

## Case information

<b>Reference/Case ID</b>	201506674		
<b>Scheduled Monument</b>	Union Canal, River Almond to River Avon		
<b>Index no</b>	M8954	<b>Grid Ref</b>	NS968757 296800.0000 675700.0000
<b>Date of Application</b>	22 January 2016	<b>Application Received</b>	22 January 2016
<b>Summary of proposed works</b>	Installation of solar LED lights into the Union Canal Towpath		

### 1. Summary recommendation

This report recommends that this consent be granted without conditions.

### 2. Background

The monument is of national importance because, as an integral part of the Union Canal, and an important piece of Georgian civil engineering. Designed by a noted Scots Engineer, Hugh Baird, and built 1818-23, its continuous watercourse was without need of a single lock, and was graced by three major aqueducts inspired by another great Scots civil engineer, Thomas Telford.

The proposed location of the works lies between the B 9080 at the eastern end to Kettilstoun Crescent in the west. The towpath at this location represents the line and property boundary that appears on the 1<sup>st</sup> edition of the OS 6-inch mapping. Other historic mapping indicates that the line of the towpath has not changed since that point.

Pre-application discussions took place with East Team on 15.12.15 regarding the specific requirements of this application. No requirement for a heritage impact assessment was stipulated at this point.

There have been a considerable number of previous consents and planning applications affecting this location since the introduction of our Casework Management System in 2009. One of these (201300907) dealt with upgrading the towpath at the same location as is proposed for the LED lighting.

### **3. Proposals**

---

Consented Works – installation of LED lighting into towpath

### **4. Representations received**

---

No representations were received concerning this case.

### **5. Report**

---

#### **a) Policy considerations**

The application should be viewed with the following legislative and policy considerations in mind:

#### Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979

Part 1 Section 2 - Control of works affecting an ancient monument.

#### The Scottish Historic Environment Policy

3.14. Scottish Ministers include a monument in the Schedule to secure the long-term legal protection of the monument in the national interest, in situ and as far as possible in the state it has come down to us. Scheduled monuments have an intrinsic value as monuments, not related to any concept of active use. It is the value of the monument to the nation's heritage, in terms set out in the section on Scheduling in Chapter 2 of SHEP that is the primary consideration in determining applications for scheduled monument consent.

3.16. Works on scheduled monuments should therefore normally be the minimum level of intervention that is consistent with conserving what is culturally significant in a monument.

3.18. Scheduled monument consent applications must be considered in terms of the cultural significance of the monument and the impact that the proposals would have upon this cultural significance. The more important particular features of the monument are to its cultural significance, the greater will be the case against interventions which modify these features.

#### **b) Assessment**

The proposed works will involve the installation of solar powered LED lights within the towpath at the Union Canal within the urban envelope of Linlithgow. The LED lights will be installed at 5m intervals along the canal except under canal bridges

where no lights are proposed. The LED's have a diameter of 110mm and are 48mm deep and will be excavated within the upgraded sections of towpath to a depth of between circa 150-200mm.

The LED lights have been designed in a manner that minimises any potential impact upon the monument. The works form part of ongoing programme of upgrading of the towpath of the Union Canal and will be read as part of the upgraded towpath. Given the nature of the works and the function of the space I am content that there will be no impact upon the cultural significance of the monument.

**c) Other material considerations, including impact of the works on Protected Species and Places**

None predicted. The site is urbanised, and no Protected Species or Places have been identified in other applications for works at this site.

**d) Conclusion**

It is clear that this intervention should be viewed as works as set out in both Part 1 Section 2 of the AMAAA 1979 and under section 3.4 of SHEP. The works are in the form of an addition to the monument.

I am content that installation of solar powered LED lighting can therefore be considered as the minimum level of intervention that is consistent with conserving what is culturally significant in a monument, and thus compliant with SHEP 3.16. The application contains sufficiently detailed information explaining both the reasoning behind the application and the methodology to be used to be considered to be consistent with SHEP 3.17, 3.20 and 3.22.

The proposed works will have no impact upon the cultural significance of the Union Canal. The works are contained entirely within the towpath surface and will be viewed from that standpoint. This section of the towpath has been upgraded in 2013/ 14 so these works will appear as a modern addition to a modern surface.

I am content that the application contains sufficiently detailed methodologies and justification that a consent may be granted without the requirement for conditions.

## **6. Recommended decision**

---

The works proposed are considered acceptable in meeting the terms of national policy for scheduled monuments, and also accounting for other material considerations.

I recommend consent is **granted without conditions.**

## 7. Conditions

---

None.

## 8. Approval

---

<b>Officer</b>	<b>Rory McDonald</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>11/03/2016</b>
<b>Approved by</b>	<b>George Findlater</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>16/03/2016</b>

### Annex A – list of supporting documents

Linlithgow 1 location plan  
Linlithgow 2 location plan  
Setting out lights document