
Historic England

Annual Report and Accounts 2024–25





Historic England Annual Report and Accounts 2024–25

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Foreword

Historic England, or more formally, the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England, was established on 1 April 1984 by the National Heritage Act 1983. We are an Arm's Length Body and executive non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).

Our statutory duties and functions are to:

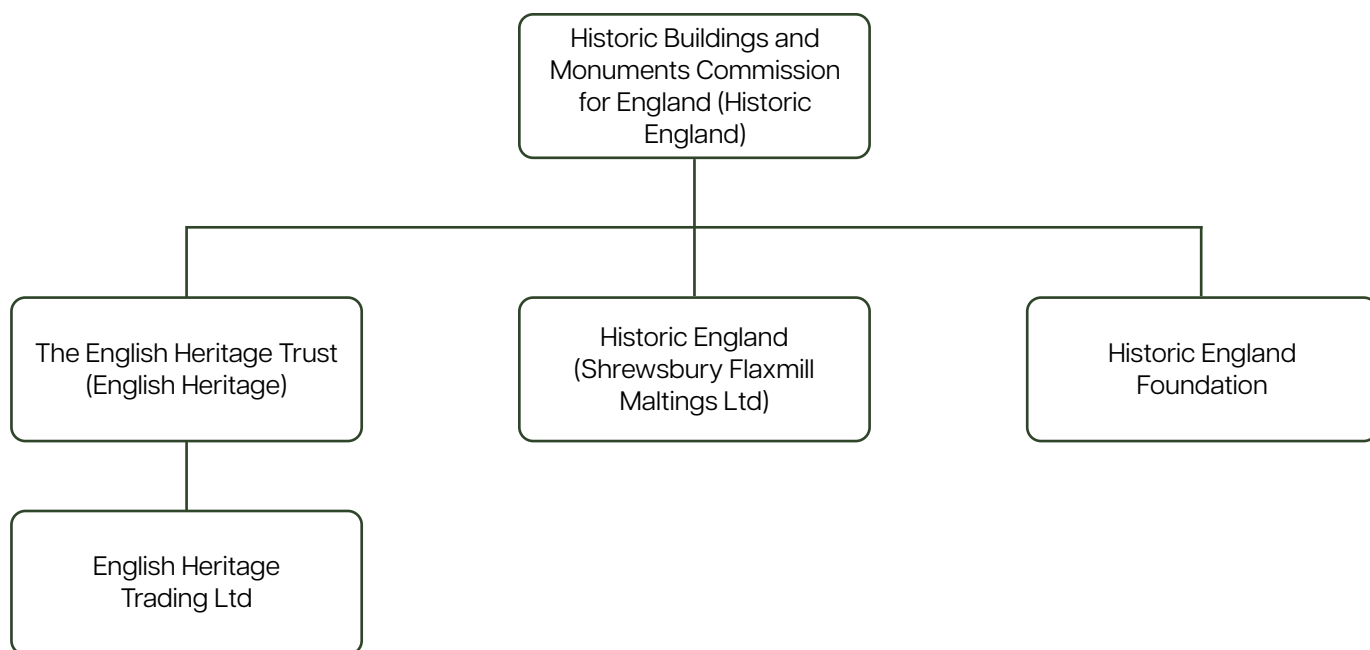
- secure the preservation of ancient monuments and historic buildings in England;¹
- promote the preservation and enhancement of the character and appearance of conservation areas situated in England;
- promote the public's enjoyment and knowledge of ancient monuments and historic buildings in England¹ and their preservation.

Our group account includes a registered charity, The English Heritage Trust (English Heritage), of which Historic England is the sole member. Historic England is responsible for the care of the National Heritage Collection – a diverse portfolio of over 400 historic English properties and sites, including World Heritage Sites, industrial monuments, castles, historic houses, abbeys, forts, stone circles and a significant portion of Hadrian's Wall. These properties are managed by The English Heritage Trust under a Property Licence and Operating Agreement, which outlines their responsibility for caring for and operating the National Heritage Collection.

The Performance Report and Accountability Report reflect Historic England's activity during 2024–25. English Heritage produces its own Annual Report and Accounts, which covers its activities and performance during the year in more detail.

Our group account also includes the Historic England Foundation, which raises funds to support Historic England's work and Historic England (Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings) Ltd, responsible for visitor operations at Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings. On 1 April 2025, we transferred visitor operations at Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings to English Heritage, which now oversees The Mill exhibition, guided tours, shop and education visits.

¹ Including UK territorial waters adjacent to England.



Chairman's Introduction

Heritage is more than a sector. It runs through the cultural and creative industries, touching every part of our lives. It is our buildings and landscapes, our customs and culture. It shapes how the world sees us and how we see ourselves. It is the air we breathe and the water we swim in.

Historic England's work spans the built environment, public realm, academic research and our Archive. It reaches across urban and rural landscapes, parks and gardens, and marine, and is internationally recognised as a key part of the UK's soft power. Our role stretches across Government, supporting delivery of key missions with our sponsor, the Department for Culture, Media and Sport. This includes support for the Department for Transport, the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, the Department for Education, the Ministry of Defence, HM Revenue and Customs and the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero.

Over the past year, I've had the privilege of visiting our teams in our offices across England. I've climbed the scaffolding at York Minster, stood in the rafters of the medieval Tithe Barn in Upminster and joined celebrations in Barnsley for the success of the Eldon Street High Street Heritage Action Zone. Wherever I go, I'm struck by the expertise, care and dedication of Historic England staff – and by their responsiveness to the needs of local economies, communities and authorities. They are a credit to this organisation.

We are an exemplary Arm's Length Body, and I know our sponsor department and Government ministers value our work highly. Through our early advice to developers, we improve outcomes for the historic environment while helping projects avoid unnecessary delays. We support major infrastructure schemes – including renewable energy and transport – ensuring these deliver the best possible outcomes for people, places and heritage.



Barnsley Civic, Eldon Street, part of the Barnsley High Streets Heritage Action Zone programme.

Our new Memorandum of Understanding with National Highways builds on our work on the Lower Thames Crossing – a project our Commissioners visited in autumn – and highlights how collaboration can drive better decisions for the historic environment and the economy.

We are also unlocking the potential of heritage through reuse. Our Heritage Works for Housing report outlines how adapting vacant historic buildings could help deliver up to 670,000 homes, offering a sustainable response to the housing crisis. After all, the greenest building is the one that already exists.

In Wakefield, we are supporting the regeneration of Phoenix Mill, a Grade II listed site being transformed into Tileyard North – a creative industries hub with state-of-the-art recording studios, workspaces and events venues. It's just one example of how heritage supports the creative economy, offering distinctive places where innovation can thrive.

From castles and cathedrals to film locations and fashion, heritage shapes the cultural landscape of England. It forms the backdrop to some of our best-loved stories, such as Downton Abbey at Highclere Castle, Harry Potter at Alnwick Castle and the many London landmarks seen in Paddington. It's no surprise that heritage is one of our greatest draws for visitors. I'm proud to represent Historic England on the UK Soft Power Council – a new advisory body that will promote our global reputation and contribute to economic growth.

