

# ***Criteria for Listing Consultation on revision to Annex C of PPS6***

***Comments by***

**Northern Ireland Environment Link**

**5 July 2010**

Northern Ireland Environment Link (NIEL) is the networking and forum body for non-statutory organisations concerned with the environment of Northern Ireland. Its 58 Full Members represent over 90,000 individuals, 262 subsidiary groups, have an annual turnover of £70 million and manage over 314,000 acres of land. Members are involved in environmental issues of all types and at all levels from the local community to the global environment. NIEL brings together a wide range of knowledge, experience and expertise which can be used to help develop policy, practice and implementation across a wide range of environmental fields.

These comments are agreed by Members, but some members may be providing independent comments as well. If you would like to discuss these comments further we would be delighted to do so.

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We thank you for the opportunity to contribute to this consultation. NIEL in general supports these proposals for clarification and revision of the criteria to more closely align with those in England and Wales. We feel that the clarifications and revisions proposed will assist in the public understanding and support for the listing process. We believe that the proposals are clear, but would encourage the use of examples to clarify areas which might still cause some confusion in the public mind.

The Ulster Architectural Heritage Society and National Trust, NIEL Full Members, have submitted detailed comments on the questions, and we support these.

In particular we strongly support their suggestion that the listing process and its promotion could be enhanced by a web-based publicly available record of listed buildings, with information available to the extent that it does not compromise confidentiality and safety of owners. This would make the resource more useful, but also help serve to raise the profile of the listed buildings and their need for support and conservation.