

HEARING STATEMENT – POLICY S27 – HERITAGE ASSETS

Allerdale Local Plan
Examination

Turley Associates

December 2013

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1 Introduction

- 1.1 This Hearing Statement has been prepared by Turley Associates, on behalf of REG Windpower Limited.
- 1.2 REG has previously submitted written representations on various iterations of the Draft Allerdale Local Plan, most recently in July 2013 and, prior to that, in July 2012.
- 1.3 It now wishes to make representations in respect of how the Council has sought to amend Policy S27 in the Pre-Submission Draft of the Local Plan (October 2013) (CD2).

Policy S27 – Heritage Assets

- 1.4 REG do not consider the policy wording to be unsound. However it is requested that the policy be modified, in particular where reference is made to the setting of heritage assets, in order that the policy as a whole may better reflect national guidance contained within the NPPF.
- 1.5 The NPPF is concerned with the protection of the significance of heritage assets. Whilst the significance of a heritage asset may be derived from its setting (in part or whole) not all parts of an assets setting contribute positively to its significance. Setting is not in itself a heritage asset.
- 1.6 In the circumstances it is considered that Policy S27 departs from national guidance as it appears to award “setting” the same level of importance as “significance” whereas setting is just one factor which contributes to the significance of an asset.
- 1.7 In the circumstances it is considered that the third paragraph of Policy S27 should be amended to read as follows:

Policy S27 (third paragraph)

..In determining applications that could affect the significance (including character, appearance, historic value, value to people and setting) of a heritage asset and/or archaeological asset, the following factors will be taken into account:

- The level of significance of the heritage asset(s) and the reasons for its significance.
- The impact of the proposal on the significance of the heritage asset(s).
- How the significance of the asset could be better revealed.
- Opportunities for mitigating climate change without damaging significance.

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