



Mr Jack Hanson

Direct Dial: 0121 625 6887

Our ref: PL00710862

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Dear Mr Hanson

**JEWELLERY QUARTER NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN - REGULATION 16
CONSULTATION.**

Thank you for the invitation to comment on the Submission Neighbourhood Plan.

Historic England is supportive of both the content of the document and the vision and goals set out in it.

The Plan demonstrates a wide-ranging knowledge and appreciation of the issues and opportunities that exist in the Jewellery Quarter obviously gleaned from close reciprocal communication with and between Jewellery Quarter residents and businesses. This and the various detailed studies commissioned (eg the “Black Swan Report” 2013 and the “Shaping the Jewellery Quarter Survey 2014) provides a very thorough evidence base and a solid platform for the imaginative policies and proposals put forward.

Evidence from the 2013 “Black Swan Report” made it clear that existing restrictive planning policy that protected industrial use and largely precluded residential conversions had had the unintended consequence that many large (often listed) jewellery quarter buildings were being left vacant and falling into disrepair.

A change in policy direction was, therefore, evidently required and Historic England are supportive of the policy approach now proposed in the Neighbourhood Plan. This seeks to protect the vibrancy and creativity of the jewellery industry within the Creative District through restricting residential development whilst conserving the inherited character of jewellery quarter buildings within the wider Neighbourhood Area by allowing a mix of other uses where appropriate in order to enable and sustain ongoing beneficial use. We are also supportive of policies that seek to conserve significant non designated heritage assets in the Neighbourhood Area beyond the conservation area.

We are pleased to note that the Plan has been produced in conjunction with and is complementary to the Draft Jewellery Quarter Conservation Area Character Appraisal and Management Plan (2021) currently being consulted upon by the City Council.



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In addition the design details and parameters set out in “Design in the Jewellery Quarter” at Appendix A of the Neighbourhood Plan will no doubt prove invaluable as a context and guide and help to ensure future development makes a positive contribution to the character and appearance of the Jewellery Quarter.

Overall Historic England considers that the Jewellery Quarter Neighbourhood Plan is a well-considered, concise and fit for purpose document that constitutes a very good example of community led planning.

Beyond those observations we have no further substantive comments to make.

Yours sincerely,

P. Boland.

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cc:



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