Historic Environment Forum

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Heritage 2020

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1   Introduction

1.1   The Heritage 2020 Framework sets out priorities for collaborative action, where this will add value to the work of individual organisations, across the historic environment sector in England.

1.2   Each of the five themes of the Framework is supported by a working group, which draws together representatives of organisations from across the historic environment sector. The five working groups are tasked with developing an agenda for their area of activity to support the delivery of the Framework.

1.3   Since the last HEF meeting, the Heritage 2020 HEF subcommittee has brought together the Chairs and Vice Chairs of the five working groups to meet twice to discuss the development of each group's action plan and to identify potential gaps and overlaps.

1.4   This paper presents the priorities identified by each working group and outlines associated actions for 2016-17.

2   Development of action plans

2.1   Heritage 2020 is a unique initiative based on the willingness of the historic environment sector to work together. Its success will be measured by the sector's ability to demonstrate the benefits of joint working and show how collaboration has achieved outcomes that are beyond the reach of individual organisations.

2.2   Each working group has met several times to review the areas that were identified as priorities for sector collaboration in the Heritage 2020 Framework. The work carried out by each group to identify the issues associated with the priorities, to map current activity, and to highlight gaps that could be addressed by the working groups is presented in an 'Activity Log' for each working group (see attached documents).

2.3   From the Activity Log each group has focused on one or more priority area for action in 2016-17 and has started to develop action plans for joint working.

3   **Capacity Building**

3.1   Two priority areas have been identified with associated actions.

3.2   As part of work to address a sustainable model for LPA conservation and archaeology services the group has agreed to develop a short statement that outlines core service provision by Local Authorities with respect to the historic environment. The work will reference existing (similar) work by ALGAO on archaeological services. This activity has been prioritised as something that can underpin future work on quality measures and advocacy. The activity is being taken forward by members of CIfA, IHBC, and RITP working together, with input from ALGAO.

3.3   To take forward a more integrated and focused approach to education, training and continuing development of heritage professionals the group has agreed that a round table event on 'Apprenticeships' take place by the end of 2016. The purpose of the event is to share information about the Apprenticeships across the Historic Environment, Heritage and Landscape sectors, particularly with regard to the new scheme and anticipated future changes. The group will investigate the possibility of sharing the HEF skills mapping exercise at the event. This activity is being led by the Heritage Lottery Fund and Historic England.

3.4   Extensive mapping of other Capacity Building activity has been carried out which the group will continue to monitor.

4   **Constructive Conservation and Sustainable Management**

4.1   The group has reviewed each of the 'priorities for collaborative action' in the Heritage 2020 Framework and has mapped what is already happening and potential working group actions. It has prioritised issues on the grounds of importance, urgency and achievability and has identified two areas that it will address as a matter of priority.

4.2   The transfer of publicly owned heritage assets has been identified as an issue of prime importance under the theme of 'preventing and tackling heritage at risk'. A detailed action plan has been drawn up and the following actions have been identified to take place by April 2017.

Activity	Sector intervention	H2020 group action	Audience/ partners	Lead	Outcome
Sector provides advice and guidance	Scoping the issue	Develop and publish Public Sector Land and Asset Disposals Assessment	Sector	Historic England	Sector is informed of the issue and potential historic environment implications. Working Group can prioritise actions.
	Refreshed guidance for local authorities on managing their heritage	Act as Project Board for updating of *Managing Local*	Local authorities	Historic England	Local authorities have clear guidance on best practice.

	assets.	*Authority Heritage Assets* guidance.			
	Develop targeted support/ guidance for developers on the critical things they need to be aware of/ need help on when taking on publicly-owned heritage assets.	Set up a 'brainstorming' workshop with developers on what the barriers are for them taking on assets.	Development sector	British Property Federation	Sector is able to understand and address barriers for developers to take on public sector heritage assets.
	Increase access to existing advice and guidance for community groups (who often still see taking on heritage assets as a challenge).	Develop a simple postcard based on Pillars of the Community to signpost community groups to advice/ guidance and a communications plan to get the message out more widely.	Community groups; Locality	AHF/ Historic England	Community groups are able to access existing advice/ guidance.

4.3   The issue of "High Streets" under the theme of 'resilience to social and economic forces for change' is the second priority area. Again, a detailed action plan is under development. The actions identified to take place by April 2017 are given below.

