



Department for
Digital, Culture
Media & Sport

HERITAGE STATEMENT: ONE YEAR ON



We can also provide documents to meet the specific requirements for people with disabilities. Please email enquiries@culture.gov.uk

You may re-use this information (excluding logos) free of charge in any format or medium, under the terms of the Open Government Licence. To view this licence, visit <http://www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/> or e-mail: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

Where we have identified any third party copyright information you will need to obtain permission from the copyright holders concerned. Any enquiries regarding this document should be sent to us at enquiries@culture.gov.uk.

This document is also available from our website at www.gov.uk/dcms

Contents

Ministerial Foreword	3
Our Heritage Creates Great Places	5
Our Heritage is for Everyone	13
Our Heritage is International	16
A Sustainable and Resilient Heritage Sector	18

FOREWORD

By Michael Ellis, Minister of Arts, Heritage and Tourism



Heritage and culture are inextricably linked. Our country's heritage is a rich and wide-ranging resource from which we can find inspiration, comfort, and ultimately a grounded sense of identity. From places of industry and trade, to places of music, leisure and worship, our nation's heritage represents an important part of our national story.

It has been almost a year since the Prime Minister offered me the privilege of becoming Minister for Arts, Heritage and Tourism in HM Government. When I took this office, I was determined to meet the wide-ranging challenges which will help to create a heritage sector which is strong, confident, connected and outward-facing. I am thrilled to be a Minister in the department responsible for ensuring that the historic environment of England is properly protected, promoted and conserved for the benefit of present and future generations.

I am always heartened to see the passion and vigour our nation's heritage evokes. Throughout the country, heritage provides an important anchor to the evolution of this country, and a reminder of our past. The historic environment enriches our lives. It is a source of pride and identity; provides a deep emotional connection and is a focus for shared experiences. Across England, the ancient and historic parts of our towns and cities are also their social and economic centres. Historic quarters give places their character and individuality - a focus for community pride, a sense of shared history, and a sense of belonging.

This country has an astonishing variety of buildings and places. They stimulate domestic tourism and attract millions of people to our shores which is vital to our social and economic development. In 2017/18 an estimated 33 million people, that is 73% of all adults, visited a heritage site and 80% of people think that local heritage makes their area a better place to live.¹ We all know that protecting our nation's heritage enhances our wellbeing and quality of life, improving the way places are perceived. This is why I am determined to keep championing the importance of heritage across the Government.

Last year, we launched the first Heritage Statement, setting out our direction and priorities for heritage in the years ahead. It built on and supported the commitments we made in the 2016 Culture White Paper.

The Heritage Statement was created to link Government's vision for heritage to our wider agendas and strategies. From industry to the environment; from regeneration to conservation; and from investment in placemaking to investment in skills, the statement is one of ambition for, and confidence in Britain. One that will help create a global, outward-looking Britain.

¹<https://content.historicengland.org.uk/content/heritage-counts/pub/2017/heritage-and-the-economy-2017.pdf>

Heritage Statement: One Year On

This year, I am delighted to be able to outline the progress we have made since the Heritage Statement was published in 2017. Since the Heritage Statement was published, the heritage sector has gone from strength to strength, and we in Government recognise our shared heritage is the inheritance of all UK subjects. It binds us together and reminds us that we are part of an ongoing story.

This update seeks to outline the progress we have made, and areas where we will seek to deliver further change over the months to come. My own constituency of Northampton North is rich in heritage, and I know first-hand the impact this sector has on jobs, growth and prosperity across our country. I will work hard to ensure that we continue to deliver against the plans as set out last year, and look for innovative solutions to allow the sector to grow and thrive in the future.

OUR HERITAGE CREATES GREAT PLACES

PLACEMAKING

Heritage has a key role to play in placemaking, helping to create quality places that people want to live, work, play and learn in. Across England, the ancient and historic parts of our towns and cities are also their social and economic centres. Historic quarters give places their character and individuality - a focus for community pride, a sense of shared history, and a sense of belonging. Our parks are often now the only green space in our towns and cities to meet, play, relax and come close to nature. Traditional farmed and wooded landscapes, our beautiful coastlines and historic villages are widely appreciated. They each have their own distinctive character and atmosphere that fosters creativity, attracts investment, business and visitors and makes them popular places to live.

