

Heritage Link Update 110

Heritage Link Update is sent to members and supporters of Heritage Link as a way of sharing information of relevance to the historic environment sector. Please feel free to circulate copies within your organisation and to forward copies to anyone else who might be interested.

23rd March 2007

*****Special Heritage White Paper issue*****

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The Heritage White Paper: what do you think?

Below are summarised 14 reactions to the Heritage White Paper demonstrating an almost - but not quite - unanimous welcome. Now it is finally in the public domain, Heritage Link will use Update to bring together views from across the whole sector, encourage more critical comment and flag up opportunities for open debate.

Please let us have your comment in about 200 words at mail@heritagelink.org.uk

Heritage White Paper a 'simpler and more efficient system'?

Will the proposals deliver the three core principles of the White Paper?

- developing a more unified approach to the historic environment
- maximising opportunities for inclusion and involvement
- supporting sustainable communities by putting the historic environment at the heart of an effective planning system.

While the aspirations are laudable, will the measures deliver that 'simpler more efficient' system? Simpler for whom? More efficient for whom? How will they affect you? Will these measures protect the historic environment in the 21st century? Or is it raising expectations? Not least, what does it mean for the voluntary sector?

Effective delivery depends on more than legislation. Training and education, policy and guidance as well as management and support systems, are all crucial. The publication of the White Paper, for all the years of preparation, is the threshold of the next phase, so let us have your views on what you welcome, what is omitted, how the measures might be refined and what else is needed to realise the dream. [Back](#)

Next steps

The three month consultation period is not just about the three specific questions on Conservation Areas, Pre application discussion and Certificates of Immunity, important though these are. It is a window for the heritage sector to promote a national debate on the value of heritage, seek clarification on the detail, lobby for resources and urge the government to put in place adjustments that do not require legislation.

The Government is now seeking parliamentary time for the formal Bill to be debated in Westminster. That will be another opportunity to exploit the political spotlight.

The third and most critical hoop is this summer's Comprehensive Spending Review which will need to deliver sufficient funds for DCMS to enable English Heritage and local authorities to implement the new regime. [Back](#)

What the White Paper proposes

DCMS lists the changes under the following headings:

1. A faster, more open system will be devolved to English Heritage

- The Department of Culture Media and Sport will no longer make listing decisions. Responsibility for designation will rest with English Heritage.
- Decisions will be made more quickly and to agreed targets.
- English Heritage will open up the system and consult owners when their property is being considered for designation.
- Interim legal protection will be introduced for buildings being proposed for designation - to protect from hasty demolition.
- Owners will have a new right to appeal against a designation decision.
- English Heritage will demystify the process of designation by publishing its selection guides for buildings. Other guides will follow for other types of historic asset.

2. One simple system will unite all significant historic sites and buildings

- Listed buildings and scheduled monuments will be called 'designated' buildings and sites and recorded in a combined Register as part of a unified national designation system - binding together archaeology and buildings for the first time.
- The designations grade I, grade II* and grade II will be extended to all national assets, including scheduled monuments (which will be grade I initially).
- The Register will also include historic marine sites and sites of early human activity without structures, in addition to historic buildings, archaeological sites, parks, gardens, battlefields and World Heritage Sites.

3. Applying for consent for works should become easier

- A single *Historic Asset Consent* will replace separate Listed Building Consent and Scheduled Monument Consent.
- Local Councils will administer all Historic Asset Consents. English Heritage will continue to give Councils formal advice where appropriate and national Amenity Societies will still be notified in some circumstances.
- Subject to consultation, Conservation Area Consent will be merged with Planning Permission.

4. Red tape will be cut for complex sites

A new type of Heritage Partnership Agreement between owners, managers, Councils and English Heritage will cut time-consuming consent administration and encourage strategic management of large sites.

- Owners of sites such as large estates, which have many similar assets under single management, will be able to avoid the need for multiple consent applications.
- English Heritage will help negotiate single consent agreements for sites that stretch across many local authority boundaries, such as stations on London Underground lines.
- Consent can be provided in advance for a large number of agreed works on complex sites such as university campuses and housing estates.
- Owners of archaeological sites under cultivation would be able to create management agreements establishing ways in which to work protected land.

5. Protection for vulnerable sites will be strengthened

- World Heritage Site protection will be strengthened by the requirement for greater notification of major developments and strengthened protection against minor works.
- Protection will be strengthened for archaeological sites on cultivated land. Ploughing will be prevented on nationally important sites where a management strategy has not been agreed.
- Marine sites and assets, of which there will be an extended range, will benefit from protection mirroring that given to terrestrial assets.
- Designation will now include complex sites of early human activity that do not have structures.
- Subject to consultation, locally designated buildings could be offered greater protection from demolition by planning authorities and extended planning controls could apply to Conservation Areas.

6. Implementation of the new system is underway

These reforms began in 2005 when listing administration was handed over to English Heritage. DCMS continues 'English Heritage will expand its programme of training and capacity building for local authorities and provide them with clear guidance on new issues such as developing partnership agreements, changes to local designation and setting up their own local Historic Environment Records'.

But read it for yourself at http://www.culture.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/D1933A0E-14F6-4AE0-8DDF-E6745380E88B/0/hrp_whitepaper_doc1.pdf [Back](#)

What the White Paper doesn't say

1. DCMS commitment on resources

Comments below draw attention to the £££s. The Regulatory Impact Assessment says DCMS would be responsible for securing funding to meet new burdens on local authorities arising from the legislation in England. English Heritage would be responsible (with DCMS and DCLG) for promoting culture change in England, developing standard and guidance and delivering a capacity building programme.

The RIA is, however, short on figures: devolving responsibilities for Scheduled Monument consent to LPAs in England is estimated at only £400,000pa and few other costs are quantified. Yet para 87 clearly recognises Option 3 carries the 'highest costs especially for English Heritage...In particular there are costs associated with the training and capacity building needed to ensure familiarisation with a new heritage protection system. However these costs are balanced against the substantial benefits for local stakeholders of a more inclusive and efficient approach to the designation and management of historic assets In England, DCMS will meet the cost of any additional burden to local authorities.'