Of course, our heritage must also be protected. Historic churches remain vulnerable to theft and vandalism, with devastating impacts on communities. That's why we train specialist heritage crime officers across England – helping police forces tackle serious organised crime and antisocial behaviour that threaten historic places.

We also know heritage can prevent crime and improve life chances. In Kent, our Rejuvenate project is helping vulnerable young people build confidence and resilience through archaeology and place-based learning. Our Heritage Schools programme, which has reached more than two million children across 3,000 schools since 2012, continues to demonstrate the power of local heritage to raise aspirations, build pride and foster creativity.

This year we were saddened by the loss of our Commissioner, Dame Julie Kenny, whose extraordinary contribution to heritage lives on in the restoration of Wentworth Woodhouse in Rotherham. Her tireless advocacy and passion for place were an inspiration to many.

I would like to thank Sir Chris Bryant MP for his service as Heritage Minister and to welcome his successor, Baroness Twycross. My thanks also go to Duncan Wilson CBE, who will step down in October this year, after a transformational tenure as Chief Executive. Duncan's leadership has defined Historic England – from shaping the New Model that established us as a separate body, to navigating the heritage sector through the pandemic with clarity, compassion and vision. His legacy is immense.

I am delighted that Claudia Kenyatta and Emma Squire have been appointed as our new joint Chief Executives. Their shared leadership will guide us into the next chapter with confidence, clarity and purpose.



Lord Neil Mendoza
Chairman, Historic England



Historic England
Annual Report and Accounts
2024–25

Performance Report

Section 01

Performance Report

This section sets out Historic England's corporate objectives and priorities and summarises how we have performed during the year. It comprises an overview of our work, key challenges and successes and an analysis of our performance against agreed measures. It concludes with a selection of our achievements during 2024–25.

About Us

We are the public body that protects and brings life to the heritage that matters to everyone, so it lives on and is loved for longer. From the extraordinary to the everyday, our historic places and spaces matter. From community centres to cathedrals, homes to high streets, markets to mills – these are special places we all value, the legacy we pass on and the stories we continue to tell. That's why we work with communities and specialists across England to discover, protect and bring new life to our shared historic environment, providing advice, knowledge, support and services.

Our Purpose is to improve people's lives by championing and protecting the historic environment.

Our Vision is a heritage that is valued, celebrated and shared by everyone. A historic environment that people connect with and learn from and that we are proud to pass on to future generations.

Our Values inform and influence how we go about our work. They are:

Passion – we share our love of the historic environment to inspire and energise people.

Learning – we listen and learn, and pass on this knowledge to others.

Collaboration – we work with partners and we work together to achieve great things.

Openness – we communicate in a way that is understandable, available and useful to everyone.

Responsibility – we are accountable to the public and we always act with integrity.

Three Pillars of Our Strategy

Our ambition, set out in our Future Strategy, is a future full of Thriving Places with heritage at their heart, achieved through Active Participation and Connected Communities:

Thriving Places

We will collaborate with people and partners to secure vibrant and sustainable futures for historic places.

Active Participation

We will inspire and equip people to take action in support of the places they care about.

Connected Communities

We will bring communities together by discovering and celebrating local heritage, and by protecting the character of historic places.

We help England build better by offering expert advice and supporting regeneration in towns and cities

Heritage has the power to unlock economic growth, support wellbeing and help the places where people live, work and visit to thrive. We play a statutory role in the planning system, advising on new developments that affect the historic environment and support sustainable development and economic growth. We support local planning authorities and developers to de-risk applications to save time and money, and to help ensure projects to go ahead while respecting our heritage. We advise on around 18,500 proposals that might affect the historic environment. By advising early on infrastructure projects, we help them proceed smoothly, mitigating the impact on heritage. We also offer grants and expertise to repair and reuse cherished historic buildings, bringing people and activities back to our villages, towns and cities. We manage the National Heritage List for England, which includes over 400,000 entries, ranging from prehistoric monuments to office blocks – all of which benefit from legal protection.

We build skills, knowledge, confidence and motivation

We use our knowledge and expertise to help more people discover, respect and enjoy England's heritage. Working with heritage professionals, owners, communities and individuals, we help people care for our historic places. We help build capacity and develop pathways for skills and employment training, and we share our knowledge through training, guidance, policy and advice. With teams based across England, we bring technical expertise and

a deep understanding of the needs and priorities of local communities.

We offer our assets, knowledge and expertise to everyone and engage with diverse audiences

We want everyone to experience the benefits of heritage. We share our knowledge and passion through communications, digital resources, campaigns, activities and exhibitions, and through the Historic England Archive – the biggest national collection of records on the historic environment. Our goal is to ensure that an ever-widening and more diverse audience can access and be inspired by our work, empowering them to protect our heritage for future generations.

We organise ourselves to be efficient and accountable and to reflect the people and places we serve

We direct our resources where our work has the most impact and the greatest public benefit. We have developed our fundraising capability and are exploring more ways to raise income. We are also finding ways to embrace diversity and promote inclusivity in our organisation and the wider sector.

We support the English Heritage Trust

We are accountable to Government for the care and operation of the National Heritage Collection – over 400 historic buildings, sites and monuments under the nation's ownership or protection. These are managed on our behalf by the English Heritage Trust under a renewed Property Licence and Operating Agreement which took effect from 1 April 2025. We continue to support the Trust in delivering care and maintenance of the collection under a financially self-sufficient operating model.

Chief Executive's Overview of 2024–25

As we celebrate our tenth anniversary as Historic England, and I enter my final months as Chief Executive, I'm pleased to report that we have made strong progress this year across all six of our corporate priorities.

Our Corporate Plan for 2023–26, agreed with the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), sets out our commitment to: Better Places; Inclusive Opportunities; Planning, Listing, Conservation Advice and Investment; Climate Action; Stewardship of the National Collections; and Developing Historic England.

Here are just some of my highlights from the past year. A fuller account of our activity can be found in the *Highlights of 2024–25* section of this report.

Better Places

In March, we published an independent evaluation of our High Streets Heritage Action Zone programme, which breathed life into 67 town centres between 2020 and 2024. The evaluation showed how this heritage-led approach to regeneration sparked local economic growth and helped bring communities together. Building on this success, we launched a new Heritage Action Zone in Bradford, supporting its preparations to be UK City of Culture 2025.

Following the unveiling of our first blue plaque in honour of pioneering NHS matron Daphne Steele, we erected a further three national blue plaques outside London last year. These plaques commemorated the lives and achievements of matinee idol Cary Grant, Beatle George Harrison and ceramist Clarice Cliff. Our 12-member Blue Plaque Panel continues to review a high volume of public nominations.

We have been working positively with local authorities on a range of schemes, including the Better Places Partnership, which concluded in November. We also collaborated with six DCMS Arm's Length Bodies to support culture-led regeneration schemes funded by the £4.8 billion Levelling Up Fund. Together with Arts Council England, Sport England, the National Lottery Heritage Fund, the National Lottery Community Fund, VisitEngland and the British Film Institute, we provided practical support and guidance to councils delivering these high-impact projects.