This year has seen great strides for place making. The £25 million investment in 34 areas across the UK through the Great Place Scheme is beginning to build the foundations for future change and prosperity. The scheme is funded by Arts Council England and Heritage Lottery Fund across England and by Heritage Lottery Fund across the UK. Great Place schemes have been awarded in 16 places across England. Barnsley and Rotherham, Gloucester, Walthamstow, Old Oak and Park Royal, Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft, Sunderland, Tees Valley, Reading, Coventry, Durham, Kent, Herefordshire, Craven, Derbyshire, Greater Manchester, and Torbay. By capitalising on local physical and cultural assets, inspiration and potential and through new and innovative partnerships the scheme will help put culture at the heart of communities and local policy making.

Alongside this, Historic England's Heritage Action Zones have begun revitalising and energising historic places across the country. Heritage Action Zones are Historic England's flagship project to unlock untapped potential in areas that are rich in uncelebrated heritage; bringing historic places back to life to attract residents, tourists, businesses and investors, and create economic growth in villages, towns and cities across England. The scheme was a commitment in DCMS' Culture White Paper 2016.

Historic England announced the first ten places to receive funding (totalling £6 million) over the next three-to-five years in March 2017. Through the scheme, listed buildings that have been neglected will be restored and brought back into use as housing, retail or community spaces; conservation areas improved to kick start regeneration; and historic sites developed as visitor attractions.

Ensuring the role of heritage is properly understood and integrated in placemaking and economic development across government has been a key objective from the heritage statement.

Eight more Heritage Action Zones were announced last December as part of the second round of the scheme which begun in spring/summer 2018. These were Bishop Auckland, Dewsbury Living Market Town, Greater Grimsby, North Lowestoft Heritage Quarter,

Rochdale Town Centre, Stockton & Darlington Railway, Stoke-on-Trent Ceramic, and Walworth, London. Through this work, historic buildings that have deteriorated through decades of neglect will be restored and put back into use; conservation areas improved to kick-start regeneration and renewal; and unsung places will be recognised and celebrated for their unique character and heritage, helping instil a sense of local pride wherever there's a Heritage Action Zone.

Additionally, we are also working to ensure that we maximise opportunities around culture, arts, heritage, museums, and libraries as part of the Government's Industrial Strategy. Where appropriate, we will also look to work with Mayoral Combined Authorities and Local Enterprise Partnerships as they develop local industrial strategies. An early success of working with places across the country includes the announcement of the Grimsby Heritage Action Zone as part of the Grimsby Phase 1 Town Deal in summer 2018, putting heritage at the heart of regeneration.

We are also working with the heritage and wider cultural sector to better understand the impact of heritage to place making by supporting new research being undertaken by Historic England on the development of economic valuation techniques to better understand the value attributed to our heritage.

CASE STUDY: GRIMSBY TOWN DEAL

The unique and distinctive nature of heritage adds value to places, forming the cornerstone of many successful regeneration projects in towns and cities across England. These projects continue to create significant, tangible benefits for local economies and communities. Heritage regeneration harnesses and celebrates the special qualities of each individual place. The Greater Grimsby Town Deal seeks to test this new approach to economically disadvantaged towns which will explore how government, local councils, Local Enterprise Partnerships and businesses can work together to deliver social and economic growth. The Town Deal is an agreement between Greater Grimsby and DCMS, offering the support and expertise of the department for heritage-led regeneration.

The Greater Grimsby Heritage Action Zone, delivered by Historic England (HE), is at the heart of the Town Deal. The overall package will re-establish the historic and commercial links between the Kasbah, town centre and port. Regeneration and conservation will focus on promoting the sustainable re-use of historic buildings along Alexandra Dock. This includes Victoria Mills, where the council has spent more than £2 million on urgent repairs, with grant-aid funding from Historic England. HE will contribute a further £500,000 over five years towards the partnership scheme to regenerate the Kasbah, alongside £120,000 of revenue funding to get other projects off the ground.