Elsewhere (in *Valuing our Heritage*, the sector prospectus ahead of the Comprehensive Spending Review), the cost to English Heritage is put at £5 million over 5 years 'to lead and support the introduction of the new system'. And that does not include upfront costs to Local Authorities even though there may be savings in the long term. Ensuring adequate resources is clearly the main issue, for cheapskate reforms could be worse than the present regime. [Back](#)

2. The Value of Heritage

For a national document with 'A vision of a unified and simpler heritage protection system, with more opportunities for public involvement, and set firmly within the wider planning system', the White Paper is also remarkably short on formal statements on the importance of heritage in contemporary society.

Couched in DCMS language, it moves on from the Secretary of State's 2005 essay *Better Places to Live, Government, Identity and the Value of the Historic and Built Environment* acknowledging a wider interpretation of the historic environment and the popularity of heritage but, far from delivering a joint vision on behalf of DCMS

and DCLG, the preface is signed only by Tessa Jowell and Alan Pugh, Minister for Culture in Wales. Yet as the Executive Summary says 'A lack of integration can mean that heritage issues may fail to carry the weight they should in wider policy debates'.

In the brief preface, the DCMS priorities are evident: identity, people, with the connection to the planning system made through sustainable communities. The key statements on DCLG priorities - place-making, the contribution of heritage in economic social and environmental contexts - are buried in the text:

1.3.2 'Heritage has a crucial role to play in delivering sustainable communities. For many people, it is heritage that provides their community with a sense of character, distinctiveness and identity and makes it somewhere they want to live. In towns and cities, heritage has provided the starting point for imaginative and successful regeneration. In the countryside it plays an important role in rural regeneration. As pressures on the planning system grow, it is often heritage that provides a focal point for engaging communities in decisions about preservation and development.'

and 1.4.1. 'The historic environment contributes to a broad range of local priorities. Local heritage can underpin sustainable communities, drive regeneration and tourism, and support sustainable development. It is a vast and valuable educational resource for both formal and informal learning. And it has its own intrinsic value as an expression of our past and of our identity.'

These statements should be in the preface. Weak DCLG input is noted in several of the views below. [Back](#)

Role of the voluntary heritage sector: promise of capacity building

The Executive Summary gives welcome recognition to the voluntary heritage sector: 'the heritage protection system...is operated by a highly skilled and committed workforce and supported by hundreds of thousands of volunteers'.

Para 1.4.4 elaborates: 'Complementing the role of local authorities, the local historic environment inspires huge numbers of volunteers. The heritage protection system relies on the commitment of voluntary organisations such as the National Amenity Societies and of thousands of local historical and special interest groups. These organisations contribute essential expertise and knowledge to the process, supported at national level by enabling organisations such as Planning Aid and Heritage Link.'

Involving the public in decisions, shaping a new programme of national designation, new consultation and appeal processes, marine information, potential pre application discussions, all require input from expert heritage groups. The emphasis on opening up the system 'to great public scrutiny and involvement' and to 'make maximum use of opportunities to engage communities' will profoundly affect national and local heritage groups.

And there is a promise of capacity building in para 1.4.7: To support local authorities and voluntary and community organisations to operate the new system, we will provide local authorities with better guidance on central Government priorities, we will improve the training, capacity building and support available to authorities and the voluntary sector, and we will improve access to information on the historic environment at local level.

Heritage Link will be examining very carefully what this might mean. [Back](#)

Views from the sector

English Heritage

As the government's adviser on the historic environment, English Heritage warmly welcomed the Government White Paper and in its press release chose to focus on the new rights for private owners and the role of English Heritage.

Simon Thurley, Chief Executive, said 'This White Paper is a vote of confidence in the expertise and ability of English Heritage, both for taking responsibility for the designation of the nation's heritage and in helping to create the best possible system for its protection and management. These suggestions are the results of years of research, testing and advice from English Heritage and we are confident they will provide a more efficient and open system. It simply gives local councils and us better, more modern tools for the job of protecting the historic environment.' [Back](#)

The National Trust

The National Trust however - one of the more cautious - expressed disappointment that the Government failed to recognise the enormous value and popularity of heritage in Britain and the need for more investment.

The Trust welcomed the reforms 'providing they are backed by measures to provide the extra capacity, skills and resources essential to delivery. They will help streamline the listing system and represent an important step towards putting the historic environment at the heart of an effective planning system by enabling local communities to participate in the process and simplifying the legislative framework of heritage regulation.'

The new Heritage Protection Agreements and requirements for local consultation, however 'raise important questions' about capacity. 'Merely changing the process will not implement the changes outlined in the Heritage Protection review - there must be a guarantee of extra resources for local authorities, in particular, to deliver the wider scope of their heritage protection responsibilities.'

Tony Burton, the Trust's Director of Policy and Strategy, said, 'If backed by sufficient extra resources these measures could provide an opportunity to develop a regulatory and planning framework that is fit for purpose in the twenty first century and which could enhance and modernise how we look after our cultural inheritance'.

The Trust also pointed out that the White Paper is inconsistent in its approach to the protection of the vital landscape settings of historic parks and gardens which remain vulnerable to the effect of creeping incremental development - proposing additional protection in Wales but not in England. [Back](#)

Institute of Historic Building Conservation

David Lovie, President of the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC) the professional body for the UK's historic environment practitioners and conservation specialists, also called for essential investment. 'It's a once-in-a-generation chance to revolutionise how we work with our historic places. But we all know that investment will make it, or break it, Government must match their ambitions with the necessary funds to deliver it. They're 'talking the talk', now they must 'walk the walk'.

