

**From:** [Richardson, Celia](#)  
**To:** [Bowdler, Roger](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Cecil Rhodes Plaque  
**Date:** 09 March 2016 09:46:11

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Not trying to influence your decision - but it is very likely to be tricky out there.

Sent from my iPhone

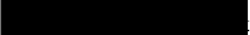
On 9 Mar 2016, at 09:44, Bowdler, Roger  
<[Roger.Bowdler@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:Roger.Bowdler@HistoricEngland.org.uk)> wrote:

But we have talked about this one... and considered it very carefully. It's a bit late for us to row back, methinks. The Oxford view (college, preservation trust, canvassed opinion) is pro-listing.

RB

**DR ROGER BOWDLER**

**DIRECTOR OF LISTING, HISTORIC ENGLAND  
1 WATERHOUSE SQUARE, 138-142 HOLBORN  
LONDON EC1N 2ST**

020 7973 3790 - 

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**From:** Richardson, Celia  
**Sent:** 09 March 2016 09:42  
**To:** Bowdler, Roger  
**Cc:** Wilson, Duncan H; Lamb, Deborah; Grice, Katharine  
**Subject:** Re: Cecil Rhodes Plaque

Hello

Very concerned about how this one could go. We should speak shortly. There's a chance the students who are now moving on from statues to curriculum, will be looking for a national target. We will need to prep this one extremely carefully. It's quite different, I think, from the defence of the already-listed, and could easily draw major fire and questioning of our record generally.

Sent from my iPhone

On 9 Mar 2016, at 09:37, Bowdler, Roger  
<[Roger.Bowdler@HistoricEngland.org.uk](mailto:Roger.Bowdler@HistoricEngland.org.uk)> wrote:

Dear All

The heads-up – literally: we are on the cusp of returning a recommendation to list the portrait plaque to Rhodes. The delay has been caused by extended consultation time being granted. I know we have discussed this one at ET, but given the issue's ability to generate column inches, this

recommendation will still attract attention – and needs careful handling so as not to crash into our diversity work.

Katharine and our S team will be on to this one, but I wanted you each to be aware of the timing of the issue.

RB

DR ROGER BOWDLER

DIRECTOR OF LISTING, HISTORIC  
ENGLAND  
1 WATERHOUSE SQUARE, 138-142  
HOLBORN  
LONDON EC1N 2ST

020 7973 3790 - [REDACTED]