NEW PLACEMARKER SCHEME

Last year on 5 December, DCMS announced plans for Historic England to develop a new scheme to enable communities to identify, permanently mark, and celebrate the spots where history has been made, and the people, places and events that are important to them. Historic England have now completed a detailed feasibility study where existing schemes from around the world were reviewed, and other heritage bodies, community groups, artists, and local authorities were consulted in order to evaluate the potential of the project. The results have shown that Historic England is well placed to develop a nationally recognised scheme which actively celebrates a broad range of histories and would play an important role in placemaking, local identity and culture.

The scheme would:

- Act as an innovative and engaging way of marking historic places and events in England;
- Celebrate national history of local importance in collaboration with communities across the country;
- Tell diverse and inspiring stories by sourcing nominations for places to mark where important history has been made, but is presently unmarked and uncelebrated;
- Include a competition to establish a design for the type of marker that will be used;
- Actively engage communities in partnership working and involve them through outreach projects;
- Provide opportunities for local context specific creativity – engaging with local creatives and historians;
- Be fully branded as a Historic England scheme, sharing their expertise in heritage as an arbiter of history and quality;
- Be scalable and accessible, ensuring we develop a legacy through digital interpretation, sourcing and local skills building.

Recent years have seen campaigns across the country to bring new statues of famous individuals to public spaces, but also to mark out places where history has happened. This scheme would harness this enthusiasm for marking and celebrating local histories and prove a positive addition to the many plaque schemes across the country that most often celebrate the lives or achievements of individual people in history.

The new Placemaker scheme would aim to improve quality of life through helping to engender local pride, identity and inclusion. In the coming months, Historic England will look to run the live trial phase, where a competition will be launched to source a final design for the markers that will be used at each location. Historic England will also begin to source public nominations for places to mark and celebrate across England. Subsequent years would consist of two or three primary markers per year with community collaboration and up to 10 smaller scale projects.

FUTURE FUNDING FOR PLACE

High streets, when they are properly cared for, are the physical expression of a community. They hold stories of how our places were shaped, and what makes them unique. These are the stories of local people – past, present and future. High streets are unique in their ability to express a collective local identity. Working in concert, culture and heritage can catalyse regeneration – giving people access, a sense of connection and a sense of ownership, leading to social cohesion, better quality of life, more confident and more resilient places.

At the Autumn Budget Statement on 29 October 2018, the Chancellor announced that £55 million would be allocated to the heritage sector to regenerate high streets, as part of the £675 million Future High Streets Fund. The £55 million programme will aim to support the economic growth and regeneration of towns and high streets across England by improving their physical and economic condition, as well increasing community and investor confidence, social cohesion and pride in our places.

DCMS will work with Historic England, the government's adviser on the historic environment, and the Architectural Heritage Fund, the leading heritage social investor, alongside other key sector partners to deliver the programme.

The new funding will enable Historic England to enhance their offer of in-depth expertise and support through place based regeneration approaches. These will focus on capital works to restore historic high street properties, together with a supporting public engagement and cultural programme of activities in partnerships with local authorities, owners and local businesses. The Architectural Heritage Fund will focus on supporting community groups, and social and community enterprises, seeking to take ownership of historic properties and build support their capacity and skill building plans. Groups will be encouraged to develop historic properties for community-led schemes, including community-led housing, including retail to residential conversions, and workspaces projects that increase well-being. Together the proposals will enable a holistic approach to heritage-led town centre regeneration, engaging partners across local authorities, community groups and businesses to ensure success.

CASE STUDY: DERBY HIGH STREET HERITAGE

Since 2001, close to £5 million has been invested in Derby's heritage-led regeneration. Two Townscape Heritage Initiatives (THI), partnerships between the Heritage Lottery Fund and Derby City Council, have provided support to twenty-six projects in Derby. Offering grants for historic building repairs, heritage and conservation skills workshops, improved public spaces and educational experiences for young people and local residents, each THI has manifestly improved the heritage offering of the city centre. With close links to the board of the St Peter's Quarter Business Improvement District, the Townscape Heritage Initiatives have enhanced both the historic environment and the business climate of the city centre.

