

Historic Environment Forum

For meeting of 28 February 2018

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 This paper summarises the Heritage 2020 subcommittee meeting of November 23rd, the forthcoming 2018 Heritage 2020 Foresight session, the interim review of Heritage 2020 and funding implications for HEF secretariat and Heritage 2020 project support, and highlights activities from the five working groups.

2. Heritage 2020 HEF subcommittee, 23.11.17

2.1 At the subcommittee meeting of 23 November, the group discussed:

- the potential for the HEF skills subgroups to come under the umbrella of the Heritage 2020 capacity building group in the future, and inviting Duncan McCallum to attend the next Capacity Building group to introduce the work of the HEF standards and guidance group and its alignment to the work of the Capacity Building group.
- the new #HeritageChat and how to maximize awareness of it and participation in it through working group members.
- the wider Heritage 2020 communications framework, including circulation of news through Heritage Update and circulation of news snippets to group members, Heritage Counts and Heritage Day.
- An update on plans for the 2018 Foresight workshop.

2.2 An outstanding issue remains communication with regional HEFs and Mike Heyworth will work with other members of HEF to discuss how best to approach this as agreed at the HEF meeting of 18 May 2017.

3. #HeritageChat

3.1 The Heritage 2020 project plan makes provision for an annual survey consultation to gain sector input to Heritage 2020 priorities and the activities of the working groups. The Heritage 2020 HEF subcommittee proposed, and HEF agreed, that a Twitter Chat should take the place of the annual survey consultation in the Heritage 2020 project plan.

3.2 #HeritageChat is an initiative for the Historic Environment sector that is supported by Heritage 2020. Different organisations from across the sector take turns to lead the chats on topics agreed with Heritage 2020. It is estimated that one in four chats will be led by Heritage 2020, or link directly to the activities of one of the working groups. The Project Officer has prepared Moderator Guidelines that sets out how to run the Twitter Chat and these are shared with the 'host' in advance. A rolling schedule of topics has also been prepared. This has been shared with each of the working groups at their most recent meetings, and is available as a live document in the Heritage 2020 GoogleDrive folder.

3.3 #HeritageChat takes place on the third Thursday of each month, 13.00-14.00. The first four chats have now been held.

November: 'Innovation and Entrepreneurship in the Heritage Sector – are we doing enough?' - led by the Historic Houses Association.

Summary at <https://storify.com/HeritageChat/innovation-and-entrepreneurship>

December: Heritage and its contribution to the economic health of high streets.

(This chat acted as a follow-up to the Constructive Conservation and Sustainable Management's workshop on the same topic (held 6 December)). Summary available at: <https://storify.com/HeritageChat/heritage-and-high-streets-which-way-next>

January: Evaluation – discussing forms of evaluation, guidance available and whether there is the potential to share data or create a shared evidence base. Run by Heritage 2020 and ERS Research & Consultancy.

Summary is available at: <https://storify.com/HeritageChat/evaluation-how-can-the-heritage-sector-better-shar>

February: Diversity in the historic environment sector - as a one-year follow up to the 2017 Foresight workshop. It was run with The Heritage Alliance (@heritage_ngos). <https://storify.com/HeritageChat/diversity-in-heritage>

3.4 To get involved, including suggestions for future topics please see, <http://www.heritage2020.net/get-involved/heritage-chat/>. Follow [@HeritageChat](https://twitter.com/HeritageChat) and use #HeritageChat to take part in the chats.

4. 2018 Foresight session

4.1 The 2018 Foresight session explores 'What's over the digital horizon for heritage?'. The workshop will follow a similar format to the 2017 event. We are delighted that Michael Ellis MP, Minister for the Arts, Heritage and Tourism has agreed to provide the opening address at the workshop and provide strategic context to the day.

4.2 The session will be held on 8 March, 10.00-15.00, in the Conference Hall of Mary Sumner House, Westminster. Invitations to register for the event have been sent to all members of HEF and the Heritage 2020 working groups, as well as people from the wider cultural, arts and technology sectors.

4.3 Attendees will hear 'the art of the possible' from people who have worked with cutting-edge technology to achieve change in their sectors, followed by plenary discussion. Afternoon working groups will be asked to identify and shape a single digital ambition for four themes of: new audiences, skills, re-use of data and conservation management.

4.4 As a Heritage 2020 workshop, participants will be asked to focus on where collaborative working can bring benefit. Attendees will be drawn from the historic environment sector, the wider cultural sector and the technology sector.

