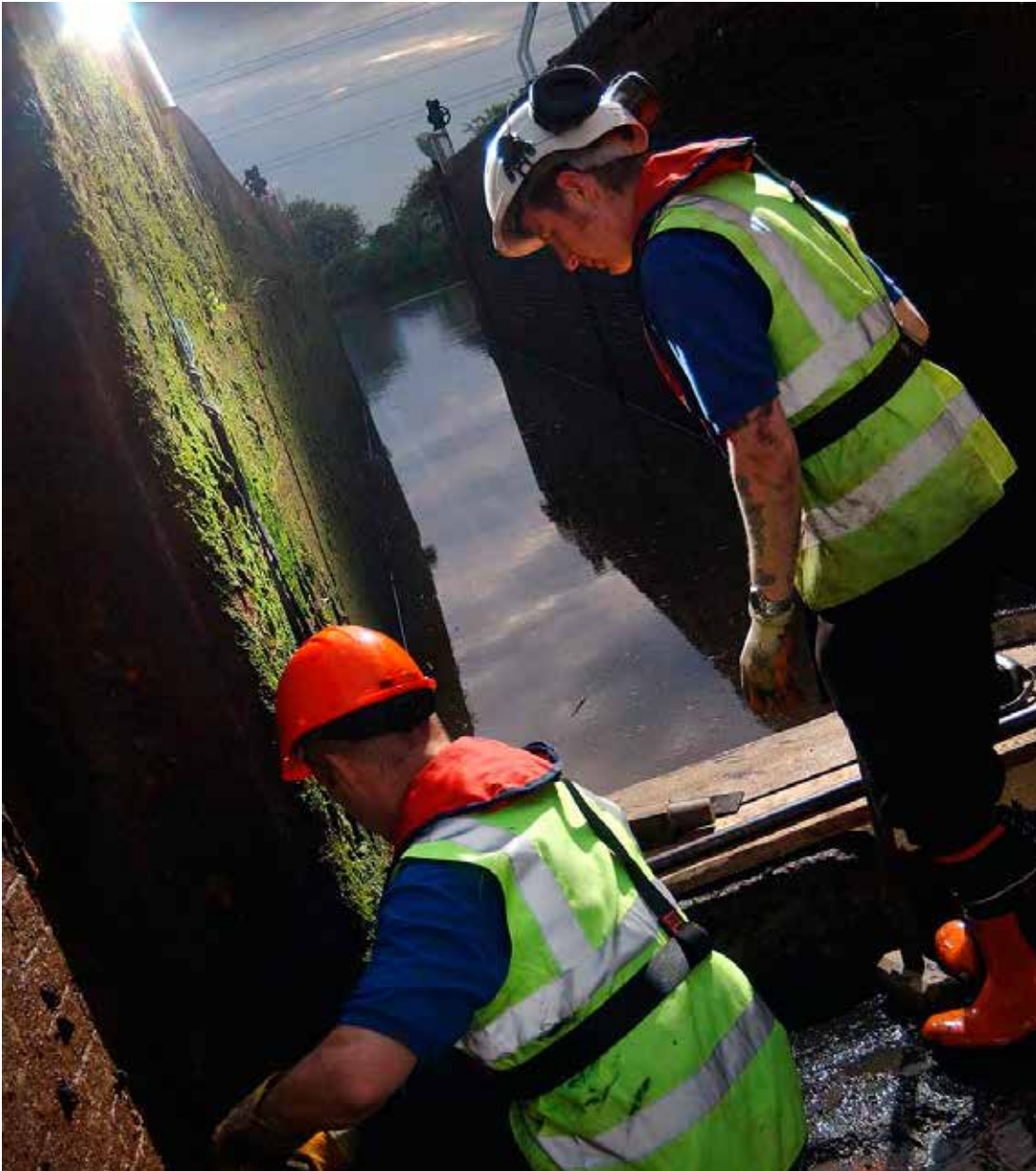




Historic England

# Briefing Note on National Listed Building Consent Orders



# Summary

This document provides information on national Listed Building Consent Orders (LBCO) for local planning authorities, heritage practitioners and owners of listed buildings who may in due course be affected by an LBCO. It does not provide advice on their setting up or operation, as they are the responsibility of the Secretary of State.

This guidance note has been prepared by Sarah Buckingham

First published by Historic England November 2015

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[www.HistoricEngland.org.uk/advice/planning/consents/err-act-2013](http://www.HistoricEngland.org.uk/advice/planning/consents/err-act-2013)

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**Front Cover:**

Repairs to a canal under a Local  
Listed Building Consent Order

## 1 What is a national Listed Building Consent Order (LBCO)?

1.1 Listed Building Consent Orders were introduced by [section 60](#) of the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013. Under this law the Secretary of State is able to grant listed building consent for works of any description for the alteration or extension of listed buildings in England. An LBCO cannot cover demolition. That is, works of demolition which go beyond any works of alteration to a listed building which comprise some element of demolition.

