

Frequently asked questions

What is a locally listed building?

A locally listed building is a building or other structure or site which is deemed to be of local architectural or historic interest and is included on the Local List drawn up by the Council. It is a local designation and completely separate from national listing which is undertaken by the government.

Why have a 'Local List'?

There is a growing emphasis on the need to promote 'local distinctiveness'. Local communities are increasingly being asked to highlight what they consider to be important within their familiar environment. Intensive development pressures have highlighted the need to maintain and protect our local natural and built environment.

Whilst those buildings and structures which are of national importance are identified as listed buildings, we all know of those local buildings which help to define the areas where we live and work. These buildings make a contribution to the character and historical legacy of the areas in which they are located.

Further, they contribute to the local scene or are valued for their local historical associations.

Will buildings on the 'Local List' receive any additional statutory protection?

The local list is a 'non-statutory' designation. Buildings on the list will not be subject to new or additional controls. The existing planning controls over changes of use, external alterations, extensions etc. will continue to apply and will remain unchanged. Where permission is required for works, the council will ensure that any proposal respects the character of the building.

What is the difference between 'statutory' and 'local' lists?

Locally listed buildings are recognised by the council and are not graded. They are not protected by law unless they are in a conservation area.

In contrast, buildings on the statutory list are selected by the Secretary of State with the guidance of English Heritage. They are graded on their importance (Grade I, II* and II). They are protected by law and listed building consent should be sought before extending, altering or demolishing such a property.

If no additional controls are involved what does the local list aim to achieve? Much can be done to help protect the character of locally important buildings by raising their 'profile', without the need for extra controls. The Local List initiative is aimed at:

- Ensuring that these buildings enjoy the recognition which they deserve.
- Raising public awareness of the importance of these buildings to the local environment.
- Encouraging owners to protect and maintain the character of such buildings.

- Ensuring that planners, architects, builders, and others concerned with development proposals are aware of the need to give special attention to such buildings.

Do I need additional consents to carry out works to a locally listed building?

No, there are no additional planning controls; normal planning regulations apply.

What should I do if I believe that a property should be included to the list?

If you believe that a property should be included on the list, please contact the conservation officer (building.conservation@chesterfield.gov.uk).