Dear Ms Gulati-Tyagi,

As the Government’s advisor on the historic environment and as a statutory environmental body for the purposes of SEA Screening, English Heritage welcomes the opportunity to comment on the SEA Screening Report as we are keen to ensure that the protection of the historic environment is fully taken into account at all stages of the planning process. Accordingly, we have reviewed your proposals against the National Planning Policy Framework and its core principle that heritage assets be conserved in a manner appropriate to their significance so they can be enjoyed for their contribution to the quality of life of this and future generations.

In our opinion you would not need an SEA for the Draft Basements Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). This is because we consider that the SPD would not give rise to significant environmental effects that have not already been assessed as part of a higher-level planning document. We look forward to being consulted on these Draft Basements SPD in due course.

Finally, we would stress that this opinion is based on the information provided by you. To avoid any doubt, this does not affect our obligation to provide further advice, and, potentially object to specific proposals where English Heritage considers it appropriate to do so.

Yours sincerely,

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Historic Places Advisor

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