

Rotherham Local Heritage List

Consultation Statement

February 2026

1. Context

1.1 Rotherham Council adopted its Sites and Policies document on the 27th of June, 2018 and has since been implementing its policies and proposals. Policy SP45 (Locally Listed Buildings) seeks to ensure that historic buildings which are not of national significance but contribute to local character and/or have a local historic interest, are protected via the planning process. In order to facilitate the application of this policy, and in line with national policy requirements, the Council is required to compile (and keep up to date) a list of heritage assets of local significance. The Local Plan sets out the criteria for compiling such a list which has been subject to public consultation. Once the local list has been established the heritage significance of buildings or structures on the list would be a material consideration when determining planning applications.

1.2 In 2022, The Department of Levelling Up, Housing & Communities (DLUHC), supported by Historic England, started a campaign to encourage Local Heritage Listing by providing funding to 22 areas of England and Wales to develop new lists or to update existing lists. Given the policy commitment in the Local Plan, the Council agreed to sign up for a joint South Yorkshire bid alongside Barnsley, Doncaster and Sheffield with the South Yorkshire Archaeology Service, as a joint service, leading on the project.

1.3 It has now been agreed by all four of the participating authorities that the Local List initiative will run until the end of March 2027 (with full website support jointly paid for by the four participating authorities). It will then be reviewed at the end of the period.

2. The process of selection and assessment for the list

2.1 The Historic England advice note on Local Heritage Listing (Local Heritage Listing: Identifying and Conserving Local Heritage) outlines a recommended process, which involves:

1) Using seven standard selection criteria to select suitable heritage assets, weighted to reflect the distinct historic character of South Yorkshire.

2) Seeking public nominations for heritage assets that could be suitable for inclusion.

(Nominations made via <https://local-heritagelist.org.uk/southyorkshire>).

3) Carrying out public consultation (over a minimum of four weeks), once sufficient nominations have been received, seeking additional information on the nominated heritage assets. This consultation phase will also allow anyone with any objection to a possible local listing to respond to the proposal.

4) Holding an assessment panel meeting, to consider public nominations received against the selection criteria. N.B. To ensure the process continues to include the community, as well as officers from the four South Yorkshire authorities (Conservation Officers and South Yorkshire Archaeology Service Officers) the panel will include members of relevant groups/societies and other local experts.

5) The panel will make recommendations on inclusion (or exclusion), taking all information received into consideration.

2.2 The initial project has now been completed but the website supporting the project is still open for submission of new candidates for assessment.

2.3 As a result of the various assessment meetings, a total of 18 heritage assets within Rotherham have been deemed to meet the selection criteria so are worthy of adding to the South Yorkshire Local Heritage List. A list of these is shown in Appendix 1.

2.4 Currently, the assessment panel prioritises the assessment of heritage assets outside conservation areas as these have no planning status however all candidates put forward will be assessed in due course.

2.5 It has been agreed among the South Yorkshire assessment panel that the final decision on whether assets should be included on the list for assets in Rotherham is for the local authority, and the Council's Cabinet has agreed that the decision would rest with the Head of Planning and Building Control, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Jobs and the Local Economy.

3. **Consultation on proposal**

3.1 For any local heritage listing initiative to be successful, communal value is a key consideration in the assessment of nominations. As such, engagement and consultation has been undertaken from the outset.

3.2 The selection and assessment of the South Yorkshire list has already built into it a degree of public consultation in that all candidates are put forward by public nomination, with a period of four weeks for comment once nominations have been received. All pertinent information is available on the website. This public consultation phase allows for errors or mistakes in supporting information to be identified. Community input is also sought for

the assessment process, with members of relevant local societies being invited to participate in the assessment panel.

3.3 What was not included in the South Yorkshire process was any degree of consultation with owners of these potential Local List items. It was agreed early on that this would be the responsibility of the individual Local Authorities **after** the assessment had taken place.

3.4 Consultation letters have been sent out to individual addresses of heritage assets for their comments on both factual details included in the building's descriptions and the reasons the Assessment Panel considered them worthy of inclusion on the list. Where ownership was found to be uncertain, the Land Registry records were used to trace the owners of land and buildings.

4. **Consultation Outcome**

4.1 Owners of the heritage assets were given a 3-week period to respond, however, comments received after the deadline are still being accepted and considered.

4.2 From 18 assets being put forward, the Council has received a total of 4 representations. These objections were given via email to which some followed on from initial telephone calls. All response comments have been noted to inform the decision on whether to adopt the assets on the Local Heritage List. The objections were initially concerned that inclusion on the list may severely constrain what they could do with their properties and these concerns have been allayed.

4.3 No comments were given in support of the other 14 assets put forward, however, it was anticipated that only, if any, objections would be received.

4.4 Local Councillors, whose wards had potential Local Listing assets in them, were also consulted, over a 3-week period. From this, no comments were received.

4.5 It is noted that there is future potential for imposing Article 4 Directions on some or all of the Local List assets to, for example, prevent their demolition. However, this is for further consideration should this prove to be necessary and is subject to separate legal processes and subsequent consultation.

4.6 To conclude there was no objection to 14 of the heritage assets being added to the Rotherham Local Heritage List. However, 4 of the assets have written objections to their inclusion, namely:

- Site of Former Hard Mill, Hard Lane, Kiveton Park
- Herringthorpe Hall Farm Cottages

- Quay Furniture warehouse, Bridge Street, Rotherham
- 2-6 High Street, Rotherham Town Centre

4.7 Any objection should be based on heritage consideration, and the decision has been taken that they are given the opportunity to make a heritage case for exclusion. However, it must be noted that whilst objections were received, they were not based on heritage consideration. Therefore, they cannot be assessed further and the assets will be included on the Local Heritage List.

5. **Adopting the Local Heritage List**

5.1 The recommendation is that the 18 heritage assets identified in Appendix 1 as 'Include on the Rotherham Local Heritage List' be adopted.

6. **Benefits of Adopting the Local Heritage List**

The benefits of adopting the South Yorkshire Local Heritage List are that it would bring under planning consideration aspects of the historic environment otherwise overlooked. This would be in line with the aspirations of the heritage policies adopted via the Local Plan and reflect the positive strategy for the historic environment in national policy. Policy SP45 of the Rotherham Local Plan also sets out how planning applications affecting heritage assets of local historic interest will be assessed.