We continue to deepen our engagement with local and combined authorities around heritage-led growth. Following the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with Cornwall Council, we now have a similar agreement in place with the West Midlands Combined Authority and continue to enjoy strong relationships with elected mayors across England.

We are transforming our relationship with developers, their funders and professional advisors to ensure greater collaboration towards exemplary placemaking and long-term sustainable growth. This targeted engagement has been informed by extensive audience insight and has included a series of events and roundtables, along with the publication at UKREiF in May of our first Heritage Investment Prospectus, a tool for connecting developers with exciting development opportunities across the country. To share our knowledge more widely, we launched our new, freely available online toolkit, offering practical advice and inspiration to anyone working on heritage-led regeneration and growth.



A restoration trainee assesses parquet flooring at the Police and Fire Station, London Road, Manchester.

The Heritage Building Skills Programme also reached the final year of its pilot phase. Through it, we have supported 44 trainees from diverse backgrounds to gain valuable construction and conservation skills. Working with 31 heritage construction firms and delivering summer schools at Heritage at Risk sites, we are proud that 97% of trainees have gone on to careers in the heritage sector or related education.

Inclusive Opportunities

This year, we published our first Heritage Sector Workforce Diversity Survey. The findings highlighted key challenges, including low social mobility and under-representation of ethnic minorities and disabled people in senior roles. In response, we are developing targeted initiatives to support inclusive practice and broaden entry into the sector. Further surveys are under way to understand diversity among volunteers and the experiences of disabled professionals.

Our Everyday Heritage grants continued to spotlight working-class histories, focusing this year on rural and coastal locations. Among the 30 funded projects were the stories of Pontins holiday camp in Norfolk and toll booth workers on the Tamar Bridge. Since its launch in 2022, the programme has supported over 100 projects with total funding of £1.8 million.

In parallel, our History in the Making grant scheme continues to empower under-represented young people aged 13–25 to explore and celebrate their own heritage. Following a call for applications, 21 new projects are now under way, selected with help from our Young Advisors. Our grants are funding a wide range of projects, including murals on the Byker Wall estate in Newcastle and a horticultural tribute to untold stories from Manchester's canals.



Rockingham Kiln, Rotherham, South Yorkshire. Thought to be the only surviving 19th-century pottery kiln in Yorkshire.

Planning, Listing, Conservation Advice and Investment

This year, we helped restore 128 historic buildings and places through Heritage at Risk repair grants, totalling £7.24 million. These included £550,000 for Colchester's Jumbo Water Tower, £77,000 for Rockingham Kiln in South Yorkshire and nearly £98,000 to save a medieval Tithe Barn in Upminster. Each of these grants was supported by specialist advice from our regional teams and often unlocked further investment.



Upminster Tithe Barn, Havering, Greater London. The medieval grange barn was built around the mid-15th century by Waltham Abbey.

We were pleased to secure an additional £15 million from DCMS for the new Heritage at Risk Capital Fund, a one-year scheme targeting neglected sites in deprived areas. We are also supporting the Architectural Heritage Fund to deliver £5 million in new funding to communities restoring at-risk buildings.

The Heritage at Risk Register was updated again this year. We were able to remove 124 sites, including Saltdean Lido in Brighton and the Grade II listed Goods Shed in Darlington. Meanwhile, 155 new entries were added – including Waltham Windmill in Lincolnshire and St Nicholas Priory in Exeter – signalling the start of their conservation journey.



Conservation work being carried out to sails from the Waltham Windmill, Grimsby, North East Lincolnshire.

Our Countryside Stewardship Heritage Service, funded by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), supported over 50 landowners in its first year, securing more than £5 million for feasibility studies and capital works to restore rural heritage. We are pleased that Defra has confirmed funding for a second year.

Our regional development advice teams continue to support statutory planning. Last year, we responded to 12,493 planning permission and listed building consent cases, meeting the agreed deadlines in 99.7% of instances. We always aim to facilitate development where possible, working constructively to find solutions that balance economic and social needs with the area's special historic character. I'm particularly proud of our work with St William and Newham Council to incorporate the Grade II listed gas holders in Bromley-by-Bow into a new residential development.



Broadmead Baptist Church, Union Street, Bristol. Grade II listed, the church sits above a shopping centre in the centre of Bristol.

We have also been working closely with DCMS, the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to support Government's reform of the planning system. This includes providing advice on the Planning and Infrastructure Bill and the National Planning Policy Framework to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of heritage advice and to minimise delays in the process.

Listings continue to reflect the breadth and relevance of our shared heritage. Among this year's additions were Ron's Place in Birkenhead, Merseyside. Behind the front door of the ground-floor flat of this Victorian villa lies an offbeat fantasy world of murals and sculptures inspired by history and mythology, created by former tenant Ron Gittins. Other notable listings include a Baptist church in the middle of a Bristol shopping centre, a portable military bridge in Hampshire and a Norfolk Broads holiday cottage constructed from part of an old fairground helter-skelter.



The 'Minotaur Room' in the former home of artist Ron Gittins. 'Ron's Place', located at Birkenhead, Merseyside, is now Grade II listed.



The Inglis Portable Military Bridge over the Basingstoke Canal, Aldershot, Hampshire. The component-based design allows a team of 12 soldiers to erect the structure in around 15 minutes.



The Holt, one of a group of distinctive waterside chalets along the waterways of the Norfolk Broads, newly listed in 2024.

Climate Action

Historic buildings have an important role to play in addressing climate change. In July, we published a new Advice Note on how to reduce carbon emissions in historic buildings while preserving their character. Aimed at planning authorities, heritage consultants and building owners, the advice supports energy efficiency through sensitive repair and retrofit.

In partnership with Historic Environment Scotland and Cadw, we launched a new handbook to support learners undertaking retrofit qualifications, in light of a significant skills gap. With around 6.5 million pre-1919 buildings across the UK, equipping the workforce with the right skills is essential to addressing climate change.

During the winter, we also ran a public campaign to promote our online energy efficiency advice hub and improve energy efficiency in older homes. Delivered across multiple digital platforms, the campaign exceeded expectations – generating over 84,000 clicks to our advice pages and doubling awareness of this vital resource.

As a result of our Historic England to Net Zero programme, accrediting over 40% of our staff in carbon literacy, and delivering training to over 600 individuals from over 500 organisations amongst many other activities, Historic England has been awarded Silver Carbon Literacy Organisation status by The Carbon Literacy Project.

Stewardship of the National Collection

English Heritage, like many organisations managing visitor attractions, has continued to face financial challenges due to the ongoing impact of the pandemic, inflation, increasing cost of living and slow recovery in tourism. English Heritage Trust is undertaking a change programme to ensure the sustainability of and future investment in the National Heritage Collection, so that everybody can continue to enjoy it, now and in the future. We have also successfully signed a new 10-year Property License and Operating Agreement with English Heritage taking effect from 1 April 2025, which will see them continue to care for the National Collection.