Meanwhile, Historic England's Partnership Scheme in a Conservation Area has, alongside Derby City Council and private property owners, funded ninety-eight projects of repair and reinstatement. Through the restoration and repair of the city centre's historic buildings, Derby has transformed into an award winning retail destination. More than 200 jobs have been secured or created as a direct result of the partnership, with shop vacancy rates significantly reduced and the value of shop fronts improved.

Together, the three initiatives have revitalised Derby's historic city centre as both a conservation area and retail magnet, demonstrating the effectiveness of strategic, heritage-led regeneration.



Copyright Historic England

CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT FUND

The £20m Cultural Development Fund was successfully launched in June 2018 to demonstrate the role place-based investment in culture, heritage and the creative industries can play in unlocking economic growth and productivity. The fund has received great interest from all regions of the country showing the huge ambitions many of our towns and cities have to use cultural and creativity to act as a catalyst to make those place vibrant to live in, work in and visit.

Heritage has been integrated into the objectives for the fund, with Historic England and the Heritage Lottery Fund selected as members of the expert advisory panel helping to assess applications. The application and assessment process is nearing completion and DCMS expect to make announcements on the successful projects in early 2019.

LOCAL PLANNING AUTHORITIES

Local planning authorities play a central role in conserving and enhancing the historic environment. Their specialist advisers have valuable expert knowledge of their local areas. They are best placed to maximise the benefits of the heritage in their local area and respond to the needs of local communities. They are also well placed to galvanise partnerships between local government, local communities, including faith communities, private bodies and owners of heritage sites and historic buildings.

Volunteers are vital to the day-to-day running of many heritage organisations. They dedicate significant amounts of time, knowledge and expertise in a wide range of high-skilled and low-skilled roles. These roles range from fundraising, outreach, events staffing, and specialist conservation work, to governance roles and trusteeship.

Going forward, DCMS will be working closely with Historic England and the private and voluntary sectors to make better use of available resources, whilst also encouraging local planning authorities to invest in their custodians of the historic environment.

HERITAGE AND THE PLANNING SYSTEM

This summer, the Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) undertook extensive consultation with planning stakeholders on the revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), including the heritage sector. Historic England led on this engagement on behalf of the sector, ensuring that heritage issues are reflected in national planning policy. The NPPF was discussed at the inaugural Heritage Council, and members provided MHCLG with comments to feed into the final version, which was published in July 2018. The Planning Practice Guidance that accompanies the NPPF is being revised, and Historic England are again providing input on behalf of the heritage sector.

PRINCIPLES OF SELECTION FOR LISTED BUILDINGS

Following consultation with member organisations of the Historic Environment Forum and the Joint Council of the National Amenity Societies during the Summer, a new iteration of the Secretary of State's *Principles of Selection for Listed Buildings* was published in November (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/principles-of-selection-for-listing-buildings>). Development of revised policies relating to the designation of scheduled monuments and the determination of requests for scheduled monument consent is currently ongoing and DCMS aims to publish these next year.

HERITAGE AT RISK REGISTER

2018's Heritage at Risk Register marks twenty years since the first publication of Historic England's Register of Buildings at Risk across England. It featured 1,930 buildings and structural scheduled monuments that were in desperate need to regeneration. In 2018, over two thirds of buildings and structures on the 1998 Register are now safe. Rescue projects in urban and rural areas across England have ranged from urgent stabilisation and repairs to large-scale conversion and reuse.

The Register of Heritage at Risk has now expanded to include all types of designated heritage, from historic gardens to shipwrecks. The Register is highly dynamic. Hundreds of sites have been added and removed over the last twenty years. 2018 saw an overall decline in the number of entries present on the Register, dropping from last year's total of 5,254 to 5,160. Among the notable success stories in the last twenty years is Derby College's repair and conversion of the Roundhouse, Derby. Tackling heritage at risk can take time, but many of the buildings and structures still on the Register have seen great progress, with solutions in the pipeline and repairs underway. For example, twenty sites from the first Register were saved in 2018, after 20 years at risk. Many former buildings at risk now host successful businesses. Others provide much needed housing, education facilities (as can be seen at the Roundhouse in Derby), or thriving community centres. While some are visitor attractions or venues providing characterful settings for weddings and conferences, others have been put to more unusual uses. Historic buildings offer opportunities for creativity, helping to reinvigorate areas by generating income and affirming a sense of place and local distinctiveness.