'Under legislation planned for 2010, local planning authorities and communities could take a new lead in managing nationally important historic properties and places. With added responsibilities on hard-pressed, even threatened, local conservation planning services, dedicated investment is critical to success.' [Back](#)

The Archaeology Forum

The Archaeology Forum, a grouping of independent archaeology organisations, welcomed the 'radical reforms' and the government's commitment to placing the historic environment at the heart of an effective planning system.

'There is,' said TAF, 'a strong consensus of support from archaeological bodies for the White Paper's proposals. It is nearly 30 years since the last legislation to protect archaeology was introduced. The present systems for protecting the heritage have developed in a piecemeal fashion and are complex, inefficient to operate, lacking the transparency and accountability that a credible, modern system should provide.

'Delivery of the ambitious programme of reforms will depend for its success on a strong partnership between the Government, English Heritage, Cadw and the heritage sector. We note that local government in particular will have an important, central role in the new unified system of consents, with new responsibilities. Resources to reflect this enhanced role will be essential for effective delivery of the reforms at local level and for implementation in English Heritage.'

In particular TAF welcomes the proposals to expand designation to include the sites of early human activity without structures; to integrate Listed Building and Scheduled Monument consents into a single, streamlined heritage consent system; to enhance local historic environment services by introducing a statutory requirement for local authorities to have access to Historic Environment Records; and work towards an effective UK-wide marine heritage protection system, including a duty for the Receiver of Wreck to report marine heritage assets to the relevant heritage authorities. TAF will be looking closely at the proposals for enhancing protection of archaeological sites under cultivation.

The Forum also urges that progress should be made with other reforms in advance of the proposed legislation to pave the way for successful implementation. These include improvements to existing planning policy guidance for archaeology as well as clear government guidance on the functions that a local authority historic environment service should provide. TAF calls for a programme of training and capacity building, involving English Heritage, Cadw, local authorities and the professional associations, 'to equip historic environment professionals with the skills and resources they need to deliver reformed services to the standard the public deserves'. [Back](#)

On Ecclesiastical Exemption

The Church of England, Church in Wales, Roman Catholic Church, Methodist Church, United Reformed Church and churches belonging to the Baptist Union will remain exempt from the present listed buildings consent arrangements as they operate their own systems of control which the Government accepts provide an equivalent level of protection. In advance of the new legislation however, DCMS will work with the exempt denominations to agree the operation of the new system on the understanding that denominational system of control should provide similar levels of consultation to secular systems of control.

The Church of England and the Churches Main Committee said 'The paper gives a vote of confidence for the Churches' own systems set out in the ecclesiastical exemption from listed building control and extends the exemption to cover churchyards and structure within them'. [Back](#)

British Institute of Organ Studies

British Institute of Organ Studies in an interim statement welcomed the intention to improve the listing system and programme of public consultation on new designation priorities and also the development of new selection criteria for designating historic assets under the new system. 'This will', BIOS hopes 'once and for all, clarify the problem of fixtures and fittings together with plant and machinery which have proved a stumbling block in protecting some objects in listed buildings and has led to countless court cases to arrive at a decision'. Since the Planning Act 1990 continues to exclude fittings in listed buildings, BIOS is pressing for the place of organs in both churches and secular buildings to be clarified in the new system. [Back](#)

Campaign to Protect Rural England

Kate Gordon, CPRE's Planning Officer commented 'We strongly welcome many of the measures proposed, which are long overdue. The creation of buffer zones around World Heritage Sites and bringing the demolition of locally listed buildings under planning controls should help address weaknesses in the current system.

'Some of the measures, however well intentioned, will not work unless the issue of resources is addressed. Disturbingly, the White Paper is largely silent on this issue.

'Some local authorities have no dedicated conservation officers, and in others resources are seriously stretched. We believe there should be a statutory obligation on local authorities to have suitably qualified conservation staff to advise on all heritage matters.

'Pressures for development are often greatest in those areas which have a wealth of historic and cultural assets. If we are to safeguard our heritage from damage it will be vital that development proposals are effectively scrutinised.' [Back](#)

Institute of Conservation

'This White Paper is a once-in-a-generation opportunity to modernise the heritage protection system, to make it more open and more inclusive', said Icon Chief Executive, Alastair McCapra. 'The present systems for protecting the heritage have developed piecemeal and as a result they are complex and lack the transparency and accountability we should properly expect.'

'Local government will have an important role in the new unified system of designation, with new responsibilities. We note that non-statutory culture spending is under extreme pressure in local government at the moment. In order for these reforms to work as intended, local authorities must be given the support and resources they need to deliver their share of the new system effectively. The need for these resources was headlined as the highest priority in *Valuing Our Heritage*, the sector's case for funding to Government ahead of the Comprehensive Spending Review.'

In particular Icon welcomed the proposals to open up the designation system to greater consultation and scrutiny; provide the public with better information about how and why things are protected; encourage people to protect their own local heritage; unify the listing of buildings, scheduling of monuments, registration of parks, gardens and battlefields into a single designation regime, including World Heritage Sites; and devolve decisions about designation in England to English Heritage. [Back](#)

Historic Chapels Trust

Although pleased that the importance of the historic environment within planning system is underscored, there remain concerns about finance for local authorities and English Heritage. And, asked Director Jenny Freeman, 'what will the impact on grant-aid be, especially EH grant aid, at a time when HLF is being top-sliced again for the Olympics?'

With experience of local authorities' patchy performance across the country, Dr Freeman considered whether local authorities would be competent to administer their responsibilities, especially if diverse and variable approaches are encouraged. And in common with other reactions, she questioned whether new legislation by itself was enough to change attitudes.

While the restoration of pre-Shimizu levels of protection for conservation areas is welcome, merging Conservation Area Consent with planning permission might signal a subtle downgrading of protection. Who should bear the cost of pre application discussions and the time required to extend Certificates of Immunities? These were all material considerations. [Back](#)

From Cllr Peter Metcalfe, Heritage Champion

Councillor Peter Metcalfe, Historic Environment Champion on Bath and NE Somerset Council, welcomed the proposal to devolve greater responsibility to local government and communities to play a central role in identifying buildings, sites, and spaces that contribute to local identity, distinctiveness and quality of life. This long-awaited recognition by government is to be very much applauded, he said.

