

BREXIT

IMPLICATIONS FOR HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT
INFORMATION RESOURCES

Challenges

- Fact and Fiction
- Loss of confidence
- Lack of clarity
- Loss of key staff
- Loss of funding
- Isolationism
- Break up of UK? – importance of FISH/ HEIRNET

Opportunities

- UK a full partner in H2020 for at least next two years - make the most of it!
- COST actions unaffected – important for networking
- European Research Council may follow similar model – lobby for that!
- Wider international links – North & South America, China, Australasia – develop them!

Current Relevant Initiatives

- E-infrastructure:
 - ARIADNE: Italian (PIN) lead: UK partners: UoY-ADS, University of South Wales; ends Feb 2017; next phase???
 - DARIAH?: French lead; no UK partner
 - E-RIHS:
 - Preparing E-RIHS – INFRADEV start date Feb 2017 for 3 years: Italian (CNR) lead; UK partners: UCL, Brighton, NTU, SUERC (Glasgow), UoY
 - E-RIHS.UK – UCL lead, as above, plus Historic England, Historic Environment Scotland, British Museum, Diamond Light etc
- COST actions (not European Commission):
 - ARKWORK – Uppsala lead; UK partner: Univ of Glasgow
 - SEADDA (Saving European Archaeology from a Digital Dark Age) – UoY lead
- European Detector database (North Sea Finds) network
 - England & Wales, Scotland, Denmark, Flanders, Netherlands, Finland?
- Others???

House of Commons Science & Technology Committee report - 21 Nov 2016

Recommendations:

- Government should develop a comprehensive strategy to communicate messages of ongoing support for the science and research community in the context of its Brexit plans;
- Government should be mindful of the need to clarify future immigration rules so that the UK continues to attract top-quality researchers;
- An immediate commitment should be made to EU researchers currently working in the UK, to exempt them from any potential outfall arising from Brexit negotiations;
- The interim Chair of UKRI should be formally appointed to act as a 'bridge' between the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) and the Department for Exiting the European Union (DexEU);
- DexEU should appoint a Chief Scientific Advisor as a matter of priority

House of Commons Science & Technology Committee report - 21 Nov 2016

“The Government must send a clear message now that it intends to protect the UK’s strength in science. To help allay the uncertainty arising from the Referendum result, it should set out its objectives for addressing the priority areas of concern for the science community—funding, people, collaboration, regulation and facilities”

https://www.ukro.ac.uk/authoring/researcher/Documents/161118_hoc_st_brexit_report.pdf

23 November – Autumn statement:

- £4.7 billion to enhance the UK’s position as a world leader in science and innovation