HISTORIC ENGLAND TAILORED REVIEW

The Historic England Tailored Review is scheduled for 2019, and will be launched early next year. The Review will provide robust challenge to and assurance on the organisation's role and functions and, where appropriate, make recommendations for improvement. DCMS has been working closely with Historic England and English Heritage as part of the preparation for the scope and launch of the review.

OUR HERITAGE IS FOR EVERYONE

YOUNG PEOPLE AND HERITAGE

In April, the Heritage Lottery Fund's youth advisory group of Heritage Ambassadors (the 'Dustkickers') arranged and led a Heritage Soapbox event to engage young people with heritage and to facilitate discussions about how the heritage sector can better support and collaborate with young people. Key themes included participation, training and early career employment. One of the Dustkickers has now been appointed to Heritage Lottery Fund's South East Committee, which makes funding decisions on grant applications for National Lottery funding across the region. Others will shadow the 12 Kick the Dust projects now in delivery; funded with £10m from the Heritage Lottery Fund, these projects are designed to transform the way heritage organisations engage with young people.

Historic England's Heritage Training Placements, which are specifically aimed at young people from a BAME background, have increased from fourteen placements in 2017 to twenty in 2018. These placements took place across the sector, both in Historic England offices and in other partner organisations such as the National Trust, English Heritage and Historic Houses, with Historic England hoping to expand the scheme further next year.

In April, the Heritage Schools programme was given £1.6m to extend it for another 2 years, which will enable it to reach another 120,000 children from diverse ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds.

More widely, DCMS is working with the National Citizen Service to consider how the programme might be broadened in the future to include a cultural offer, including a heritage element.

CAREERS IN HERITAGE

Historic England has coordinated a Historic Environment Trailblazer with three working groups to develop six apprenticeship standards in archaeology, conservation, and historic environment advice, with almost all standards now approved. End point assessment plans are currently in development.

DCMS has worked with colleagues at the Department for Education on recruitment for the new T-level panel for Cultural Heritage and Visitor Attractions. The heritage sector is now strongly represented on this Panel, including at Chair level with the recent appointment of the Director of the Council for British Archaeology in this role. Historic England have provided advice on T-level industry placements for the heritage sector and are keen to support the development of these, building upon their experience of providing work based training placements and sharing good practice with the sector through guidance, toolkits and workshops.

DIVERSITY OF VISITORS, EMPLOYEES, VOLUNTEERS

The heritage sector is working to increase attendance to historic sites by a wider range of audiences, and increase diversity within its workforce.

The Taking Part Survey results released in August 2018 show an increase in the number of visitors with a longstanding illness or disability to heritage sites. Both English Heritage and the National Trust are doing a lot of work to improve the accessibility of their sites. English Heritage is in the process of updating access statements for its 25 top properties, which give detailed information about each site including distances and how many steps are involved. It is also delivering a number of physical improvements to improve access at its properties, with an increased provision of wheelchairs and mobility scooters, the removal of steps to create step free access where possible, and the installation of lifts in specific properties.

Following the recruitment of an Arts and Culture Disability Champion earlier this year, DCMS is now working with the Department for Work and Pensions on the recruitment of a Heritage and Countryside Disability Champion. Disability champions are appointed to tackle the issues that disabled people face as consumers in different sectors, and to use their influential status as leaders in their sectors to showcase good practice and drive improvements to the accessibility and quality of services in their sectors.