1.2 When considering whether to make a LBCO the Secretary of State is required to have special regard to the desirability of preserving the listed buildings to which the Order applies, their setting or any other features of special architectural or historic interest they possess, and to take account of the relevant policies in the National Planning Policy Framework.

1.3 Before making a LBCO, the Secretary of State must consult Historic England.

1.4 An Order may apply to listed buildings of any description, and would allow works which would otherwise require a series of applications for listed building consent to be dealt with by a single consent mechanism. It would mean that the owner(s) of the listed buildings covered will not need to submit repetitive applications for works already granted consent by the Order, and the Local Planning Authority would need to process fewer listed building consent applications for minor works. Where applied to groups of buildings which sit in more than one local planning authority or are nationally distributed an Order would have the potential to ensure consistency in handling consented work and in ensuring the standards of those works.

1.5 Listed building consent granted by an LBCO may be subject to conditions. These conditions may be the same as any that can be attached to a listed building consent granted under the current system.

## 2 What can an LBCO cover?

2.1 A LBCO is likely to work well to support the management of groups of nationally distributed listed buildings of a similar or standardised type in the single ownership of, for example, a national infrastructure body such as the Canal and River Trust. Where such buildings are likely to be subject to routine and repetitive repair or maintenance the Order would be able to pre-consent these predictable works.

2.2 For example, the Canal and River Trust is currently working with Historic England and Government departments to explore the potential to introduce a LBCO which would grant consent for works of masonry repair to traditional ‘humped-back’ bridges and repairs to standard canal locks in their care.

## 3 How will an LBCO be initiated?

3.1 The pilot with the Canal and River Trust will be used to test the methodology for developing future Orders and further information on this will be available in due course.

3.2 In the interim, if owners of other listed buildings are interested in developing an LBCO for listed buildings in their care, they should contact Historic England to discuss the matter.

## 4 Further Information

4.1 Sections 26C, 26F, 26G and 28A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990, (The 1990 Act) were amended by [Section 60 the Enterprise and Regulatory Reform Act 2013](#) to set out legal details of how LBCOs will be set up and run

4.2 The Canal and River Trust has posted online information on the [Canal and River Trust LBCO Pilot](#).

## Contact Historic England

### East Midlands

2nd Floor, Windsor House  
Cliftonville  
Northampton NN1 5BE  
Tel: 01604 735460  
Email: [eastmidlands@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:eastmidlands@HistoricEngland.org.uk)

### East of England

Brooklands  
24 Brooklands Avenue  
Cambridge CB2 8BU  
Tel: 01223 582700  
Email: [eastofengland@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:eastofengland@HistoricEngland.org.uk)

### Fort Cumberland

Fort Cumberland Road  
Eastney  
Portsmouth PO4 9LD  
Tel: 023 9285 6704  
Email: [fort.cumberland@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:fort.cumberland@HistoricEngland.org.uk)

### London

1 Waterhouse Square  
138-142 Holborn  
London EC1N 2ST  
Tel: 020 7973 3700  
Email: [london@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:london@HistoricEngland.org.uk)

### North East

Bessie Surtees House  
41-44 Sandhill  
Newcastle Upon Tyne  
NE1 3JF  
Tel: 0191 269 1255  
Email: [northeast@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:northeast@HistoricEngland.org.uk)

### North West

Canada House  
3 Chepstow Street  
Manchester M1 5FW  
Tel: 0161 242 1416  
Email: [northwest@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:northwest@HistoricEngland.org.uk)

### South East

Eastgate Court  
195-205 High Street  
Guildford GU1 3EH  
Tel: 01483 252020  
Email: [southeast@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:southeast@HistoricEngland.org.uk)

### South West

29 Queen Square  
Bristol BS1 4ND  
Tel: 0117 975 1308  
Email: [southwest@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:southwest@HistoricEngland.org.uk)

### Swindon

The Engine House  
Fire Fly Avenue  
Swindon SN2 2EH  
Tel: 01793 445050  
Email: [swindon@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:swindon@HistoricEngland.org.uk)

### West Midlands

The Axis  
10 Holliday Street  
Birmingham B1 1TG  
Tel: 0121 625 6870  
Email: [westmidlands@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:westmidlands@HistoricEngland.org.uk)

### Yorkshire

37 Tanner Row  
York YO1 6WP  
Tel: 01904 601948  
Email: [yorkshire@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:yorkshire@HistoricEngland.org.uk)



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[guidance@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:guidance@HistoricEngland.org.uk)  
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HEAG022  
Publication date: v1.0 November 2015 © Historic England  
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