4.5 Desired outcomes from the day are:

- Digital experts will inspire participants with the ‘art of the possible’.
- Participants will build connections: with each other, and to relevant strategic agendas.
- A collective sense of the sector’s digital ambitions and where opportunities for collaborative working lie.

5. Heritage 2020 interim review

5.1 The Heritage 2020 project design (for the project running until end of September 2018) makes provision for an interim review, to be carried out in August-September 2018. The interim review is set out in the project design as follows:

Year 3 (Project Officer – 10 days)

5A: The Project Officer will, with the Heritage 2020 Sub Committee (informed by the Working Groups), and using outputs from the 2017-18 sector consultation undertake an overarching ‘interim review’ of the Heritage 2020 framework at the end of Year 3 (Sept 2018).

This should include an assessment of

- sector buy in to the framework and whether this has changed over time
- Initiatives developed by the Working Groups and their impact on collaborative working in the sector
- Lessons learned in the development and implementation of the programme
- Recommendations for changes for the final 2 year period of the framework
- Initial thoughts for the development of any future Plans (post Heritage 2020)
- assessing progress and Heritage 2020 future direction or change

5B: Circulate draft report to HEF, Heritage 2020 Working Groups & Heritage 2020 Sub-Committee for comment

5C: Revise, finalise & circulate the final report

5.2 The working group meetings scheduled for February-March 2018 are therefore including an early assessment of each group’s progress against its priority action areas and a wider review of each group’s activity log to monitor sector activity against the Heritage 2020 Framework priorities.

5.3 The support from Historic England for the HEF secretariat and Heritage 2020 project support are both scheduled to end at the end of September 2018. The project team (Mike Heyworth, Lizzie Glithero-West and Caroline Peach) are in early discussion with Historic England about the timing of the interim review and its implications for future funding.

5.4 **The project team seeks HEF's agreement to the team engaging with Historic England to try to avoid a hiatus or cessation of support for the HEF secretariat and Heritage 2020 project support come October 2018.**

6. Heritage 2020 working groups

6.1 Summaries of the most recent working group meetings are available on each working group's web page at <http://www.heritage2020.net/working-groups/>. Highlights are given below.

6.2 *Discovery, Identification, Understanding*

6.2.1 The group's work to scope research linkages between Higher Education Institutions and the Historic Environment sector is nearing completion with a draft report anticipated for June. The group discussed how this work aligns to other related activity including HistBEKE and the launch of Historic England's research agenda.

6.2.2 The group continues to explore the intersection between infrastructure projects and research (e.g. HS2), and opportunities for communicating the benefits of research and community engagement in such projects.

6.3 *Public Engagement*

6.3.1 Gill Bull (CBA) has taken over as Chair of this working group, which continues to take forward work to increase diversity of opportunity for engagement with the historic environment sector.

6.3.2 The roll-out of the Historic England positive action traineeships is one example of progress and the next meeting is expected to focus on how to improve opportunities for the historic environment sector to engage with National Citizen Service.

6.4 *Capacity Building*

6.4.1 The group welcomed members of the HEF Skills task group, HEF Client Demand task group, and HEF standards and guidance group to its February meeting. It agreed to take oversight of the Skills and Client Demand groups, with the latter operating as a separate sub-group.

6.4.2 The group is preparing a brief for a piece of work to identify statutory historic environment services provided by LPA with the intention that this be used either to recruit someone to undertake the work pro bono, or that it be used as part of a funding bid to gain the resource to support this small but important activity.

6.5 *Helping Things to Happen*

6.5.1 Members of the group have focused on preparing material for a meeting with BEIS at the end of last year to explore opportunities for a Heritage Sector industrial strategy deal. It is anticipated that feedback from this meeting will be acted upon in advance of the group's next meeting in March.

6.6 *Constructive Conservation and Sustainable Management*

6.6.1 The group held a workshop on 6 December entitled 'Heritage and the High Street: which way now?' The meeting picked up on research and sector focus on this topic from 2012-13 to understand current opportunities and barriers. Notes from this meeting have been prepared which are due to be discussed at the group's meeting on 1st March. Thanks are due to Liz Clare of Historic England for coordinating the workshop and to Rachel Campbell (then BPF) for Chairing it. The workshop was successful in its goal of bringing together people from the historic environment sector, local authorities and development.

7. Actions

7.1 HEF is asked to note Heritage 2020 progress. Any comments will be fed back to the working groups.

7.2 ***The project team seeks HEF's agreement to the team engaging with Historic England to try to avoid a hiatus or cessation of support for the HEF secretariat and Heritage 2020 project support come October 2018.***

Mike Heyworth, Caroline Peach
February 2018