

The NDA group Draft Strategy Published July 2025 for consultation

Historic England Response

Historic England is the Government's statutory adviser on all matters relating to the historic environment in England. We are a non-departmental public body established under the National Heritage Act 1983 and sponsored by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). We champion and protect England's historic places, providing expert advice to local planning authorities, developers, owners and communities, to help ensure our historic environment is properly understood, enjoyed and cared for.

The national and international significance of Britain's nuclear industry and the pioneering role British scientists and engineers played in the development of this technology has been highlighted in our previous consultation responses to the Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA).

We very much welcome the statement on page 37 of the draft Strategy to:

“Understand the key heritage features of our estate, and capture and preserve our important nuclear and other locally important heritage features that may be relevant to our communities’.

This is then continued on page 119:

‘Heritage and legacy management to identify, safeguard and celebrate the tangible and intangible assets, objects and memories of the UK's civil nuclear industry, the people who worked in it and the communities that supported it’.

These objectives are likely to be secured through the on-going implementation of the NDA's Heritage Strategy, where we are working with the NDA, alongside Historic Environment Scotland, Cadw, Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Wales, The National Archives, Museums, Archives, Libraries Division, Welsh Government, and The Science Museum Group in its delivery.

This involves the recording of sites, selective retention of archives at ‘Nucleus’ (the Nuclear and Caithness Archive), together with other suitable national and local locations, and the safeguarding of selective artefacts with the Science Museum Group and at other appropriate repositories.

Historic England is a member of the NDA's Heritage Panel and Historic Building Task and Finish Group, which we hope will ensure the proportionate recording of sites with the resulting information made publicly available.



We also welcome references in the draft Strategy to engaging with relevant communities, together with capturing and celebrating both the tangible and intangible heritage.

These activities demonstrate the NDA's strong and on-going commitment to meeting the requirements of the *Protocol for the Care of the Government Historic Estate* (2017), which has been developed by Government and Historic England, and is mandatory for Government departments and its agencies in England - <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/protocol-for-the-care-of-the-government-historic-estate/>.

We very much look forward to continuing to work with you.

Shane Gould
Head of Industrial Heritage
18 Aug 2025