

Decision Maker: **DEVELOPMENT CONTROL COMMITTEE**

Date: **Thursday 21 November 2013**

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: **BECKENHAM CONSERVATION AREAS**

Contact Officer: Robert Buckley, Principal Conservation Officer
Tel: 020 84617532 E-mail: Robert.Buckley@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Chief Planner

Ward: Clock House; Copers Cope; Kelsey and Eden Park;

1. Reason for report

The Beckenham and West Wickham Working Group requested that a study be undertaken into the possibility of conjoining all of the existing conservation areas in Beckenham into one single Beckenham conservation area as shown in Appendix One, Figure 1.

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

Members are recommended to not support the proposed alterations to the Beckenham conservation areas as shown in Appendix One Figure 1 but instead to authorise consultation on a smaller High Street conservation area as shown in Appendix Two.

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing Policy:
 2. BBB Priority: Excellent Council Quality Environment Vibrant, Thriving Town Centres: Further Details
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No Cost
 2. Ongoing costs: N/A
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Regeneration
 4. Total current budget for this head: £313.7k
 5. Source of funding: Existing controllable revenue budget 2013/14
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 1
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: 72
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Non-Statutory - Government Guidance None: Further Details
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable:
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected)NA:
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? No
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments:

Local Ward Councillors, through their involvement on the West Wickham and Beckenham Working Group, are aware that this report was to be undertaken

3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 A Character and Appearance Assessment was undertaken (see Appendix 1). The views of English Heritage were sought and they did not support the proposal. A verbal opinion by Mr David Wood of the Beckenham Civic Society was also given who felt that the proposed conservation area would take in certain areas that lack sufficient interest.
- 3.2 Members are requested to note the contents of the Character and Appearance Assessment and not pursue the proposal further. It is suggested by The Principal Conservation Officer and The Beckenham Civic Society that a smaller High Street based conservation area, stretching from the Beckenham War Memorial to Beckenham Junction Railway Station may be worthy of consideration; a map of this area is attached in Appendix 2. Members are therefore requested to authorise a consultation exercise within this area, the results of which will be reported back to Development Control Committee.

4. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 If a new conservation area designation is adopted it will require a new Conservation Area Statement to be written

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The consultation can be undertaken using existing resources.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Legal, Personnel
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	Character and Appearance Assessment