

<b>Title of Report</b>	<b>LIST OF LOCAL HERITAGE ASSETS: RAILWAY STRUCTURES</b>	
<b>Presented by</b>	Councillor Tony Saffell Planning Portfolio Holder  PH Briefed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
<b>Background Papers</b>	No background papers.	<b>Public Report:</b> Yes
		<b>Key Decision:</b> Yes
<b>Financial Implications</b>	There are no financial implications arising from this report.	
	<b>Signed off by the Section 151 Officer:</b> Yes	
<b>Legal Implications</b>	There are no direct legal implications arising from this report	
	<b>Signed off by the Monitoring Officer:</b> Yes	
<b>Staffing and Corporate Implications</b>	There are no direct staffing implications arising from this report	
	<b>Signed off by the Head of Paid Service:</b> Yes	
<b>Purpose of Report</b>	1. To consider responses to the recent public consultation; and  2.To adopt the revised local list of railway structures.	
<b>Reason for Decision</b>	Adoption of the revised local list of railway structures would support the aims of the Council Delivery Plan 2023-28 relating to planning and regeneration in providing an effective planning service to our communities, including the protection of heritage assets.  This decision is the responsibility of the Cabinet, under Part 2, Section E, paragraph 10.3.6 of the constitution (the adoption of “non-development plan documents”).	
<b>Recommendations</b>	<b>THAT CABINET ADOPTS THE REVISED LIST OF RAILWAY STRUCTURES.</b>	

## **1.0 BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (2024) encourages local planning authorities to adopt lists of local heritage assets. The Council has adopted five thematic lists of local heritage assets. The most recent was a list of recreational buildings.
- 1.2 Officers prepared a draft list of railway structures for the purposes of public consultation, which is attached as Appendix 1 to this report. Officers considered that the structures on the draft list fulfilled the Council's 'criteria for identifying local heritage assets', which were adopted in June 2016.

## **2.0 IMPLICATIONS**

- 2.1 The inclusion of a structure on the list of local heritage assets would be considered if planning permission is sought to develop, alter or extend it. The local planning authority would consider whether any proposal would be sympathetic to the character of the structure, paying particular attention to the proposal's scale, massing and materials.
- 2.2 Some works may be carried out to a structure without the need for planning permission. The inclusion of a structure on the list of local heritage assets would not affect this.

## **3.0 CONSULTATIONS**

- 3.1 Between 31 March and 9 May 2025, the following people and organisations were consulted about the draft list of local heritage assets:
  - Historic England.
  - Relevant Parish and Town Councils.
  - The Joint Council of National Amenity Societies (JCNAS).
  - The County Council's Historic & Natural Environment Team (HNET).
  - Owners and occupiers of structures on the draft list, including Network Rail, Sustrans and the County Council's Department of Highways.

## **4.0 CONSULTATION RESPONSES**

- 4.1 Ten consultation responses were received. Appendix 2 records these consultation responses; it explains how officers have taken the responses into account in preparing a revised list of local heritage assets.
- 4.2 One consultee proposed that the Charnwood Forest Railway viaduct at Grace Dieu should be included in the list. Two consultees supported this proposal; the owner of the viaduct did not. The revised list of local heritage assets includes the viaduct, because of its architectural interest (please refer to appendix two).
- 4.3 The owner of an accommodation overbridge in Breedon on the Hill proposed that the bridge should not be included in the list. The revised list of local heritage assets does not include the bridge, because it is not accessible by the public.
- 4.4 The revised list of railway structures would reflect best practice as set out in Historic England (2016) *Local heritage listing*. The revised list takes appropriate account of the comments received during the public consultation period. It is recommended that Cabinet adopts the revised list of railway structures.

<b>Policies and other considerations, as appropriate</b>	
Council Priorities:	Planning and regeneration
Policy Considerations:	The adopted local plan recognises that the Council has a “key role in the conservation of heritage assets” and that this role includes “adopting a local list” (paragraph 11.12).
Safeguarding:	No considerations made.
Equalities/Diversity:	No considerations made.
Customer Impact:	No direct impact identified.
Economic and Social Impact:	No direct impact identified.
Environment, Climate Change and Zero Carbon:	No direct impact identified.
Consultation/Community/Tenant Engagement:	Please refer to section 3.0 above.
Risks:	<p>If the list is not adopted, then the Council would need to determine on a case-by-case basis whether structures constitute non-designated heritage assets. This approach would not offer a high degree of clarity or certainty.</p> <p>If the list is amended prior to adoption, then it may not reflect best practice or take appropriate account of the consultation responses received.</p>
Officer Contact	James White Senior Conservation Officer <a href="mailto:james.white@nwleicestershire.gov.uk">james.white@nwleicestershire.gov.uk</a>