Historic England's 'Another England' campaign, showcased in an exhibiton at the NOW Gallery in Greenwich during Black History month, maps the past 100 years of England's history from a Black and Asian perspective. It explores multiculturalism, identity and sense of place through the display of rare archival imagery and video alongside new artistic commissions. Through community workshops and a crowd-sourced digital map, the project collected stories and memories around six themes: Origins, Home, Work, Culture, Racism & Resistance and Place. Research findings from the campaign will be published on Historic England's website.

The success and growth of the paid Heritage Training Placements offered for young people with BAME or mixed heritage demonstrates an early success of Historic England's Workforce Diversity Strategy. The programme is aimed at recent graduates wanting to gain skills and experience for a career in heritage, and one recent graduate from this programme has now gone on to full time employment at Historic England.

DIGITAL CULTURE

Our #CultureisDigital report was published in March 2018 and is the first Government framework aimed at enhancing our online cultural experience by driving digital skills, increasing digital participation and unlocking the power of data. As well as highlighting some of the UK's exceptional digital heritage projects - like the partnership between [English Heritage](#) and [Google Arts and Culture](#) - the report made a number of commitments aimed at improving the digital capability of the heritage sector, including:

Heritage Statement: One Year On

- A Joint Arts Council England/Heritage Lottery Fund work to create and pilot the use of a Digital Maturity Index and Digital Culture Code for the cultural sector, enabling cultural organisations to understand and benchmark their own digital capability and set plans in place to make improvements;
- A £1m Heritage Lottery Fund campaign which will run over two years, to attract high-quality projects to build the sector's digital capacity, starting in 19/20.

The report itself is a living document and DCMS continues to work with heritage partners as well as the wider tech sector to ensure that the opportunities that digital technology offers are fully realised by the UK cultural sector. For instance, we are encouraging high quality digital bids to the UK City of Culture and Cultural Development Funds and encouraging participants to enhance digital audience engagement in their local place-shaping and growth strategies.

OUR HERITAGE IS INTERNATIONAL

INTERNATIONAL HERITAGE

The Heritage Statement 2017 emphasised the importance of England's World Heritage Sites (WHS) in how our heritage is recognised and valued around the world, and that it is a powerful driver of England's visitor economy.

We will continue to promote our heritage to encourage tourists, students, investors and businesses to come to the UK as well as supporting heritage organisations to work internationally.

We are encouraging closer collaboration between DCMS, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, and the Department for International Development so that we can better protect and share our heritage expertise abroad. The Heritage Council includes representation from the FCO, enabling close alignment of priorities.

We will continue to support the protection and promotion of our World Heritage Sites. The Jodrell Bank Observatory was nominated to become the UK's 32nd World Heritage site in January 2018 and will come to World Heritage Committee for a decision next summer. In May, the Observatory received £16.1m National Lottery and Government funding for a new Discovery Centre in recognition of, and to promote, "Jodrell Bank's world-leading place in the history of astronomy". We have also announced that the Slate Landscape of North West Wales will proceed to nomination in 2020, subject to the approval of a draft nomination.

The Northern World Heritage Collection, led by Cumbria Tourism has been granted funding by the Discover England fund to tell the story of England's culture and heritage through our Northern UNESCO World Heritage sites. This will include the launch of bookable products to the travel trade for both the group and fully independent traveller markets.

The GREAT Britain campaign identifies heritage as one of 12 'unique selling points' of the UK. It is estimated that for every £1 spent on the GREAT campaign, overseas visitors spend £23 in Britain. And in 2017/18, almost three quarters (73%) of adults in England or 33 million adults had visited a heritage site at least once during the year. The existence of cultural and heritage assets creates commercial opportunities, but also adds to the wider value of the local area.

CULTURAL HERITAGE OVERSEAS

The DCMS sponsored £30m Cultural Protection Fund has completed more than a year of operation in twelve countries affected by armed conflict in the Middle East and Africa. The annual report with the foreword by Minister Michael Ellis can be viewed here: https://www.britishcouncil.org/sites/default/files/cultural_protection_fund_annual_report_1718.pdf

Heritage Statement: One Year On

The British Council, the primary delivery partner, has undertaken domestic and international engagements in support of highlighting the Fund's work and to support its case for the Fund's extension beyond 2020.

