

Appendix A:



Vision for London's Heritage

London's distinctive character and identity are its unique selling point. Our historic places are distinctive, precious and irreplaceable. The world's most successful cities retain and develop what is individual and authentic to them – understanding and building on the character that has been created, layer-on-layer, by each generation. The London Plan is a unique opportunity to make sure that this generation enhances rather than harms or destroys our most important assets and places. Failure to acknowledge the importance of London's unique character and identity when planning for its future will risk London's global standing and cause irreparable loss for its citizens.

As with all parts of London's infrastructure, the historic environment needs care and investment in order to optimise opportunities for growth. **Historic England's vision for London, including its Outer Boroughs, is for it to be a dynamic city that understands and is proud of its rich heritage. It is for London to treat its historic places as the invaluable asset that they are – economically, culturally and socially. This inheritance is used to inform change that creates an inclusive city which addresses the needs of its communities and is one that all can be proud of.** This can be achieved by:

There are over 6000 designated heritage assets in Outer London Boroughs – representing approximately a THIRD of all designated heritage assets in London.

Historic England - Heritage Counts 2014 (please see Appendix B (i) for details)

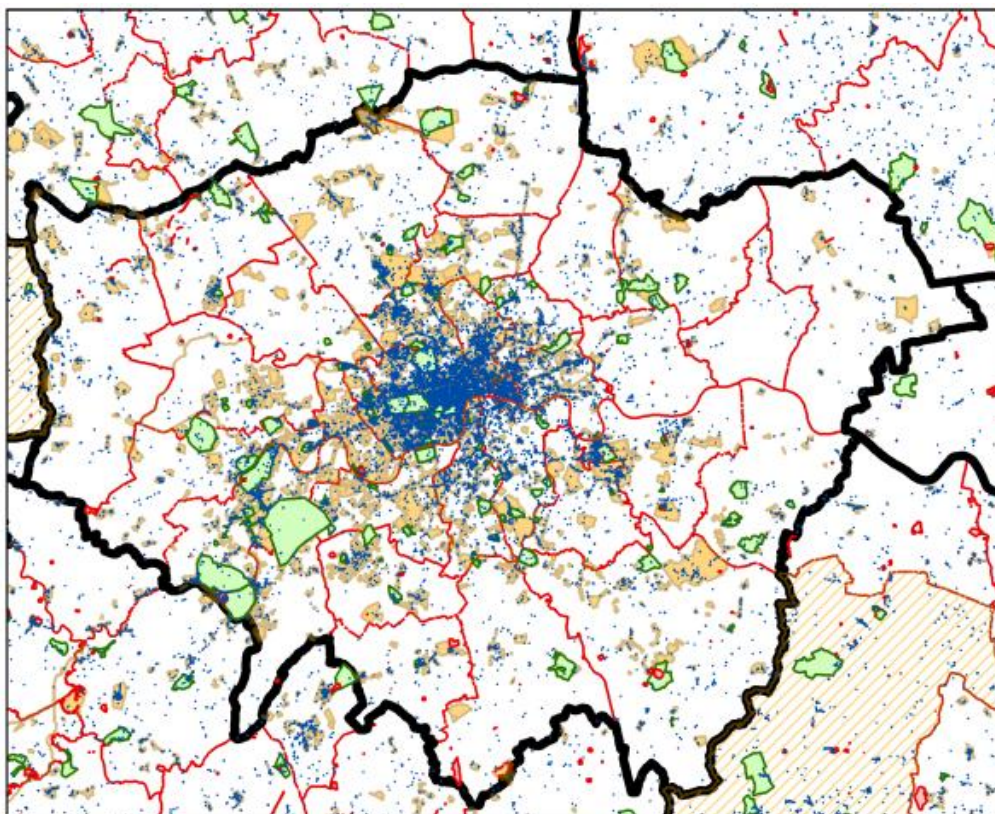
- **Fostering long term thinking** so evident in previous generations that created London's characteristic urban forms, and which continue to be valued by succeeding generations
- Deepening our **understanding of the inherent value of London's diverse and multi-layered character** and using that knowledge before proposing and implementing change, recognising the quality, variety and flexibility of London's inner-city and suburbs, which have sustained the needs and shaped the identity of generations of Londoners
- Developing **creative thinking about the green legacy of the city**, recognising the resilience and embodied value of buildings and places, exploiting heritage as a resource by encouraging repair, imaginative adaptation and refit wherever possible
- Developing a **concept of strategic coherence**, an understanding of the capital as a whole, in order to retain its **legibility and hierarchy** so as to improve it where strategic intervention is

necessary. These strategic interventions, include the Opportunity Areas, town centres and the provision of new infrastructure

- **Nurture the authentic characteristics of different places and communities to** sustain their value. Give equal attention to the ordinary as well as to the extraordinary and value the importance of well-managed, well serviced places, where the old and new are harmoniously balanced.

The forthcoming London Plan is fundamental to achieving these aims as London’s population expands to unprecedented levels. Historic England’s aspiration for the Plan is for it to endorse the strategic value of character and identity that is the result of our shared heritage. These qualities are a vital part of the infrastructure that makes London, including its Outer Boroughs, unique and successful on the global stage. The policies – running throughout the Plan as a positive strategy – should work together to ensure that the best of London’s character and identity is reinforced and enriched as the city grows to meet the economic, social and environmental needs for current and future generations.

London’s Heritage Infrastructure: Designated Heritage Assets



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