On 1 April 2025, we transferred visitor operations at Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings to English Heritage, which now oversees The Mill exhibition, guided tours, shop and education visits. Since its restoration and re-opening in 2022, the site has welcomed nearly 60,000 visitors.

We are also seeing growing demand for office space at the Flaxmill. Marley Risk Management has taken over the entire second floor of the Main Mill and we are in discussion with other

prospective tenants. We are also reviewing proposals for development around the Grade I listed Main Mill, with the aim of delivering an exemplary residential scheme that enhances the historic setting.

The Historic England Archive continues to grow too. This year we acquired the Janette Rosing Collection – more than 8,000 photographs taken between the mid-1800s and early 1900s – through the Arts Council England Acceptance in Lieu Scheme. Assembled over 50 years, this world-class collection features works by leading photographers documenting England's landscapes, architecture and maritime history during industrialisation.

We also added a new collection to the Archive documenting Caribbean and African communities in Chapeltown, Leeds, through a partnership with photographer Solomon Charles-Kelly and the local community.

Developing Historic England

We remain committed to growing and supporting our people. Our Future Talent Programme supported 12 apprentices last year, with five progressing into fixed-term or permanent roles. We also offered 16 short-term training placements to young people from under-represented backgrounds and two Step-Up placements to support entry into the sector.

Digital capability has been a major focus too. We successfully delivered Microsoft 365 Tech Savvy, a digital training programme attended by more than 1,120 staff. Over 110 hours of live sessions and 132 coaching sessions

helped to build skills and confidence across the organisation.

We also completed a major infrastructure project, migrating core network services to a new supplier and system. This will enhance capacity and performance at all our sites and support ongoing improvements in cybersecurity.

Key Issues and Risks

We are operating in a period of significant change. The general election in July 2024 brought a new Government – and with it a new Secretary of State and ministerial team at DCMS and new ministerial priorities. With planning reform under way, a Spending Review expected, and a full review of Government Arm's Length Bodies now in progress, we will need to remain adaptable and champion heritage and its value to society.

Looking Ahead

After a decade as Chief Executive, I will be retiring at the end of October 2025. It has been a wonderful ten years with many highlights, from the restoration of Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings and the High Streets Heritage Action Zone programme to the discovery of the Bronze Age settlement at Must Farm in Cambridgeshire.

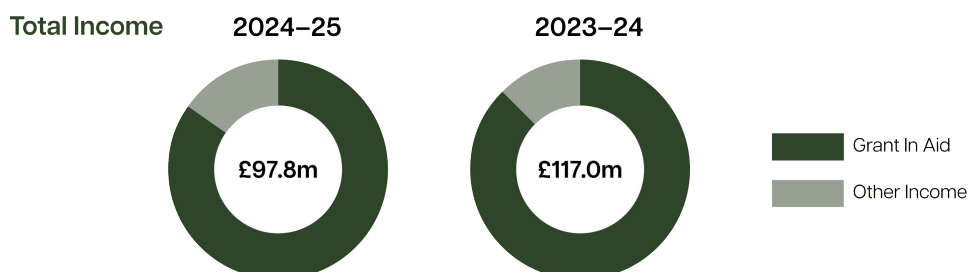
I am delighted that Claudia Kenyatta and Emma Squire will be taking over as joint Chief Executives from November. I wish my successors well and hope they enjoy the role as much as I have done.



Duncan Wilson CBE
Chief Executive

Summary of Financial Performance

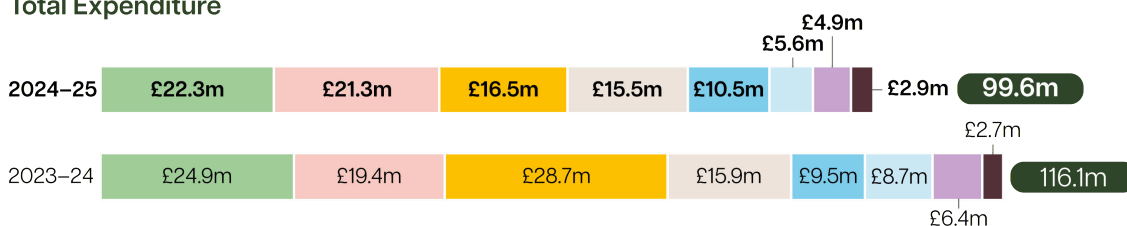
The following charts summarise our sources of income and how we allocate our resources to deliver our strategic objectives and activities.



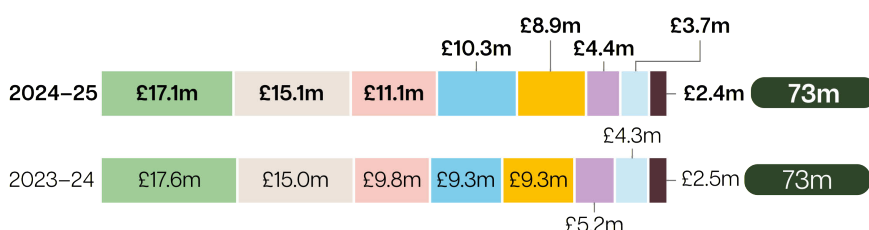
Key Activities



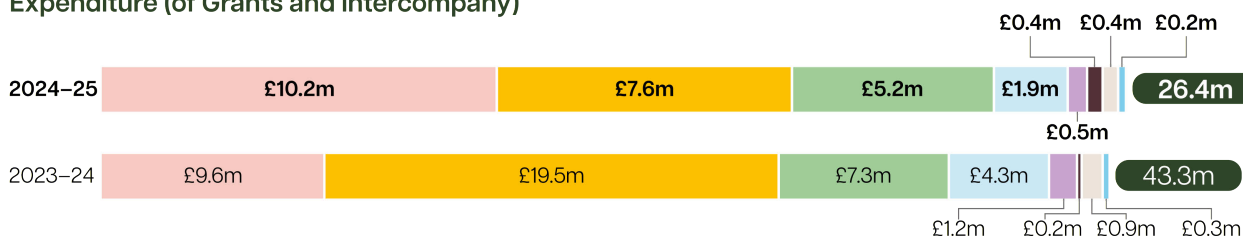
Total Expenditure



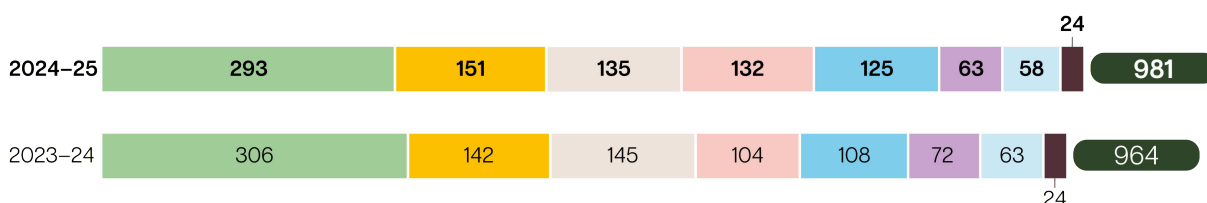
Expenditure (excluding grants and intercompany/subsidy)



Expenditure (of Grants and Intercompany)



Staff – Full Time Employees



As this is a management summary, figures may not agree to financial statements as excludes certain accounting adjustments.