DCMS works closely with the art market, sector experts and law enforcement agencies to tackle the issue of illicit trafficking of cultural property.

National Museums frequently organise capacity building courses for international heritage experts and conduct digitisation courses for heritage under threat.

A SUSTAINABLE AND RESILIENT HERITAGE SECTOR

THE HERITAGE COUNCIL

The Heritage Council was set up in May 2018. The Council supports Government in the implementation of heritage policy in England and brings the sector's issues, challenges and opportunities to the attention of Government in areas such as planning, environmental protection, social and economic development, education, health and wellbeing.

The Minister for Arts, Heritage and Tourism, Michael Ellis MP, chairs the Council meetings, and core membership of the Heritage Council is made up of: DCMS; DEFRA; MHCLG and HMT along with Historic England; The Heritage Lottery Fund; The Heritage Alliance; Natural England; The National Trust; Historic Houses and the Historic Environment Forum (HEF) who work closely with numerous organisations across the sector.

The aim of the Council is to enable collaboration and the exchange of ideas so that government and the sector can work together to protect and preserve Britain's heritage for future generations.

The inaugural meeting took place on 3 May 2018, and the second meeting took place on 14 November 2018. Papers and minutes of all meetings are available on GOV.UK.

EU EXIT

DCMS is fully committed to ensuring heritage and the needs of the sector are considered in the to negotiations to establish a new relationship with the EU, including programme participation and mobility arrangements.

DCMS will ensure that the heritage sector continues to be considered as the Government develops options for future investments, including the design of domestic replacements for EU funding (including Future Agricultural Policy and the UK Shared Prosperity Fund) as well as the development of the future immigration system.

Recognising the depth of the UK-EU relationship, the UK has made a sovereign choice to seek reciprocal mobility arrangements with the EU in a defined number of areas, for example to allow business professionals to move to provide services, or tourists to continue to travel visa-free. This is reflected in the political declaration on our future relationship. The detail will be discussed in the next phase of negotiations.

The Government will publish a White Paper on the future border and immigration system later this year. Following publication, the Home Office will engage extensively with private, public and voluntary sector employers, as well as industry representatives.

RURAL HISTORIC SITES AND LANDSCAPES

DCMS recognises the importance of protecting, conserving and enhancing the rural historic environment.

The historic environment was referenced throughout the Government's 25 Year Environment Plan and it was agreed at the first Heritage Council that, further to this, Defra will engage with the sector to develop a more joined up approach between the management of the natural and historic environment after EU Exit.

Rural heritage formed a key part of the agenda for the first two Heritage Council meetings and will remain a regular, standing item.

The Agriculture Bill which was introduced to the House of Commons on 12 September 2018 and includes a power enabling the giving of financial assistance for or in connection with managing land or water in a way that maintains, restores or enhances cultural or natural heritage. The Bill has just concluded Committee Stage.

DCMS is also working with teams across Defra to ensure that heritage interests are included in various programmes of work emanating from the 25 Year Environment Plan and the need to replace Common Agricultural Policy funding.

SOCIAL INVESTMENT

As part of ongoing work to support those who wish to find new uses for local buildings, the Architectural Heritage Fund this year announced a new partnership fund: The Heritage Impact Fund (HIF). The HIF will provide £7m in social investment funding over a minimum of five years, for the first time bringing together funding from the Heritage Lottery Fund, Historic England, Historic Environment Scotland, the AHF and other investors. The HIF will be managed by the AHF and will offer tailored finance for charities, social enterprises and community businesses across the UK seeking to acquire, reuse or redevelop buildings which are of historic or architectural importance - these may be buildings which are listed, in a conservation area, or may be of special significance to the community. It will also provide assistance to those projects which need additional advice and guidance to support sustainable business change, transition or expansion and will be particularly targeted at applicants who are completing a capital project or are looking to build upon or scale-up their existing enterprise. As well as delivering projects that support the sustainability of historic buildings, the HIF will support organisations that are seeking to deliver demonstrable local economic and community impact; advice from the AHF will assist borrowers with assessing their impact.