'The White Paper gives the opportunity to streamline the various current consent regimes and to place protection and enhancement of assets, both built and natural, at the heart of a planning-lead development system.

'Devolving responsibilities to English Heritage should strengthen local government's ability to ensure that their heritage departments' expertise and resources are developed in order to match the aspirations of the White Paper.

'The creation of a single list for historic environment records will also help to drive people's greater involvement, ownership and understanding of where they now live and how they want to see it developed.

'However, government needs to recognise that historic environment resources at local government level are already stretched to breaking point. Adequate support from central government will be necessary to enable local authorities to deliver effectively the core agenda of the White Paper.' [Back](#)

Historic Houses Association

Nick Way, Director General, said 'We fully support the intentions of the Heritage Protection Review but it must be properly resourced to ensure that the listing regime is faster, more transparent and certain. Investment is needed to enable both English Heritage and local authorities to lead and implement the changes. Resources for conservation are already very stretched in most local authorities and critically inadequate in some. If staff are to deliver the new system and actually provide the new more integrated approach to the historic environment, significant extra support is needed to develop skills, train staff and to support new ways of working'.

HHA President, James Hervey-Bathurst added 'The decisions that will be made this year in the Comprehensive Spending Review (CSR) and to implement the White Paper will have a major bearing on the health of this country's unique heritage - and the benefits that it provides to all sectors of society. The White Paper will have an influence on those decisions; this is the last chance to get it right, for everyone who enjoys or depends on our heritage.' [Back](#)

Country Land and Business Association

'Owners of historic buildings could receive a much-needed shot in the arm,' said David Fursdon, President of the CLA. 'Historic buildings are more popular than ever, but many - especially our unique legacy of traditional farm buildings - are at risk all over England and Wales. What's needed is a heritage protection system which safeguards what is of real significance while allowing carefully-considered change to keep historic buildings relevant and financially viable in the modern world. The current system is not achieving this, and is also too opaque and too complicated.'

'This White Paper offers a new, simpler and more comprehensive framework which recognises the need for partnerships with owners, clearer definitions of historic assets, and rights of consultation and appeal. Inevitably we have concerns about details, the timescale, the continuing lack of financial help for heritage, and especially the resourcing of the local authorities who will actually operate the new system, but this long-awaited White Paper is a significant step forward.' [Back](#)

International Council on Monuments and Sites UK

ICOMOS-UK warmly welcomed statutory protection in the planning system to control development within World Heritage sites and their settings, and to avoid gradual erosion of value over time. Also welcomed was the announcement that specific call-in notifications will be introduced for significant developments affecting WHSs and that where appropriate, World Heritage Sites would be given Buffer Zones. 'The measures set out in the White Paper are a significant step forward to address these issues and we look forward to learning how they will be built on and consolidated.'

ICOMOS-UK however was among several that looked for further detail, for example on the proposal to include WHSs as Article 1(5) land under the Town and Country Planning Order 1995 so that they will be equivalent in planning terms to other protected areas such as Conservation Areas, National Parks and AONBs. Nor does the Planning Circular set out how WHSs will be linked in planning terms to Local Development Frameworks. ICOMOS-UK considers that clarification is needed on all of these and in particular on the creation of and protection for Buffer Zones in line with the World Heritage Operational Guidelines 2005. ICOMOS UK strongly welcomed measures to review call-in directions for specific development affecting WHSs (para 53) as long overdue and which should make a crucial difference to the protection of urban WHSs in particular. However, it warned for this measure to be effective, it is essential that the setting of WHSs is adequately identified and protected in part of whole by a Buffer Zone, in order that the impact of development on WHSs and their setting can be rigorously appraised. [Back](#)

From Bob Kindred, Special Adviser to CMS Select Committee Heritage Protection Inquiry

'I may be a lone dissenting voice in the apparent general enthusiasm', writes Bob Kindred, Borough Conservation Officer for Ipswich, who was on the Power of Place Legislation Working Group, external advisor to DCMS Designation Review Project Board 2003-4 and Special Advisor the CMS Select Committee Heritage Protection Inquiry 2006.

'A system fit for the 21st Century? Only if you believe this was always primarily about the relationship between DCMS and a ground-down English Heritage. In practice, two systems in perpetuity? Just two vague paragraphs identifying the migration from one to the other suggests so.

'Four-and-a-half years after deciding to recast the system and eight after Power of Place we have a weak, thin largely predictable White Paper so very limited on vision, content or specifics (exactly what will be the protection extended to locally listed buildings?) that the DCMS want to ask us just three questions. Expectations recently raised within the sector by the CMS Select Committee Inquiry findings have largely been ignored.

'If this is the opportunity of a generation; why [is there] nothing useful about financial or professional resources; about proper protection of conservation areas; about the weak relationship to local plan-making (central to the planning system?); or ensuring conservation responsibilities for Councils are put on a proper statutory footing? These locally delivered, front-line services are withering away or being axed now.

'HELM is a fig-leaf to cover so-called capacity building when many experienced front-line local authority conservation professionals will retire within a decade and may not be adequately replaced. If the eventual Heritage Bill now required is mangled in parliament (as was the 2004 Planning Bill), is there a Plan B? The Select Committee believed, entirely correctly that 'anxiety pervades the sector' the White Paper has done nothing to relieve this feeling.' These views are Bob's own. [Back](#)

The Heritage White Paper consultation: to 1st of June

Alongside proposals for legislative change, DCMS asks for views on three issues not previously consulted upon:

Question 1: Should Conservation Area Consent be removed as a specific consent and merged with planning permission? The merger would be combined with amendments to the Demolition Direction to ensure planning permission would be required for the demolition of an unlisted building in a Conservation Area and amendments to the General Permitted Development Order to reinstate levels of protection pre-Shimizu.

