



ENGLISH HERITAGE

SOUTH EAST

[REDACTED]
Guildford Borough Council
Guildford Museum
Castle Arch
Guildford
GU1 3SX

Our ref: AA050854

Telephone [REDACTED]

09 June 2014

Dear [REDACTED]

re: **Heart of Guildford Project**

Apologies for the delay in writing to you formally regarding the Heart of Guildford project proposals. I have now had the opportunity to consider the implications of these proposals for the Scheduled Monument of Guildford Castle, and also to consult with my colleague [REDACTED] regarding Conservation Area and Listed Building considerations.

The proposals that we discussed are for the erection of an entry kiosk adjacent to The King's Chamber, the installation of a roof over the King's Chamber, the erection of a café in the castle grounds, the undertaking of a community archaeology project and the replacement of the existing 1960s block with a new building. The project will also require various internal works to the museum building.

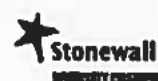
The proposals surrounding the King's Chamber are broadly satisfactory. These would require Scheduled Monument Consent, but I do not anticipate this being refused, provided that suitable safeguards are put in place to protect both the structure of the King's Chamber and below ground archaeology. Of key importance are the design of the entrance kiosk and the detailing both where this interfaces with the King's Chamber and around the proposed roof for the King's Chamber. As only part of this structure is within the Scheduled Monument both Scheduled Monument Consent and Listed Building consent would be required for works to this structure. These works also offer an opportunity to undertake conservation works to the King's Chamber and investment in this would be of great benefit to the monument.

EASTGATE COURT 195-205 HIGH STREET GUILDFORD SURREY GU1 3EH

Telephone 01483 252000 Facsimile 01483 252001

www.english-heritage.org.uk

Please note that English Heritage operates an access to information policy.
Correspondence or information which you send us may therefore become publicly available



The location currently proposed for the café is problematic as it interferes with the relationship between the standing remains of the King's Chamber and the Great Hall. There is also a high likelihood that the area between the ditch and the kiosk would be cluttered. This would have a detrimental impact upon the visual appreciation of the standing elements of the castle and may, therefore, negatively impact upon its significance. I suggested that a more appropriate location may be to the west of the castle ditch and I look forward to seeing revised plan that takes this into consideration.

The replacement of the 1960s building with a modern glass building has implications for the significance of the Conservation Area. Care should be taken in order that the building is sensitive to the character of the Conservation Area and the setting of the Grade II* Listed Building, possibly through the use of a pale coloured stone (such as the clunch of the castle) to frame the structure. Within the Grade II* Listed Building there are a number of issues to resolve regarding access and you should continue to liaise with Samantha over this matter. We would be happy to comment on some indicative elevations or plans prior to submission of the proposals to the HLF.

An application for Scheduled Monument Consent would require detailed design drawings and a design access statement, as well as a heritage statement which assesses the impact of the proposals on the significance of the castle. Particular care attention should be paid to the foundation designs, to ensure that the archaeological impacts of the scheme are minimised. It will also be necessary to include provision for a programme of archaeological work. You suggested at our meeting that this could be undertaken as a community archaeology project and this could work well, provided that there is appropriate professional oversight and the project takes place in accordance with an approved Written Scheme of Investigation and research design.

Overall, the project is likely to be beneficial for the presentation of the monument, providing opportunities to better reveal the illustrative value and enhance the aesthetic and communal values of the designated heritage assets. However, there will necessarily be some negative impacts, for example upon buried archaeology, and in order to be acceptable, these will need to be minimised and appropriate mitigation carried out.

I look forward to seeing this project develop and to meeting with you again in due course to discuss the next stages.

Yours sincerely

[REDACTED]
Assistant Inspector of Ancient Monuments
E-mail: [REDACTED]@english-heritage.org.uk

cc [REDACTED]

EASTGATE COURT 195-205 HIGH STREET GUILDFORD SURREY GU1 3EH

Telephone 01483 252000 Facsimile 01483 252001

www.english-heritage.org.uk

Please note that English Heritage operates an access to information policy.
Correspondence or information which you send us may therefore become publicly available

 Stonewall
DIVERSITY CHAMPION