Heritage Statement

TO	Wiltshire County Council Bath and North East Somerset Council	**FROM**	WSP – Liam Hennessey
DATE	**05 September 2023**	**CONFIDENTIALITY**	**Confidential**
SUBJECT	**Limpley Stoke Viaduct – Masonry Repairs**		

Overview

WSP were appointed by National Highways to carry out the design of a masonry repair scheme for Limpley Stoke Viaduct. The structure passes over Midford Brook which defines the boundary between Wiltshire County Council and Bath and North East Somerset Council. The scheme is limited in its extent given that the only the worse defects will be repaired. Previously available information is summarised as follows:

Listing entry – Historic England - https://historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1215192

Previous Planning Application – Bath and North East Somerset Council: https://www.bathnes.gov.uk/webforms/planning/details.html?refval=13%2F00152%2FLBA

No data was held by Wiltshire County Council, however, their GIS had the following entry.

Table 1 - GIS reference from Wiltshire Planning Explorer.

Listed Buildings: LIMPLEY STOKE VIADUCT

REFVAL	314532
GRADE	II
EHID	1,215,192
NAME	LIMPLEY STOKE VIADUCT
ADDRESS	LIMPLEY STOKE VIADUCT, WARMINSTER ROAD
LINKS	More info
SRC	X

Introduction

Limpley Stoke Viaduct is a Grade II listed road bridge located on the A36 near Bath and is considered to be an important local landmark. The viaduct was constructed in 1836 and is an important example of early road infrastructure. The bridge is 70.4m long, with 11 near semi-circular arch spans of circa 6.3m. The bridge is located within the Monkton Combe Valley surrounded by the local schools playing fields. Works will be limited to the visible areas of masonry.

There are no proposed development impacts on identified heritage assets, built heritage or archaeology. Only isolated repairs are proposed to the arch structure to maintain the structural integrity of the viaduct.

Significance

Limpley Stoke Viaduct is a significant structure due to its historic and architectural importance. The viaduct is an excellent example of Georgian engineering and architecture and is considered to be one of the most

impressive examples of its kind in the region. The viaduct's design and construction are representative of the period in which it was built and demonstrate the skills and expertise of the engineers and craftsmen involved.

The viaduct is also significant due to its location and setting. The viaduct spans Midford Brook and is surrounded by picturesque countryside, making it a popular destination for tourists and locals alike. The viaduct's prominent location and distinctive design make it an important landmark in the area.

Eight Statutory Listed Buildings lie between 591m and 700m radius of the site: Waterhouse, The Old Mill, Dundas Aqueduct, Combe Hill House, gateway and mounting block, Crane at Dundas Wharf, Basset House, Combe Grove Lodge and Chatleigh House. Due to the distance from the site of all these structures there will be no impact arising from the proposed works on the Viaduct.

Proposed Works

The proposed works to Limpley Stoke Viaduct involve the like-for-like masonry repairs of damaged stonework. The repairs will be carried out using traditional materials and techniques in order to maintain the original character and appearance of the viaduct. The works will be carried out by skilled stonemasons who will carefully match the colour, texture, and shape of the existing stonework.

The proposed works will ensure that the structural integrity of the viaduct is maintained while preserving its historic and architectural significance. The works will be carried out in accordance with the principles of conservation and will be sympathetic to the original design and materials used in the construction of the viaduct.

Conclusion

Limpley Stoke Viaduct is an important local landmark that represents an important part of the region's industrial heritage. The proposed like-for-like masonry repairs to the viaduct will ensure that its historic and architectural significance is preserved for future generations. The repairs will be carried out using traditional materials and techniques in order to maintain the original character and appearance of the viaduct, while ensuring that its structural integrity is maintained.

This Statement confirms that other than Limpley Stoke Viaduct the site does not contain any other heritage assets with formal designation as a Scheduled Monument, Listed Buildings, Conservation Area, Registered Historic Park and Garden or Registered Historic Battlefield. Therefore, works within the site will not adversely affect the site or setting of any other such “designated heritage asset’.

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