Question 2: As a means of promoting early consideration of heritage issues in large scale developments, should there be new statutory guidance promoting pre-application assessment and discussion for all major planning applications which may affect historic assets?

Question 3: As a means of providing greater certainty to developers, should the current operation of Certificates of Immunity be expanded to enable an application to be made at any time, and for a site as well as an individual building?

Responses, and answers to the specific questions, should arrive by 1st June 2007. For details of how to respond see http://www.culture.gov.uk/Reference_library/Consultations/2007_current_consultations/hpr_whitepaper07.htm
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Other opportunities for debate

If you are organising forums to share information with members or colleagues please let us have the details for the next Update on 13th April at mail@heritagelink.org.uk

1. Heritage Link is holding a workshop for its members on 16th April at the Royal Statistical Society, 12 Errol Street, London EC1. Further information from Kathryn.schofield@heritagelink.org.uk Details will be sent to members shortly.

2. The Society of Antiquaries of London will be holding a White Paper seminar for its members and others towards the end of the consultation period. It will be open to all. Further details to follow.

3. English Heritage has held workshops for its staff on the Heritage White Paper and will be organising regional seminars for local authorities and others to understand the implications. Again, further details to be announced.

4. The Institute of Historic Building Conservation

The IHBC has already produced a membership consultation booklet to stimulate the debate within the Institute. The booklet summarising the aims and proposals of the White Paper with some provocative questions is intended to direct attention to the most important areas for the conservation sector, and to help members develop their own thinking around the impact of the proposed legislative structure.

IHBC aims to encourage debate so the booklet is being sent out this month to IHBC members and others with the March edition of *Context*. An e-mail address hpr@ihbc.org.uk has been set up to allow members to send in their comments. IHBC branches are also being asked to discuss the White Paper at their meetings in a process designed to give all members the opportunity to participate in and influence the IHBC's response. They can also contact the institute's officers to discuss any issues.

The booklet will shortly be made available to all on the IHBC website www.ihbc.org.uk [Back](#)

Revision to Principles of Selection for Listed Building Circular 1/07

One of the short term measures of the DCMS Heritage Protection Review is the new Planning Circular 01/07 which replaces Section 6 of PPG15. An analysis of responses to the 2005 consultation can be found at http://www.culture.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/A374CA04-7C73-4F92-9424-41159C221058/0/hrp_principlesselection.pdf

Circular 01/07 *Revisions to Principles of Selection for Listed Buildings* can be downloaded via <http://www.communities.gov.uk/index.asp?id=1508515> [Back](#)

Criteria for Listing: Selection Guides

In accordance with the majority of responses to the consultation, the Selection Guides for different building types are now published separately from the Circular. These thematic guides have started with buildings but selection guides will also be produced for scheduled archaeology, registered parks and gardens, registered battlefields and marine historic assets, so that all contribute towards the creation of a unified Register of Historic Buildings and Sites of England.

These first selection guides cover agricultural buildings; commemorative structures; commercial buildings; culture and entertainment; domestic (introduction, vernacular houses, town houses, suburban and country houses, the modern house and housing); education; garden and park; health and welfare; industrial; law and government; maritime and naval military buildings; places for worship; street furniture; transport buildings; and utilities and communication.

Further details and links at <http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/server/show/nav.8833> [Back](#)

And now the rest of the news

Revised Olympics delivery budget

Hot on the heels of the Heritage White Paper came the incredible announcement that the Government intends to swipe £675m of Lottery money to shore up the escalating Olympics budget. The Heritage Lottery Fund stands to lose £90m on top of already reduced funding after 2008, when its current £290m per year drops to £180m. This further reduction of £90m is the equivalent of four years' spend on small community and voluntary sector grants and the entire grant stream aimed at involved young people. Sports loses £59m and Arts £55m so heritage loses out again.

Heritage Link pointed out that the raid contradicted significant Government statements including the major culture speech by the Prime Minister on 6th March and threatened the realisation of the valuable tourism legacy from the 2012 Games. ICOMOS-UK said 'The squeezing of heritage funding to deliver the Olympics seems to suggest that the heritage sector, however, is still seen as a non-essential sector.'

While Big Lottery Fund (BLF) appears to have ring fenced the voluntary and community sector, HLF obtained no such assurance and still has to decide how it will prioritise its awards, though it is at pains to assure the sector that all awards will be honoured.

Heritage Link and its counterparts, Voluntary Arts Network and Central Council for Physical Recreation (CCPR), met with National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) on 21st March to discuss tactics. Their joint campaign includes meeting the Culture Secretary, bringing the 'positive resolution' required to make the raid legal from committee to full debate on the floor of the House of Commons and, for Heritage Link, to seek an urgent meeting with HLF. Although £675m is less than the feared £1bn, the general verdict is how did BLF do a deal through the Office of the Third Sector while DCMS failed to protect their own voluntary and community sector.

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National Audit Office on Heritage Lottery Fund

With unfortunate timing, the NAO report, published on 16th March examines the funding of heritage projects since 1994 and the effectiveness of the Fund's grant-making processes. The report is based on a detailed review of 30 funded projects, a survey of 80000 applicants of whom 2372 responded together with staff and stakeholder interviews.

NAO found that although the overall impact of the Fund is difficult to measure there are good indications that the projects it funded are delivering against HLF's strategic aims and that the benefits are being sustained. 55% of applicants surveyed said their project would not have gone ahead without the Fund's grant while a further 42% would have either tried to find alternative funding or reduced their project scope. Most projects have been delivered to cost and most delivered on time with overruns mainly due to unanticipated events during construction or poor planning. But although HLF had greatly improved the speed of assessing applications, applicants still found the process burdensome.

