

Valuing our heritage Investing in our future

Our Strategy 2008-2013







The Heritage Lottery Fund is the UK's leading advocate for the value of heritage to modern life.

The Fund sustains and transforms our heritage through innovative investment in projects with a lasting impact on people and places.



Our strategy 2008-2013

The Heritage Lottery Fund is the largest dedicated funder of the UK's heritage, with £180 million a year to invest in new projects.

Our view of heritage is broad, progressive and inclusive. We believe that understanding, valuing and sharing our diverse histories changes lives, brings people together and provides the foundation of a confident, modern society.

We take a distinctive, integrated approach – grounded in what people value, investing in the UK's heritage for the long term. We add value to our funding with a range of support activities, and evaluate its impact, to ensure that imaginative and robust projects deliver sustainable benefits for both heritage and people.

Sustaining and transforming

"We want to support innovative as well as tried-and-tested approaches..."

We fund heritage projects of all sizes, with grants from under £5,000 to over £5 million. We want to support innovative as well as tried-and-tested approaches, and welcome proposals that are pioneering in concept or delivery.

Our focus is on conserving, sustaining and sharing heritage.

Through our grant making we aim to:

- conserve the UK's diverse heritage for present and future generations to experience and enjoy;
- help more people, and a wider range of people, to take an active part in and make decisions about their heritage;
- help people to learn about their own and other people's heritage.

We want to protect and hand on what people value most, open up more of our heritage for everyone to enjoy, and regenerate and enrich our historic cities, towns and countryside.

We believe that everybody should have the opportunity to identify, care for and enjoy heritage, and want to help new people and groups to take an active part. We are committed to supporting, recognising and valuing the contribution of volunteers.

Providing opportunities to learn about heritage, and helping people develop the skills to care for the culture, places and knowledge we have inherited, is at the heart of what we do. Young people, in particular, are the future advocates for heritage, and we are keen to encourage projects that enable them to gain new insights, skills and experience.





Innovative investment

"We will invest in projects that provide a creative, relevant and timely response to a need or opportunity..."

We are a responsible investor, using clear criteria and prioritising applications for funding strategically. We ensure that our decisions are based on expertise, evidence and judgement.

We are committed to giving frank, honest advice before you apply, and our assessment is robust and fair. Our application processes are now shorter and simpler, keeping to a minimum the amount of work you need to do before you know whether you stand a reasonable chance of success.

If you need extra support with project development we can offer you that – including expert guidance, mentors and development grants. We will encourage applications from the widest possible range of groups to strengthen the heritage sector, and ensure that the UK's heritage benefits from being better understood and cared for by people from all walks of life.

To make sure our money is working hardest where it really matters, we encourage strong partnerships and expect projects to maximise the funding they can lever in from other sources.

In short, we will invest in projects that provide a creative, relevant and timely response to a need or opportunity, offer long-term benefits, and give good value for Lottery money.

A lasting impact

"We encourage projects to pass on lessons learned to help others achieve high quality in future."

We expect projects to use resources wisely, and will place a stronger emphasis on responsible stewardship and care for the environment.

We challenge projects to be creative in finding greener solutions. We want conservation projects to include sound plans for maintaining our heritage, to ensure that it has a viable future and to protect our investment through better long-term management.

We foster a culture of learning and exchange of best practice. We encourage projects to pass on lessons learned to help others achieve high quality in future.

Winning a Heritage Lottery Fund grant is something to celebrate. We want to ensure the benefits are shared widely, and will work in partnership with others to raise awareness of the transformational legacy of lottery funding.



Our funding and programmes 2008 - 2013

Programme	2008-2009	Annual budget 2009-2013	Decision point
General programmes			
Grants over £5 million	£20 million	£20 million	Board - once a year
Grants &1 million - £5 million	£110 million	£38 million	Board - six times a year
Grants 850,000 - £1 million	Included above ¹	£45 million	Region and country committees – four times a year
Grants up to £50,000	£25 million	£16 million	Region and country managers – continuous throughout the year
largeted Programmes			
Young Roots	£3 million	£3 million	Region and country managers – continuous throughout the year
Parks for People	£22 million	£20 million	Board - twice a year
lownscape Heritage Initiative	£10 million	£10 million	Board - once a year
andscape Partnerships	£10 million	£10 million	Board - once a year
Repair Grants for Places of Worship	£20 million	£18 million	Regional managers in England; committees in Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland – twice a year
Total	£220 million	£180 million	

¹ During 2008-2009 awards between £50,000 and £2 million will be decided by region and country committees.



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Visit www.hlf.org.uk for more information

Our website tells you more about what we fund

You can:

- download all our application materials and help notes
- see examples of projects we have funded
- find ideas and guidance on a range of topics to help you plan an application
- contact your regional or country team for advice before you apply
- apply online

English language version; also available in Welsh Available on request in Braille, audio, large print and community languages

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Photography

Front cover: Conserving the Great East Window at York Minster. Photo: Kippa Matthews.

Inside front cover: Learning about archaeology at the 'Dig Manchester' project.

Page 2: Middle Inver Estate, Sutherland, purchased by the Culag Community Woodland Trust. Photo: David Ward.

Page 5: Innovative conservation work on the Tudor warship The Mary Rose.

Page 6: Exploring the Luton Life exhibition, Luton Museum.

Page 9: Blackwell, the Arts and Crafts House, Windermere. Photo: Ray Main.

Page 11: Sustainable green timber conservation workshop at the Weald and Downland Museum. Copyright Dennis Gilbert/VIEW.

Outside back cover: Wellington Park, Taunton. Photo: Zak Waters.









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