Activity	Sector intervention	H2020 group action	Audience/ partners	Lead	Outcomes
Map and fill gaps	*Industry research suggests that talk of decline of high streets is premature, that the pressures on real estate retail were temporary and that the outlook is pretty good. Is this correct?* Map existing work (empty upper floors, impact of piecemeal redevelopment, problem buildings, historic public realm surfaces, new ideas/ creative approaches to regenerating high streets, risk factors that affect the viability of high streets.	Clarify what the group means by 'High Street'. Is it the 'main' street of any historic streets with a primarily commercial function? Carry out a literature review. Carry out a review of online resources and tools. Carry out a review of individuals and organisations actively working on this topic. Carry out a review of examples from outside the UK and from other sectors.		H2020 CCSM group	

The complete Activity Log, which includes the action plans for each of the two priority areas is provided as an attached document.

5   Discovery, Identification and Understanding

5.1   From the group's review of the six 'priority areas for collaboration', 'building stronger bridges with the higher education sector' was agreed as the priority. The

actions associated with this priority area aim to address the issue of stimulating creative partnerships. They include: producing a template that can be used to map partnerships/models of engagement at national level that includes roles, responsibilities and connections to gain an overview of strengths and gaps. This will be complemented by AHRC activity to map the AHRC portfolio in heritage and work by Historic England to produce a 'heat map' of academic partners. The group recognises that mapping all activity is beyond its capacity and so the next phase of activity will involve convincing other organisations to take part.

5.2   Other actions include Historic England working with H2020 members as part of its review of Foresight work; refocusing the foresight work to include looking at risks and opportunities with the aim of obtaining a clear idea of how foresight can make an impact on the heritage research of the future.

5.3   Reviewing Culture White Paper initiatives and the body of work that exists on reaching communities not engaged with heritage and capturing at top level how this work relates to how research is conceptualised.

5.4   The group's full activity log is available for consultation.

6   Helping Things to Happen

6.1   The priority for this group is to achieve a long-term shift to a positive vision for the contribution that heritage makes to post-Brexit Britain.

6.2   The 2016-17 actions associated with this include a review of existing literature and evidence so that it can be better understood and shared. Resource from one of the members of the group has been identified to enable this to be carried out. The literature/evidence review is to be followed by commissioned audience research to create an insight pack.

6.3   Many of the activities for this group have been identified as long-term. The activity log that summarises these is available separately.

7   Public Engagement

7.1   The Public Engagement working group agreed its goal as 'to establish an ethos of cultural entitlement where everyone has a right to understand the value of cultural heritage; has a sense of ownership of cultural assets and advocates a collective responsibility for the cultural landscape. 'As many people as possible involved in heritage'.'

7.2   The group's activity log has been developed and mapped to the Culture White Paper headings to generate four themes of learning, community empowerment, wider participation and inclusion/diversity.

7.3   Priority areas have been identified as volunteering, that is, encouraging a sector wide approach to volunteer development, and evaluation. For the latter several

members of the group have agreed to share their existing frameworks as a move to creating coherent messages around the impact of work.

7.4   The group's next meeting will focus on the themes of inclusion and evaluation and will focus on identifying/developing associated initiatives.

7.5   The group's full activity log, which is still under development, is available as a separate document.

8   Next steps

8.1   A dedicated Heritage 2020 website is under development, due for soft launch at the end of September.

8.2   Subject to HEF's endorsement of the current approach, the website will include information on each group's priorities and their action plans.

8.3   The website will be one of the channels through which the first of the annual 'Heritage 2020 consultations' will take place. The consultation will take the form of a short number of questions asking how the wider community can engage with the priorities established by the working groups. It is intended that indicative findings from the consultation will be presented at Heritage Day, which will also be an opportunity to bring the exercise to the attention of a wider audience and invite their participation.

8.4   The Heritage 2020 project plan makes provision for a Foresight day, to be held in late January/early February.

8.5   The CCSM group has agreed that the theme of 'climate change resilience and energy efficiency' is too broad to be taken forward by the group. It is felt by the group to be an important issue. The possibility of the issue being addressed by the HEF task group on climate change is raised to HEF for consideration.

9   Actions

9.1   HEF members are asked to note and invited to comment on:

- the priorities established by the working groups
- the outline plans for the format of the consultation

9.2   HEF members are asked to agree:

- the topic of 'Diversity' for the Foresight day in early 2017.

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