The NAO concluded that the Fund 'has been successful in supporting projects which are helping to preserve the heritage of the United Kingdom and make it more accessible. Its robust processes and thorough approach to assessing applications have led to better, more sustainable projects. It should do more, however, to reduce the burden on applicants, promote swifter delivery of projects and provide better support to those who need it.' Recommendations focus on improving procedures and 'to manage the effects of the expected reduction in income as a consequence of the National Lottery Funding of the Olympic and Paralympic Games'.

With its annual grant funds shrinking from £290 million to under £200 million, the NAO anticipates that the Fund may see an upsurge in competition followed by a collapse in applications. The NAO report recommended lowering the ceiling to individual projects; reducing administrative burdens on applicants; assessing applications more quickly; developing the support and training offered to applicants; monitoring projects more closely as they progress; and setting in place a system to share knowledge between applicants. The Fund should now also review its approach to partnership funding and continue to develop how it captures the benefits arising out its grant-giving.

The report can be found via <http://www.nao.org.uk/pn/06-07/0607323.htm> [Back](#)

Protected Vista Directions (London): consultation to 16th April

The Government Office for London has begun a six-week consultation with key stakeholders on a set of draft directions covering eleven protected vistas proposed by the Mayor in the *London Views Management Framework*.

The draft Framework was recently submitted to Communities and Local Government Ministers requesting that the protected vistas replace the ten Strategic Views Directions which already exist. Ten of the draft directions relate to existing views of St Paul's Cathedral and the Palace of Westminster. The eleventh is a new vista of the Tower of London from outside City Hall. The Directions aim to define the consultation that boroughs need to carry out if a planning application falls within the areas of the Protected Vistas described and breaches the height thresholds stipulated in each of the directions.

Further details at <http://www.gos.gov.uk/gol/Planning/513943/> Responses should be sent to Ken Bean, Planning and Housing, at ken.bean@gol.gsi.gov.uk by 16th April at 5pm. [Back](#)

Scotland's heritage policy launched

The historic environment is an asset to be valued, not a barrier to development. That is one of the key messages in Scotland's Historic Environment, launched on 9th March by Culture Minister Patricia Ferguson MSP.

Ms Ferguson emphasised the importance of heritage to Scotland's identity, economy and culture, 'We have so much to be proud of and by properly and intelligently managing our historic environment in a dynamic way we continue to benefit from the achievements of past generations'.

Scotland's Historic Environment (SHEP1), the overarching policy statement for the historic environment, can be found at www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/shep1 The Scottish Historic Environment Policy (SHEP) series sets out strategic policies for the historic environment and provides greater policy direction for Historic Scotland. The next four SHEP papers to go out to public consultation will cover Scheduled Monument Consent, Listed Building Consent, the Listing of Historic Buildings and the conservation and access to Properties in Care. [Back](#)

Wales' first State of the Historic Environment Report

The Welsh Assembly Government also published its first stocktake of the state of Welsh heritage on 15th March. This first report concentrates on the work of the Assembly Government's historic environment bodies - Cadw, the Assembly Government's historic environment division, the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales (RCAHW), an assembly sponsored public body, and the Historic Buildings Council and the Ancient Monuments Board, the latter two of which have subsequently become advisory panels. Collectively, this partnership is known as Cymru Hanesyddol/Historic Wales.

The report uses data compiled in 2006 as a baseline and covers a range of activities undertaken by the historic environment bodies. In future years, the contents of the report will evolve and broaden to include new work areas and the work of historic environment partners.

The report identifies, in statistical form, the range of activities undertaken by the Hanesyddol Cymru/Historic Wales partners, and includes a report on the final year's work of the Ancient Monuments Board and the Historic Buildings Council. It also updates progress on the 2003 policy review on the historic environment in Wales and identifies some of the emerging priorities for 2006-09.

The Position Statement can be downloaded from http://www.cadw.wales.gov.uk/upload/resourcepool/Position_Statement9954.pdf [Back](#)

Heritage Link 1st fund raising skills seminar and East Midlands regional networking

Heritage Link with East Midlands Association of Civic Societies (EMACS) held a joint networking event in Leicester's New Walk Museum on 19th March.

For the first time, Heritage Link hosted a morning seminar on Skills for Fundraising. Excellent advice from Roy Higginbottom, Development Manager, Heritage Lottery Fund, East Midlands, from Su Davies, External Funding Manager, East Northamptonshire Council and from Jason Pegg, East Midlands Funders Forum should all help to make better, more targeted funding applications. Their presentations are available to all via the Heritage Link website (Roy's to follow shortly) <http://www.heritagelink.org.uk/events.asp>

After a busy networking lunch, Christopher Pennell, national Board Member of Natural England and member of the Heritage Lottery Fund's East Midlands Committee, gave an inspiring address on the threats and opportunities for the historic environment (see http://www.heritagelink.org.uk/docs/CPennell_Forum.doc) Hilary Silvester, East Midlands Association of Civic Societies and Chair of Nottingham Civic Society talked about working with, rather than in conflict, with Local Authorities. An open discussion forum when Dr Anthony Streeten, regional English Heritage Director, joined the panel covered topics ranging from the Olympics, climate change, the Heritage and Planning White Papers to representation and volunteering. [Back](#)

David Miliband stirs up debate on countryside

CPRE is inviting everyone to blog their vision for the future of England's countryside following the major speech at the 80th anniversary conference by David Miliband, Secretary of State for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

Calling for a radical rethink about land use the Minister set out five main changes over the next 80 years. First, the continuing need for development with, as a key departure from current practice, the move towards zero-carbon development. Second, major changes in agricultural land, with more land used for energy crops, for natural flood management, for carbon sinks, such as wetlands and new forests, and for re-wilding - all challenges linked to environmental security rather than food production. Third, the environmental footprint of farms must change. Fourth, the potential to put the green back into the green belt with fifth, the possible development of 'turquoise belts' - strips of green space next to rivers to accommodate rather than prevent flooding.