Highlights of 2024–25

The following section highlights the commitment and achievements of Historic England in delivering against our six corporate priorities during 2024–25.

1. Better places: Through heritage, we help improve civic pride, prosperity, wellbeing and opportunity for the people and places most in need of our support.

Our **High Streets Heritage Action Zones (HSHAZ)** programme concluded in 2024 with the publication of a comprehensive independent evaluation report. Between 2020 and 2024, the programme revitalised 67 high streets, repairing 723 historic buildings, reinstating 462 shopfronts and creating or bringing back into use 224 homes. More than 930,000 people took part in 1,695 public events, 28,000 students engaged through 592 activities and 634 construction training sessions were delivered. The programme also created over 700 new jobs and generated £140 million in matched funding, with an overall benefit valued at over £245 million from £103 million investment.

By breathing new life into empty shops and community spaces, the programme created opportunities for inclusive growth, enabling businesses to expand into high-quality, distinctive premises that also act as creative and economic incubators. For example, in Tyldesley, Greater Manchester, HSHAZ restored the historic character of Elliott Street – believed to trace the route of a Roman road – through repairs to listed buildings, public realm improvements and cultural activities. Meanwhile in Brierley Hill, the conversion of a disused 1960s retail building into high-quality homes has helped meet local housing demand while restoring pride in the town centre.

Our partnerships with local authorities and grassroots organisations empowered communities to shape their high streets and take pride in their heritage. This successful model of regeneration – combining capital funding, cultural programming and community engagement – could be replicated across England, especially where there is potential to bring historic buildings back into use.

Bradford is a strong example of this approach in action. In preparation for its year as UK City of Culture 2025, the city launched a **Heritage Action Zone (HAZ)** focusing on its historic core, including Kirkgate, Sunbridge Road and the Grade I listed City Hall. The project includes shopfront restoration in historic Ivegat, repair grants for prominent sites such as Carters Block and conservation planning for City Hall. Supported by £2 million in Historic England funding, the HAZ complements other major developments such as the Darley Street Market and the £40-million Transforming Cities Fund pedestrianisation scheme.

Throughout the year, we contributed to Government's **Devolution White Paper**, securing recognition of Historic England as a key partner for strategic authorities when they are developing their Local Growth Plans. This reflects our ongoing work to champion heritage as a driver of prosperity and great places.

Our cultural programming continues to support pride in place and wellbeing. In 2024, the **Rejuvenate Kent** project engaged 14 vulnerable young people in hands-on archaeological

activities, including excavations and heritage workshops. Delivered in partnership with local heritage organisations and the Kent Youth Justice Team, the project promoted teamwork, self-determination and personal growth. This highlights the powerful role heritage can play in supporting young people at risk of social exclusion to reconnect with their communities and reframe their aspirations for the future.

Meanwhile, our **National Blue Plaque Scheme** celebrated outstanding contributions to society. Cary Grant, one of Hollywood's most iconic actors, was commemorated in his hometown of Bristol. George Harrison, the Beatles' lead guitarist and humanitarian, was recognised for his musical legacy and charitable work. Clarice Cliff, a pioneering ceramic designer from Stoke-on-Trent, was acknowledged for her bold and influential work in British decorative arts. And Daphne Steele, the first Black matron in the NHS, was honoured for her groundbreaking contribution to healthcare and equality. The scheme is overseen by a diverse panel of academics and cultural commentators, and offers Community Research Grants to organisations working with under-represented communities. It builds on the success of the London scheme led by English Heritage and supports regional initiatives across the country.

Finally, in September 2024, we published **Historic Environment Skills and Careers Action Plan for England**, the first ever skills and careers action plan for the historic environment in England. Managed by the Historic Environment Skills Forum and chaired by Historic England – and the culmination of 18 months of research and intelligence gathering – HESCAPE outlined priorities for retrofit training, adding career entry pathways and embedding heritage in mainstream education. The action plan is now being delivered through working groups across the sector.



Two young descendants of pottery designer Clarice Cliff examining a Cliff-designed plate at the unveiling of her Blue Plaque in 2024.

2. Inclusive opportunities: We want to ensure that everyone can connect with, enjoy and benefit from the historic environment.

Our **Future Talent Programme** secured support from the Crown Estate, Rochester Bridge Trust, Splendid Boghani Foundation and The Mercers' Company to enable us to offer a wider range of early career opportunities for under-represented groups than in previous years.

We introduced eight new paid **Step-Up Placements** starting in autumn 2024 and provided 16 Emerging Talent Training Placements during summer 2024. These provided opportunities for disabled people, under-represented ethnicities and those from economically disadvantaged backgrounds to gain valuable experience of working in the heritage sector.

Since July 2023, when we launched our **Virtual Work** experience programme 'Careers in Heritage with Historic England', 1,962 students have participated in our programme. This interactive and immersive programme offers young people an introduction to working for Historic England and the wider heritage sector.

We continued our sector-facing work to improve workforce diversity, publishing the **Heritage Workforce Diversity Survey** in February. Conducted in partnership with Nexer, the survey identified under-representation across ethnicity, disability and socio-economic background, and highlighted barriers to inclusion. Some of the key findings were as follows:

- 90% of respondents identified as white, with no survey respondents in higher managerial positions identifying as Black;
- 20% identified as disabled and 25% as neurodivergent;
- 10% came from working-class backgrounds, with parents in routine or semi-routine manual jobs;
- disabled respondents were significantly less likely to hold full-time, permanent contracts.

In response, we hosted sector roundtables and published recommendations to improve recruitment strategies, reduce access barriers and refine future monitoring approaches.

In December 2024, we launched the **Inclusion Advice Hub**, an online resource with over 75 articles and toolkits to support organisations in becoming more inclusive. Topics include inclusive governance, workplace culture, audience development and interpreting diverse histories.

We offered our first sector-hosted placements in this scheme in 2024–25, and, with our Partnerships and Philanthropy team, secured funding to host three Emerging Talent Placement and three Step-Up Placements in sector organisation in 2024–25.

Our **Everyday Heritage Grant Programme** continues to celebrate working-class and under-represented heritage. Through this programme, Historic England is funding 56 new community-led projects to celebrate working-class histories across England. A total of £875,000 will be awarded, with individual grants ranging from £6,800 to £25,000.

Round three of the programme focused on rural and coastal working-class histories. We awarded nearly £500,000 across 30 projects, including Liverpool's Dockers' Umbrella and the Ashbourne Shrovetide Football tradition. Since its launch in 2022, the programme has supported over 100 projects with a £1.8 million fund.

Our **History in the Making** grant scheme supported 21 youth-led projects across England, aimed at enabling under-represented young people aged 13–25 to explore their local history through creative expression. According to a survey of over 100 participants from the 2023–24 programme, 93% felt motivated to take part in further community activities. The majority reported increased confidence, new skills, a stronger connection to place and the chance to meet new people.