AHF will formally launch the HIF in mid-February 2019 when full details will be made available.

CASE STUDY: LISKEARD LIBRARY

Negotiations between the Real Ideas Organisation (RIO) and Cornwall Council, with the aim of transferring the running of the Liskeard Library Service to RIO, have resulted in an Asset Transfer Agreement. The agreement will see RIO delivering a major refurbishment of the building. This will enable the library to carry on providing free community service, as well as additional community services for the local area.

Liskeard Library has suffered from economic problems in recent years. It has taken part in the Mary Portas' pilot scheme, working with 12 towns in England to encourage innovative ways to bring people back into the high street. RIO's vision is for a next generation high street library, one fully fit for the twenty-first century. The project will both breathe new life into this historic building and catalyse regeneration of Liskeard itself. As well as finding a new use for a much loved historic building, Liskeard Library presents an opportunity to provide a range of creative, community and social enterprise facilities on the high street.

The Architectural Heritage Fund provided a Project Development Grant of £30,000, with funding supported by the Department of Digital, Culture, Media and Sport.



LISTED PLACES OF WORSHIP

Funding for the Listed Places of Worship Grant Scheme which makes retrospective grants equal to the amount of VAT paid on repairs, maintenance and alterations to listed buildings in use as places of worship is guaranteed until March 2020.

Listed places of worship will also shortly be invited to apply for funding through the Heritage Lottery Fund's Places of Worship after an expression of interest stage: Inspiring Ideas, a one-off, UK-wide initiative supporting projects exploring new ways of helping places of worship become more resilient and adapt to a challenging and changeable environment.

In line with this drive for resilience, a new funding model proposed by the Taylor Review into the sustainability of English Churches and Cathedrals published last December is currently being piloted in Suffolk and Greater Manchester. The Pilots, to test the recommendations of the Review will run until March 2020. A concurrent evaluation of the effectiveness and impact of the pilot schemes is also underway, and will report its findings in April 2020.

PHILANTHROPY

In the last year, DCMS has also examined ways of supporting heritage organisations to generate income more innovatively through philanthropy. In July, DCMS set up a cross-departmental Philanthropy Roundtable, which brings together philanthropists from sectors from different areas and backgrounds. Going forward, we are committed to building on these Roundtables, holding similar meetings in the future and working on recommendations which are created through the means of this group.

TAX AND FISCAL INCENTIVES

We will continue to keep under review the tax and other financial incentives available for the conservation, repair and maintenance of historic buildings, including those operated as cultural venues and attractions. DCMS is an observer on the heritage sector's tax working group which is exploring opportunities and developing greater evidence for the need for intervention. We will also continue to work closely with the sector to understand the impact of the business rates regime on historic buildings, including from current appeals, working towards the next relisting.

NATIONAL LOTTERY

DCMS is committed to continuing to support the heritage sector through National Lottery funding. Good progress has been made throughout 2018 on implementing the recommendations from the Tailored Review of the Heritage Lottery Fund, with around a third of the recommendations now complete and/or incorporated into Business as Usual. The Heritage Lottery Fund undertook a consultation on their new Strategic Funding Framework in the spring, receiving over 3000 responses, and will launch the new Framework in January 2019 to outline their funding priorities from 2019-2024. DCMS undertook a public consultation over the summer on a set of revised UK-wide and new England-only Policy Directions for Heritage Lottery Fund, and published these revised directions together with Government's response to the consultation in November 2018. Revised Policy Directions for Scotland and Wales are expected to follow in early 2019.

One of the key recommendations of the Mendoza Review of museums, published in late 2017, called for a closer working relationship between DCMS, Arts Council England and the Heritage Lottery Fund, as key funders of the museums sector. Since then, the Heritage Lottery Fund and Arts Council England have published a Memorandum of Understanding and Action Plan to establish regular opportunities to engage more effectively in partnership with each other. Quarterly meetings also now take place between the Chairs and Chief Executives of Heritage Lottery Fund and Arts Council England and the Minister for Arts, Heritage and Tourism, to provide a forum to assess progress and discuss cross-cutting issues.