

# Historic Environment Forum

For meeting of 16 May 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 24<sup>th</sup> April, the recent Heritage 2020 Foresight session (March 2018), the interim review of Heritage 2020, succession planning for the role of Chair, and highlights activities from the five working groups.

### 2. Heritage 2020 HEF subcommittee, 24.04.18

- 2.1 At the subcommittee meeting of 24 April, the group discussed:
  - The March 2018 Foresight workshop on the theme ‘What’s over the digital horizon for heritage?’ and how to ensure a legacy from the day.
  - Proposals for the Heritage 2020 project interim review.
  - Succession planning for the role of Chair of the Heritage 2020 HEF subcommittee
  - Working group progress against action plans
  - #Heritage Chat
- 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 monthly twitter chat, #HeritageChat is now well established and 6 chats have taken place. The summaries are available through the Heritage 2020 website and these are currently being migrated from ‘Storify’ and embedded directly into the website as Stofiy will cease to operate in mid May.
- 3.2 #HeritageChat is an initiative for the Historic Environment sector that is supported by Heritage 2020. The original proposal was that different organisations from across the sector take turns to lead the chats on topics agreed with Heritage 2020, with an estimated one in four chats to be led by Heritage 2020, (to fit within project budget/timetable).
- 3.3 Although Moderator Guidelines are available, and the Heritage 2020 Project Officer can offer guidance on how to run the Twitter Chat in advance, the experience to

date is that people are not very confident about running the chats themselves and prefer to work alongside the Heritage 2020 Project Officer acting as Moderator. This has an adverse impact on the Project Officer's time to fulfil other elements of the required project support.

- 3.3 A number of suggestions were made at the Heritage 2020 HEF subcommittee meeting to help to encourage people to take a lead role and it was proposed that members of the working groups and HEF have a valuable role to play in leading, contributing to, and promoting these Twitter Chat sessions.
- 3.4 #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>  
March: Industrial heritage – run by Heritage 2020 and Nicola Palmer (Sheffield Hallam University). Summary at: <https://storify.com/HeritageChat/industrial-heritage>  
April: What's over the digital horizon for heritage (picking up the themes discussed at the Foresight workshop). Summary at: <https://twitter.com/HeritageChat/timelines/988426423542124544>
- 3.5 To get involved, including suggestions for future topics please see, <http://www.heritage2020.net/get-involved/heritage-chat/>. Follow @HeritageChat and use #HeritageChat to take part in the chats.

#### **4. 2018 Foresight session**

- 4.1 The 2018 Foresight session was held on 8 March in Westminster and approximately 30 people from across the cultural sector took part. Strengths of the day were the participation of Michael Ellis MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary (DCMS), Minister for the Arts, Heritage and Tourism – who gave the opening address - the links created with other parts of the cultural sector (notably museums and arts), and the timeliness of the event (it took place the day after the launch of the Culture is Digital report).
- 4.2 A summary of the day has been prepared and this will be circulated to participants before being shared through the Heritage 2020 website. Participants will be asked if they would like to work with Heritage 2020 to address any of the topics discussed on the day (re-use of data, skills, application to conservation management, new audiences).

4.3 The summary and the ‘digital ambitions’ discussed by workshop participants will also form an agenda item for the next round of working group meetings, with each group having the opportunity to review how it could address the opportunities and challenges raised at the workshop.

4.4 Good links were built with the Culture is Digital team at DCMS during preparation for the workshop and it is intended that they will be kept informed of future Heritage 2020 activity in this area.

## **5. Heritage 2020 interim review**

5.1 Heritage 2020 and the HEF secretariat are supported for a two and a half year period (April 2016 to October 2018) by a grant from Historic England. The funded project ‘Supporting collaboration in the historic environment in England’ makes provision for an interim review, to be carried out in August-September 2018, to provide a report on progress, enable an assessment of value for money, and gather opinion on next steps for the rest of the period covered by the Heritage 2020 framework. The timetable has been discussed with the Heritage 2020 groups, Heritage 2020 HEF subcommittee and Historic England and it is intended that the review be brought forward slightly with a view that its findings can inform a decision by Historic England on whether to provide continued funding (of up to 2 years) for project support and HEF secretariat.

5.2 The Heritage 2020 HEF subcommittee has discussed proposed content for the interim review and scope of the review. It was agreed that project reporting and quantitative analysis of elements such as working group, workshop and social media engagement will sit alongside a survey targeted at those who participate in the framework and the wider sector. The survey will seek to look forward to the issues that Heritage 2020 still needs to address as well as what has been achieved by the project so far.

5.3 The Heritage 2020 HEF subcommittee also discussed succession to the role of Chair, with Mike Heyworth indicating his intention to step down at the end of the currently funded period to enable a new Chair to guide the project through its (intended) next 18 months and future thinking about a successor to Heritage 2020 itself.

## **6. Heritage 2020 working groups**

6.1 Highlights from each of the working groups 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. This has been slightly delayed as a result of university strike action. The group discussed how this work aligns to other related activity including HistBEKE and the launch of Historic England’s research agenda. It is intended that a representative of HistBEKE will attend the group’s next meeting in June.

See information on HistBEKE at: <https://histbeke.org/>

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 The group has re-engaged with its membership and revisited its goals and areas of priority action.
- 6.3.2 The group will focus on how to share learning generated by member organisations on their experience of initiatives aimed at increasing youth engagement with heritage.

### 6.4 *Capacity Building*

- 6.4.1 A member of the HEF Skills task group has now joined the Heritage 2020 capacity building meeting. It has been agreed that the HEF Client Demand task group will continue to operate as a subgroup, reporting to HEF through the Heritage 2020 Capacity Building group (see below). A decision has yet to be made about the future relationship with the HEF Standards and Guidance group.
- 6.4.2 A brief for a piece of work to identify statutory historic environment services provided by LPA has been drafted, for discussion by the group at its next meeting. The intention is 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.
- 6.4.3 The group has been invited to feed into a number of pieces of work led by Historic England including: Labour Market Intelligence and HE's External Training Strategy.
- 6.4.5 The Client Demand Task Group met on 2<sup>nd</sup> May to discuss its future operation and areas of focus.

### 6.5 *Helping Things to Happen*

- 6.5.1 The group has carried out a thorough review of its Action Plan, including areas to focus on in the second phase of the Heritage 2020 project (such as a shift to wider external engagement).
- 6.5.2 The group is reviewing the data that was collected as part of the literature review of sector evidence, and that was used in the June data workshop, and will focus on how to present this data and make it available for use to the wider sector.
- 6.5.3 The group has agreed to work on a second iteration of the Industrial Strategy papers that were prepared in advance of the December meeting with BEIS.

### 6.6 *Constructive Conservation and Sustainable Management*

- 6.6.1 The last meeting focused on the outputs from the Heritage and High Streets workshop that was held in December 2017. There is a small amount of work to be done before these can be made more widely available. A small number of members of the group will then work together to take forward actions from the workshop – including which other organisation to work with.
- 6.6.2 The project surrounding communication of guidance relating to the transfer of publicly owned heritage assets is still in an early stage of 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 support for the monthly #HeritageChats, through participation and promotion.***
- 7.3 ***The project team asks for HEF members to participate in the Heritage 2020 interim review survey when it is circulated in early summer.***

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