Four of these grants were awarded to Bradford 2025 UK City of Culture: 'Shared Stories'

celebrates the city's diverse cultural history; 'Summat Creative' focuses on the overlooked history of people with learning disabilities who worked in Bradford's mills; Shipley Glen Tramway will create a fully accessible interactive place marker for young people with additional needs to explore social history, and BEAP Community project will explore local Bangladeshi heritage through oral history.



Young people enjoying the Shipley Glen Tramway in West Yorkshire, part of a History in the Making project with Moor Time charity.

We published **Understanding Special Historic Interest in Listing** to highlight the importance of listing buildings of special architectural or historic interest in England. This includes a wide range of structures, not just castles and stately homes. Buildings are listed based on their 'special historic interest' and are designed to encourage recognition of places in relation to communities and events. For example, the Royal Vauxhall Tavern is a significant venue for the LGBTQ+ community and drag performances, and Brixton Markets symbolises the cultural impact of the Black Caribbean community in post-war Britain.

We also progressed our **Grants Review Programme**, drawing on public input and staff consultation, with the aim to make our grants more accessible, strategic and impact driven. As a result, grants now include a broader set of criteria, enabling us to support a wider range of projects that promote wellbeing, prosperity, connection, pride and climate action. A new

Expression of Interest form will now make it easier for applicants to check whether their project is eligible. Our new Unified Grant System, due in 2025, will support a clearer, fairer and more streamlined application experience.

Through the **Missing Pieces Project**, we continue to invite people to contribute their stories to the National Heritage List for England. Highlights included a digital map of 225 listed sites visited by African American abolitionists such as Frederick Douglass and Moses Roper during their 19th-century speaking tours of England, which helped illuminate the links between Black activism and the English landscape. In addition, a major LGBTQ+ heritage campaign, led by Leeds Beckett University's Centre for Culture and Humanities, featured blogs, crowd-sourced maps and film content exploring how queer lives and identities are reflected in the built environment, from Roman Britain to modern-day clubs and community venues. Contributors included leading historians, campaigners and celebrities, who shared the places that matter to them. The project continues to empower individuals and communities to add their stories to the national record and reshape how heritage is understood. It is also worth noting that 2024 saw a record 53,000 contributions, the highest annual total since the project began in 2016.



Market Row in Brixton Market, Lambeth, Greater London.

3. Planning, listing, conservation advice and investment:

We secure positive change and sustainable futures for historic places through our expertise, advice and investment.

Our planning and listing teams provided extensive consultation and advice on development proposals across England. This included constructive input on major regeneration projects, such as reusing historic gasholders and adapting listed buildings for housing.

We worked closely with Government on planning reform, responding to the statutory consultees review and the previous Government's **Richards Review on Statutory Consultees**, as well as supporting the revised **National Planning Policy Framework**. Our goal remains to ensure heritage is effectively integrated into planning and development policy whilst levels of protection are maintained.

In 2024, we published **Heritage Works for Housing**, new guidance to support the reuse of historic buildings. The document offers practical advice on the transformation of historic buildings for residential use, including technical considerations, planning permissions and links to further resources. Crucially, it addresses the current issues of rising housing demand and carbon emission reduction. The guidance also includes case studies demonstrating how historic buildings can become high-quality homes while preserving embodied carbon, boosting property values and driving regeneration, whilst often providing quicker routes for new housing provision than new-build sites.

The following reuse examples illustrate various approaches to the challenges common in adapting historic structures for modern living:

- **Ancoats Dispensary, Manchester:**
This Grade II listed former hospital building had been vacant since 1989 and was in poor condition. A façade retention scheme was adopted and, with support from Great

Places Housing Association, it was converted into 39 affordable apartments. Completed in February 2024, the project restored the building's social role while overcoming significant technical and funding challenges.

- **Park Hill, Sheffield:** A Grade II* listed Brutalist housing estate from the 1960s, Park Hill has been undergoing phased regeneration by Urban Splash since 2009. In partnership with Historic England, early grant-funded phases revived confidence in the site, with later phases achieving 55% carbon savings over new build. The development now offers distinctive homes with thermal upgrades and renewed community appeal.

Additionally, during 2024 and 2025, we awarded a range of grants to protect and revitalise important historic sites. Examples include:

- **Phoenix Mill, Wakefield:** Part of the Rutland Mills complex, the mill is a Grade II listed building dating from around 1800. Originally a corn warehouse and later a textile mill, it is being revitalised as part of the new Tileyard North development. The £625,000 grant will support essential repairs to the building's exterior, including windows, roof and walls. Once restored, it will house recording studios, creative workspaces and event venues, contributing to the regeneration of Wakefield's waterfront and creative economy.
- **Crystal Palace Subway, London:** Dating from 1865, the subway is the most substantial survivor of the Crystal Palace complex, which was destroyed by fire in 1936. Restoration is due to be completed in time for its 160th anniversary later this year, including a new roof over the East Courtyard and extensive repairs to the walls, floor, steps and entrances. The £3.5 million project was funded by various sources, including the City of London Strategic Investment Pot, Historic England and local community donations.



The newly restored Crystal Palace Subway, which runs under the Crystal Palace Parade in Bromley, Greater London.

- **Madeira Terrace, Brighton:** A much-loved local landmark currently on the Heritage at Risk Register, Madeira Terrace features intricate marine-inspired decorative ironwork and is the longest continuous cast-iron structure in Britain. Historic England has committed £750,000 towards restoring 28 of the 151 ornate arches and installing a new, fully accessible lift in Phase 1. The public has shown strong support for the restoration too, contributing a £440,000 donation during a 2017 crowdfunding drive.



Some of the 865 metre long, cast-iron covered terrace and walkway, which forms Madeira Terrace in Brighton, East Sussex. Image shows the Terrace ahead of restoration work.

In 2024/25, 252 historic places have been added to the National Heritage List for England (the List), including 216 new Listed Buildings, 31 new Scheduled Monuments and 5 new Registered Parks and Gardens – up 25% on 2023–24 (202 additions). New additions include:

- The last unlisted **cabmen's shelter** in St John's Wood, London, has now been Grade II listed. Known locally as 'the Chapel', it was built as a rest stop for cab drivers in the era of horse-drawn carriages. These shelters were designed to be no larger than a horse and cart, meaning they could be easily placed along public highways. This listing marks the last of the capital's surviving shelters to be granted protection, recognising their social and architectural significance.
- Two Birmingham pubs, the **Craven Arms** and the **Crown Inn**, both key to local history and music heritage, have been granted Grade II listed status. The Craven Arms is noted for its striking tiled exterior, designed between 1906 and 1910 by Arthur Edwards. The Crown Inn is celebrated as the birthplace of heavy metal music, having hosted the first gig of Black Sabbath (then called Earth), along with performances by The Who, Status Quo and other iconic bands.



The striking tiled exterior of the Craven Arms, Birmingham, West Midlands, newly listed in 2024.