His full speech is at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/ministers/speeches/david-miliband/dm070309.htm>

Contribute to the debate by blogging at <http://cpredebates.wordpress.com/> The Secretary of State and CPRE will sum up what they have learnt from the debate by the end of March. [Back](#)

Threats to Suburbs: EH Guidance Note

Changes to national planning policy to encourage higher-density housing combined with rising land values have led to more and more development in relatively spacious or 'leafy' suburbs. Demographic changes bringing more, smaller households are further contributing to this pressure. English Heritage's latest guidance document *The Future of Historic Suburbs* addresses the threat.

English Heritage recommends undertaking an analysis of what makes a suburb special, historically, architecturally and in terms of its landscaping and layout and using the results to inform future planning and management. Local authorities should ensure that the results of urban capacity studies inform decisions on the future of historic suburbs. Characterisation studies can be used to assess historic significance and what the local community values, leading to Conservation Area designation and Supplementary Planning Documents (SPD).

Further recommendations include involving local residents groups, tenants groups, amenity and local history societies in developing a strategy; making sure that management of public spaces in suburbs, the roads, pavements, verges, parks and public buildings respects the character of the private housing and distinctiveness of the area; and assessing the impact of traffic and parking on the historic character of the streets, on the character of individual properties and on views.

Copies of *The Future for Historic Suburbs* are available free from English Heritage Customer Services 0870 3331181 customers@english-heritage.org.uk and on www.helm.org.uk [Back](#)

EH to research connection of properties with Slave Trade

Events and initiatives connected with the abolition of the transatlantic slave trade are listed on a dedicated government website http://www.direct.gov.uk/en/slavery/DG_065970

English Heritage has announced its commitment to researching, for the first time, connections between the transatlantic slave trade and properties in its care. It will review formal descriptions of listed buildings to acknowledge the historic links between the built environment, transatlantic slavery and the abolitionist movement. The Heritage Lottery Fund has also awarded over £10 million to 90 projects related to the bicentenary across the country.

25th March 2007 marks 200 years to the day since the Parliamentary Bill to abolish the slave trade in the British Empire was passed. [Back](#)

Heritage of London Trust Podcast

Highlighting the plight of historic buildings in the East End, Diana Beattie, Director of Heritage of London Trust, appeals for funds to restore the Minnie Lansbury Memorial Clock which illustrates the social history of the East End. She points out that despite all the new facilities the Games will create some of the areas most treasured landmarks will remain neglected.

See the podcast at <http://www.bbc.co.uk/london/videonation/index.shtml> [Back](#)

National Lottery Awards: best heritage project

The annual search for the UK's favourite Lottery funded projects aims to celebrate and recognise the difference that large and small projects have made to people, places and communities across the UK. The Awards are also designed to recognise the talent, hard work and dedication of those involved in running Lottery funded projects.

The categories for 2007 are: Best sports project; Best heritage project; Best arts project; Best environment project; Best voluntary/charity project; Best health project; and Best education project. Nominations can be made either online at www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk or by calling 0845 130 4133, and must be received by 27th April. Since the National Lottery began in 1994, Lottery players have raised over £19 billion for good causes and more than 250,000 grants have been awarded. [Back](#)

Heritage Lottery Fund's Collecting Cultures opens

The Heritage Lottery Fund announced on 19th March a new £3m collections development initiative. *Collecting Cultures* will support acquisitions, curatorial skills, research and increased activities for the public by individual museums and galleries, or by small consortia, such as those with a shared collecting interest.

Applications for the one-off scheme will be handled under the normal HLF Heritage Grants process with additional guidance provided to help applicants. Guidance notes will be available on HLF's website www.hlf.org.uk from 23rd April and applications should be submitted between 23rd April and 1st November 2007. The grants available range from £50,000 to £200,000 and projects can run for up to five years. Decisions will be made in May 2008. [Back](#)

Volunteers' Week 2007

Volunteers' Week (1st - 7th June) now in its 23rd year is the UK's annual celebration of the work volunteers do. During the Week events are held across the country to recognise, reward and recruit volunteers. The dedicated website <http://www.volunteersweek.org.uk/> provides a range of tools and resources to help celebrate Volunteers' Week and the contribution that volunteers have made. [Back](#)

Petition against legislation to restrict photography in public places

The UK Government is, according to the Landscape Institute, about to propose restrictions on photography in public places which could make street photography and documentary photography against the law. This legislation will have considerable impact on the work of landscape architects. There is a petition on the Downing Street website against the Government's proposals to restrict the use of photography in public areas, see <http://petitions.pm.gov.uk/Photography/> [Back](#)

EVENTS

Patrimony Committee: Annual Conference, 3rd May

The Catholic Church Patrimony Committee's Annual Conference for Diocesan Historic Churches Committees in England and Wales is being held at the Oratory, London on 3rd May. The purpose of the Conference is to enable members of HCCs from around the country to get together and to discuss matters of mutual concern and those working in related fields are welcome. The main session will focus on the issue of Pastoral Reviews, how different dioceses are going about this and engaging in consultation.

For booking details contact Tricia Brooking, 23 Horseguards Drive, Maidenhead, Berks SL6 1XL Tel /Fax 01628 637759, email triciabrooking@dsl.pipex.com [Back](#)

INTBAU Conference: call for papers

An international heritage conference on History, Heritage & Regeneration in Eastern Europe will take place from 23 – 25th September in Romania. The conference aims to examine the challenges faced by the emerging economies of the former Eastern bloc in the field of heritage and preservation of traditional places.

Academics and practitioners worldwide are invited to submit papers on the following topics by 15th May: Heritage & urban planning behind the 'Iron Curtain'; the impact of globalised interventions on the traditional environment; protected areas & Pattern Books; traditional academic education; or EU Programmes on heritage.

Acceptance will be notified on 15th June. See <http://www.intbau.org/SibiuConferenceEN.htm> or email Dr Matthew Hardy, matthew.hardy@princes-foundation.org [Back](#)

SITUATIONS VACANT

All organisations whose posts are advertised below are expected to offer equal opportunity to all and to welcome applications from all sections of the community.

