

## **Conservation Area Advisory Committee - Suggested name Change**

### **Discussion Paper October 2021**

#### Background

The Conservation Area Advisory Committee (aka 'CAAC') has been providing advice and guidance in respect of planning and listed building applications in sensitive areas for nearly 3 decades. In that time the name has remained unchanged, although their remit has seemingly widened.

CAAC is a formal Committee of the Council. It appears on the Schedule of Public meetings and it is listed in Part 3 of the Scheme of Delegations of the Council Constitution.

NB) There is a wide number of like-minded committees and groups, providing advice and guidance to local planning authorities in towns and cities across the country. Many of these are known as 'Conservation Area Advisory Committees' (eg. Camden, Hampstead, Reading, Chichester), as well as 'Conservation Advisory Panels' (eg. Bristol, Leicester, York, Worcester) and 'Conservation Advisory Groups' (eg. Brighton, Enfield, Sheffield).

NB) All the above have a very similar remit to Derby's existing CAAC.

#### Reason for review

At the last meeting, held on 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021, the Committee briefly discussed the prospect of changing the name, in order to:

1. Describe the role of the group more clearly
2. Better reflect the range and scope of development projects considered
2. Remove the unfortunate acronym which, when said out loud (as it often is), can be seen to undermine credibility

#### Summary of discussion

Points 1, 2 & 3 above were acknowledged at the September meeting, with most members willing to consider a potential name change.

Possible alternatives tabled included 'Conservation Advisory Panel', 'Heritage Advisory Panel' and 'Heritage Advisory Committee'.

A mix of views were expressed, with a general consensus that the word 'conservation' is important, and probably more inclusive and relevant than 'heritage'. It was also recognised that the word 'advisory' is important in conveying the role and purpose of the group.

#### Proposal

In light of the above, it is suggested that the Committee conclude their discussions and take a vote on the following options:

Change name to **Conservation Advisory Panel (CAP)**

Change name to **Conservation Advisory Group (CAG)**

Leave name as **Conservation Area Advisory Committee (CAAC)**