- **Waterton Park**, West Yorkshire, considered the world's first nature reserve, has been registered at Grade II. Created by 19th-century naturalist Charles Waterton, the park was enclosed with a high boundary wall to protect wildlife and featured innovative conservation practices such as banning hunting and fishing. Waterton encouraged public access to the park, including visits by patients from local mental asylums, anticipating modern links between nature, wellbeing and inclusivity.



Waterton Park, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, thought to be the world's first nature reserve. It was registered at Grade II in 2024.

In 2024, the Heritage at Risk Register listed 4,891 sites. While 124 were removed from the list, 155 were added. The Register gives an annual snapshot of the health of England's valued historic buildings and places, helping to ensure they can be protected and enjoyed in the future. Key successes include:

- **Saltdean Lido**, East Sussex: The Grade II listed Art Deco lido is one of only three such lidos in the UK and had been on the Heritage at Risk Register due to the poor condition of its reinforced concrete. Funding came from The National Lottery Heritage Fund, Historic England, Brighton & Hove City Council and community fundraising efforts. The restored site includes a café, library, ballroom, exercise studio, co-working space and heritage learning areas.



Night-time swimmers enjoying Saltdean Lido, Brighton, East Sussex. The building underwent extensive restoration and reopened in 2024.

- **Hurst Castle**, Hampshire: Hurst Castle comprises a mid-16th century stone-built artillery castle, much altered in the early to mid-19th century. Increased storm activity and accelerated beach erosion in 2021 led to the collapse of part of the eastern wing battery and deterioration to other areas, including the western wing battery and the counterscarp wall. English Heritage is exploring options for further rock armour to provide temporary protection while long-term solutions are considered.
- **Tamworth Castle**, Staffordshire: One of the best-preserved motte-and-bailey castles in England, Tamworth Castle dates back over 1,600 years and was once home to Mercian kings before being rebuilt by the Normans in the 11th century. The addition of this Grade I listed site to the Heritage at Risk Register reflects the urgent need for extensive repairs to address ongoing instability.

We also supported rural heritage through the **Farming in Protected Landscapes Historic Buildings Restoration Grant** scheme. We facilitated 127 applications for 161 buildings, with works due to complete by March 2025. Since 2006, such schemes have contributed around £13 million annually to countryside heritage, protecting over 45,000 archaeological sites and 6,500 traditional farm buildings.

4. Climate action: Our leadership ensures that heritage plays an important role in the fight to limit the impact of climate change on the environment.

In July 2024, we published an updated **Advice Note** on energy and carbon efficiency, widely shared with over 180 local authority partners. The note offers planning guidance, permissions advice and adaptation examples to help keep historic buildings in use. Crucially, it highlights how sensitive repair, maintenance and adaptation can help to reduce carbon emissions, reliance on fossil fuels and energy costs.

Case studies of successful adaptation include:

- **Becket's Chapel**, Norfolk: The Grade I listed medieval chantry chapel, owned by the town of Wymondham since the 16th century and previously used as a library, had been on the Heritage at Risk Register since 2018. Improvements mean it can host events again, with lighting enhancing its visual appeal and new roof insulation and underfloor heating making the space more usable throughout the year.
- A retrofitted **1820s stone farmhouse**: With support from a multidisciplinary team including a conservation architect, a sustainability consultant, structural engineers and renewable energy specialists, the farmhouse has been fitted with breathable insulation, solar panels and heat pumps. This has helped reduce vulnerability to power cuts, and enhance comfort and efficiency, while maintaining the integrity of the traditional construction.

We published a new **Level 3 Award Handbook** in collaboration with Cadw and Historic Environment Scotland. This handbook is designed to help learners understand how to improve energy efficiency in older and traditionally constructed buildings, typically those built before 1919. It covers traditional construction types, their

performance and the suitability of energy efficiency measures.

Our **Heritage Carbon Literacy** course became licensable this year, enabling more organisations to train their teams in sustainable practices. Benefits include national accreditation, improved carbon awareness and collaborative planning for net zero.

Together with Arts Council England, we developed a joint **Climate Action Statement of Purpose** to help organisations commission decarbonisation work. The first project is now being tendered.

We have started a major two-year project to improve the availability and application of heritage information in delivering clean offshore energy. The £1.25 million project is funded by the Crown Estate through its Offshore Wind Evidence and Change programme, which is de-risking and accelerating the delivery of clean offshore technologies. Our project is adding data generated by archaeological interpretation of developers' seabed surveys over the last 20 years to the Crown Estate's Marine Data Exchange and integrating it within HE's National Marine Heritage Record, helping to speed decisions about future wind farms and wider strategic plans.

Our **Energy Efficiency Advice Campaign**, which ran from October to December 2024, has now been completed. It reached wide audiences through digital and social advertising and influencer partnerships.

Our **Historic England to Net Zero (HENZ)** champions – a team of 17 staff – continue to support climate action across three workstreams: staff travel, waste and carbon literacy training. Appointed in March 2024, these members of staff come from across the organisation and play a key role in supporting the HENZ programme board. They are fundamental in helping to embed behavioural change and encourage practical, organisation-wide steps toward achieving our net zero goals.

5. Stewardship of the national collections:

Our effective management of the National Collections ensures they have a sustainable future.

English Heritage Trust (EHT) has experienced an extremely challenging year due to poor weather, a slowdown in the recovery of inbound tourism, an increase in outbound tourism in the summer and the increase in the cost of living impacting people's disposable income. This has impacted both visitor numbers and new member acquisition. The final year end position shows total income of £155.2m (2023–24 £141.4m) and visitor numbers of 5.7m (2023–24 6.1m), compared to a pre-pandemic peak of around 6.5 million in 2017–18 and 2018–19. Consequently, EHT implemented mitigations to improve their position for the full year, and their final position was a net unrestricted deficit of £5.0m (net of £6.2m of exceptional costs). Longer term, EHT has completed consultation on a reshaping programme. The aim of this is to balance income growth estimates for 2025–26 with payroll and non-payroll reductions so that income in 2025–26 covers all revenue and capital expenditure.

Following successful negotiations with English Heritage Trust, the Fourth Shared Service Agreement was implemented from 1 October 2024. The agreement was based on a number of partnership principles including value, quality and collaboration. Shared service leads continue to work together for continuous improvement aligned to achieving best value for money.

A new Property Licence and Operating Agreement was also signed between Historic England and English Heritage Trust, to take effect on 1 April 2025 and under which English Heritage cares for the National Heritage Collection on behalf of Historic England. The new Licence reflects the successful manner in which the two organisations have worked together since 2015.

From 1 April 2025, English Heritage managed the visitor operation at **Shrewsbury Flaxmill**

Maltings, including exhibitions, guided tours and education visits. Historic England will retain responsibility for the wider site and long-term development. Since re-opening in 2022, the site has welcomed nearly 60,000 visitors and attracted new tenants, with full occupancy of the second floor expected by year end.

Work continues at **Fort Cumberland**, the artillery fortification at the entrance to Langstone Harbour, Portsmouth. The first phase of urgent works to the site's accommodation were completed in March 2025. A second phase of emergency repairs to the infrastructure will commence in 2025–26, together with the drafting of a new conservation management plan to support future regeneration plans.

