



HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND | ÀRAINNEACHD EACHDRAIDHEIL ALBA



E: HMEnquires@hes.scot
T: 0131 668 8716

1 June 2016

Dear Colleague

[Replacement of Scottish Historic Environment Policy \(2011\) with Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement](#)

Today we launch a new policy statement from Historic Environment Scotland which replaces Scottish Historic Environment Policy 2011 (SHEP 2011).

The Historic Environment Scotland Policy Statement updates the operational policy that was set out in SHEP 2011 and reflects the legislative changes that were introduced by the Historic Environment Scotland Act 2014 and its attendant secondary legislation. The Act placed the functions of HES in statute and therefore changes the status of the body and its decision-making authority. The policy statement therefore sets out the principles under which Historic Environment Scotland operates and provides a framework that informs the day-to-day work of a range of organisations that have a role and interest in managing the historic environment. The policy statement is a material consideration in the Scottish planning system and will also help guide and inform decision-making for local authorities and others.

This policy statement represents a strengthening of the operational policy and guidance framework which informs our collective management of the historic environment by ensuring the content of the policy statement is up-to-date and fit for purpose.

Scottish Ministers have underlined their support of the historic environment through the establishment of Historic Environment Scotland as our newest Non-departmental Public Body which has been set up to understand, protect and promote Scotland's historic environment. The new body will also lead on enabling and facilitating the delivery of Our Place in Time, Scotland's first ever historic environment strategy. Scottish Ministers are confident that this new arrangement will deliver a better service for the Scottish people, and help to guarantee that our rich heritage is enjoyed for many generations to come.

Historic Environment Scotland – Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh, EH9 1SH
Scottish Charity No. **SC045925**
VAT No. **GB 221 8680 15**



HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND | ÀRAINNEACHD EACHDRAIDHEIL ALBA



Historic Environment Scotland is developing a detailed plan for engaging the sector in a fundamental operational review of how it undertakes its regulatory activities with a view to a longer term amendment or replacement of this policy statement as required. They will be providing further information on this shortly and will commence the process in the summer.

If you have any queries about the above please contact the Heritage Management Directorate in Historic Environment Scotland at (HMEquiries@hes.scot or 0131 668 8716).

Diane McLafferty MBE
Deputy Director
Culture and Historic Environment Division

David Mitchell
Acting Chief Executive
Historic Environment Scotland

DIANE McLAFFERTY MBE
Deputy Director

DAVID MITCHELL
Acting Chief Executive