St George's Bloomsbury: Development Manager (part-time, fixed-term contract)

An energetic Arts Administrator is required to continue the development of St George's Bloomsbury as a heritage attraction and centre for community, musical and educational activities, following extensive restoration work. The post holder will take responsibility for all administration and event management, running front-of-house for heritage venues/ exhibitions, marketing, publicity and website updating. Priorities will be volunteer recruitment, training and assisting the Parochial Church Council with sourcing long-term tenants. Leading guided tours also desirable. Contract runs May to September, 20 hours p/w. Hours may be flexible; work on occasional weekends/evenings essential. Job Shares considered.

Salary: according to experience, to £15,000 pro-rata. To apply visit www.stgeorgesbloomsbury.org.uk or call 020 7242 1979 for further information. Closing date 30th March.

The Landmark Trust: Education Officer

The role will work closely with the Buildings Department, the Fundraising and Marketing & Communication teams. Work will be partly based on new projects, with ongoing provision and updating of information for an existing portfolio. Duties will include devising, costing and implementing programmes for education and access for communities and schools as elements of restoration projects, preparing funding applications for this purpose. The post will require flexibility and is expected to average between 3 and 4 days per week, initially for one year.

Candidates will hold a degree in a related subject, e.g. history, art history, museum management, heritage services, and demonstrate a continuing commitment to the field and an interest in the arts. Prior experience of educational provision and providing learning and access plans would be an advantage.

Salary: £20-22,000 pro rata. Closing date 16th April. For all further details contact Sheila Wilkinson swilkinson@landmarktrust.org.uk

The Ramblers' Association: Marketing and Communications Director

The Marketing and Communications Director will provide the strategic direction for the RA on all marketing related initiatives, raising the charity's profile by promoting core work, presenting a positive image and attracting new membership. The post holder will work with directors of RA Scotland and Wales to develop and promote a GB-wide identity. A good understanding of the voluntary sector, experience of a complex organisation and practical experience in a range of marketing disciplines is essential.

Salary c£41,500. See www.ramblers.org.uk/jobs for application details. Closing date 13th April.

The Cutty Sark Trust: Development Director, Greenwich

The Development Director will be responsible for developing and implementing an imaginative fundraising strategy for the Trust, building influential external relationships, planning and directing fundraising activities, as well as contributing to the Trust's strategic plans. A track record of achieving financial targets within a donor focussed environment, people management skills and influential communication skills, as well as a degree level education, will be required.

Salary c. £40,000 - £60,000. Closing date 28th March. Contact Insight Executive at recruitment@insight-hr.co.uk or call 01403 892910 for more details.

English Heritage: Senior Properties Historians (two posts)

Two London-based vacancies have arisen in English Heritage's Properties Research team, which leads on identifying the historical significance of individual properties to inform English Heritage interpretation and display schemes, develops the key messages and interpretative strands which are likely to be of interest to a wide-range of visitors and devises appropriate and imaginative ways of presenting information.

The posts are full time, one permanent, one fixed-term for two years. Applicants will have a degree in architectural/ art history, archaeology, history or related disciplines and a background in research and publishing.

Salary £31,000. To apply, email LON.Recruit@english-heritage.org.uk quoting LON/15/07 or telephone 020 7973 3877. No CVs. Closing date 6th April with interviews 17th /25th April.

EPPIC Bursary: Architectural Graphics (12 months from May 2007)

English Heritage Professional Placements in conservation (EPPIC) are an English Heritage, IFA and IHBC initiative for historic environment practitioners. Applications are invited for a placement with English Heritage's architectural graphics team. This is an opportunity to develop skills in the provision of high quality architectural

drawings, maps and illustrations for publication, dissemination and display, under the supervision of specialist staff at English Heritage. Training will be delivered on a mentoring/tutoring basis, and there may be an opportunity to use the experience gained in this placement towards an appropriate vocational qualification. Ideally, candidates will have a relevant degree or professional qualification (or equivalent experience) with 6-18 months post-graduate work experience in UK historic environment practice. English Heritage and IFA value diversity and seek to enhance diversity within the historic environment professions.

Salary: £17,277 (includes London weighting) & pension contribution. Closing date 9am, 5th April with interviews 26th April. For all further details see www.archaeologists.net and follow the link to the IFA News page.

IFA Workplace Learning Bursary in Digital Survey Techniques (12 months from May 2007)

Applications are invited for an HLF funded IFA Workplace Learning Bursary with AOC Archaeology Group. The post offers a wide range of archaeological survey and processing skills with a highly active archaeological consultancy engaged in programmes of digital survey development and research. The successful candidate will work on a programme of training, development and application under the supervision of Dr Graeme Cavers. There may be an opportunity to use the experience gained in this placement towards a vocational Qualification in Archaeological Practice. Applicants should have archaeological training to degree level (or equivalent experience), with a strong interest in pursuing a career in the heritage sector.

Salary: £14,270. Closing date 9am, 4th April with interviews 19th April. For all further details see www.archaeologists.net and follow the link to the IFA News page.

Natural England: Team Member - Regional Historic Environment Adviser (Yorkshire and Humber)

Natural England requires an historic environment expert to provide specialist advice, advocacy and training to the Yorkshire and Humber regional team on the management of rural archaeological sites, designed and historic landscapes and traditional building restoration. The post is based in Northallerton, Leeds, York or Wakefield.

A relevant degree and a proven background in managing the historic environment, along with a sound understanding of land management practices and the conservation of the rural environment, are required. Excellent communication and interpersonal skills are essential and membership of an appropriate professional body (e.g. IFA, IHBC) is preferred.

Salary £20,900 - £30,178. For information see www.naturalengland.org.uk or contact Resource Centre, Defra, HR Unit, email ResourceCentre@defra.gsi.gov.uk, tel 01905 768837 quoting ref. RCRE585. Closing date 30th March. [Back](#)

Notes and subscription [Back](#)

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