churches on the fringe of the Vale of Pickering and the North York Moors, including Kirkdale and Stonegrave Minsters
- Victorian churches throughout the Yorkshire Wolds
- Medieval features including relatively large numbers of deserted medieval villages, moated manorial sites and granges, such as Kirkham Priory and notable castle sites, including Sheriff Hutton and Bossall Hall, Pickering and Helmsley
- The network of historic field systems across the District and in particular, the historic field patterns around Pickering and other settlements on the northern side of the Vale of Pickering
- The Roman Derwentio site at Malton

To assist in protecting the District's historic assets and features, the Council will:

- Encourage the sensitive re-use and adaptation of historic buildings and will, where appropriate, support flexible solutions to the re-use of those historic buildings identified as at risk where this would remove a building from English Heritage's At Risk Register or local records of buildings at risk.
- Seek to ensure the sensitive expansion, growth and land use change in and around the Market Towns and villages, safeguarding elements of the historic character and value within their built up areas, including Visually Important Undeveloped Areas*, as well as surrounding historic landscape character and setting of individual settlements
- Consider ways in which planning obligations can be used in conjunction with the allocation of sites at the Service Villages in the Vale of Pickering to secure increased protection, management and/or understanding of archaeological assets
- Work with North Yorkshire County Highways, Town and Parish Councils to provide highway improvements and street furniture that are appropriate to the historic context of individual towns and villages
- Work with partners and landowners to encourage sensitive land management in the Vale of Pickering and the Wolds
- Work with and support local estates to identify appropriate ways in which to manage their historic landscapes, features and buildings
- Support, in principle, the small scale extraction of local building stone that would enable the repair and restoration of high grade or recognised heritage assets and features

- Work with local communities to identify local features of historic interest and value for example through Parish Plans and Village Design Statements
- Support new development proposals aimed at educating and raising awareness of Ryedale’s historic environment

Designated historic assets and their settings, including Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas, Scheduled Monuments and Registered Parks and Gardens will be conserved and where appropriate, enhanced. Development proposals which would result in substantial harm to or total loss of the significance of a designated heritage asset or to the archaeological significance of the Vale of Pickering will be resisted unless wholly exceptional circumstances can be demonstrated. Proposals which would result in less substantial harm will only be agreed where the public benefit of the proposal is considered to outweigh the harm and the extent of harm to the asset

In considering and negotiating development proposals, the Council will seek to protect other features of local historic value and interest throughout Ryedale having regard to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset

Proposals for Enabling Development necessary to secure the future of a heritage asset which would be otherwise contrary to the policies of this Plan or contrary to national policy will be carefully assessed against the policy statement and guidance provided by English Heritage - Enabling Development and the Conservation of Significant Places. In addition to the criteria embodied within the national statement, in considering the extent to which the benefit of an Enabling Development proposal outweighs a departure from this Plan or national policy, the following local criteria will also be used to inform the decision making process –

- The Enabling Development proposed can be accommodated without material harm to the character of the North York Moors National Park and the Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and landscapes identified as being of local value
- Enabling Development proposed at or within villages is well related to their form, character and landscape setting
- In cases where there is a need to secure the future of multiple heritage assets within a single ownership, that Enabling Development proposals are:
 - Based upon an up-to-date conservation management plan for the assets in their ownership aligned with an up to date business plan
 - Prioritised to address the needs of those assets identified as being at greatest risk unless it can be demonstrated and agreed that the Enabling Development proposal secures the future of a significant asset in conjunction with income generating development that would in turn, support a reduction in conservation deficit
 - Affordable housing contributions will be negotiated as part of residential Enabling Development schemes on sites which would trigger the application of Policy SP3. Consideration will be given to varying the form of contributions sought through Policy SP3 so as not to prejudice the heritage benefits of the Enabling Development proposal

*Visually Important Undeveloped Areas are as defined on the adopted Proposals Map