Historic England received over £1 million for three projects under the AHRC-funded Research Infrastructure for Conservation and Heritage Science (RICHeS) programme. The Heritage Science Collections Hub: South will upgrade facilities and employ a Collections Access Manager at Fort Cumberland. The Integrated Mobile and Fixed Lab project, in partnership with English Heritage, will provide new equipment and technicians to tackle the challenges that climate change poses for the preservation of historic collections and places. The Heritage Science Data Service project, led by the University of York, will catalogue UK heritage science research facilities, create an accessible data platform, and establish a secure repository for long-term preservation of research data. Historic England also contributes to ten other projects in the RICHeS programme.

Unpath'd Waters was one of five 3-year, £2.9m Discovery Projects funded by the Arts and Humanities Research Council's programme. Led by Historic England, a consortium of eight universities, UK Government heritage agencies, and commercial and charitable organisations explored how we could unlock our remarkable marine heritage digital collections. It used AI to link our distinct national marine inventories, explored what people most value about shipwreck heritage, co-designed with visually

impaired people a virtual reality interface with the collections, created a simulation of prehistoric landscapes now lost below the North Sea, identified wrecks in the Irish Sea and tested a method for understanding their vulnerability, and developed a new values-led approach to research.

Following a successful pilot, our **Archive** virtual viewing service is now fully operational, reducing carbon emissions and increasing access to our collections. Highlights from the year include:

- The **Janette Rosing photographic collection** was acquired through the Arts Council's Acceptance in Lieu Scheme. The archive contains around 8,000 original topographical photographs dating from the mid-1800s to early 1900s, showcasing Rosing's expert eye for quality and composition. This is the first time a photographic collection has been allocated to the Historic England Archive under the scheme.
- A new archive documenting **African and Caribbean communities in Chapeltown, Leeds**, was created through a residency project with Solomon Charles-Kelly and the local arts organisation Lens Lab Project. Teams worked closely with the community to capture and preserve stories and images that reflect the vibrant heritage of the area.
- The **Portleven Archive** aerial photography collection generated 150,000 website visits on its launch day in October. Taken by pioneering commercial aerial photographer Arthur William Hobart, the images offer striking views of England's industry, townscapes and seaside resorts.

6. Developing Historic England: We are valued, adaptable and equipped to deliver our purpose to safeguard the history that surrounds us.

We launched the **Microsoft 365 Tech Savvy** programme this year, with a strong uptake. It was attended live by 230 staff, with 911 participants registering for the four essential skills webinars. Some 300 staff have joined the Tech Savvy MS Teams group, which remains an active and engaged community providing ad hoc support from peers across the organisation.

A significant number of staff also took part in our 28-week digital skills training programme, developed in partnership with Hable. It provided 110 hours of live webinars, 132 coaching sessions and in-person office support. In terms of impact, staff reported an average skills increase of three points on a scale of 1–10 as a direct result of the sessions they attended.

Our **digital strategy** is steadily progressing towards several project deliveries throughout the year, building a culture that embraces digital, data and technology. Our digital transformation is also improving access to our expertise and the information we hold, providing tools to help everyone make a positive difference to the historic environment. Key deliverables include:

- **Unified Grants System:** A new grants management solution that will provide a single business system to manage the entire grants process. Designed to improve accessibility and inclusivity, it will support our people and processes and reinforce our role as a leading grant provider.
- **CaMSys (Case Management System):** A replacement for our current ConCase system, designed to increase security, adaptability and processing speed, while making it easier to onboard new users.

- **Heritage Gateway onboarding for Historic Environment Records (HERs):** Expanding the platform that allows users to search across national and local HER datasets, providing a unique overview of England’s historic environment.
- **National Heritage List for England:** A new search function, now in public beta, will make it easier to explore the List – including searches by local town or area – helping more people discover the historic places that matter to them.
- **Digital Asset Management System:** Previewed in November 2024, this new system will store our digital images, video and sound files from the Archive and provide a media library to improve access to digital content.

As an organisation, we are continuing to strive for more informed decision making by providing and utilising useful risk and performance data. Following an audit by the Government Internal Audit Agency, an action plan was put in place to improve our risk management framework, changing the mechanics of our approach to risk where needed and embedding it in the company culture. This work is ongoing, but key milestones have been achieved, including an updated organisational **Risk Appetite Statement**.

Results from the Staff Survey 2024 demonstrate improvement in managing staff stress and workloads. Experience of stress in the previous 12 months was down to 55%, reduced from 60% in 2022 and 64% in 2020. Eighty-one per cent agreed that their workload is manageable, up from 76% in 2022. Where people had experienced stress, there was high awareness of the support available (91%), with many reporting they had the skills and techniques to help to resolve it (85%). Together, these programmes are transforming the way we work and ensuring we are equipped to meet future challenges and opportunities.

Other matters

We are dedicated to continuous improvement across all facets of our work. We strive for excellence, whether in the expert advice we provide, our engagement with the public and stakeholders or our efforts to preserve and enhance the historic environment.

In every interaction with colleagues, the public and other stakeholders, we uphold the principles of respect, sustainability and ethical decision making.

- **Zero tolerance for modern slavery:** We maintain a strict policy against any form of modern slavery, coerced labour or human trafficking, within both our own business and our supply chains. Our Modern Slavery Transparency Statement, available on our website, outlines our unwavering stance. Notably, in the fiscal year 2023–24, no alerts related to suspected incidents of modern slavery were reported through our whistleblowing mechanisms.
- **Integrity and anti-corruption measures:** Our staff members are held to the highest standards of honesty and integrity. No incidents resulted in staff discipline or dismissal due to acts constituting bribery or corruption during this period.
- **Maximising social impact:** We strategically allocate resources to create the greatest social value. Our Corporate Plan and strategic activities are guided by outcome-led performance measures, enabling us to demonstrate the tangible benefits and real-world impact of our work.
- **Risk awareness and adaptability:** Like all public bodies, we remain vigilant about risk and uncertainty. We continually review our objectives, performance indicators and corporate risks, adjusting them as needed to reflect changes in our operating environment.

Performance Against Principal Corporate KPIs

Historic England's corporate Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) monitor our progress against the priorities set out in the Corporate Plan 2023–26. This section presents our performance at year-end 2024–25 against a selection of principal KPIs, which have been identified as the most relevant and material for external audiences, aligned to our Corporate Plan outcomes and our Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) priorities.

Performance Summary

Performance in 2024–25 remained strong across the majority of areas, with consistent delivery across many of our corporate KPIs. Particularly strong results were seen in sector training, archive engagement, climate advice and carbon literacy initiatives, and place-based investment, all showing sustained demand. Several KPIs have continued to mature over the year, underpinned by stronger data baselines, improved digital measurement, and more embedded performance frameworks.

At the same time, some results highlight the importance of continued engagement and visibility. Changes in polling methodology affected several perception-based KPIs, leading to lower headline agreement scores. These changes offer

greater nuance in public sentiment but limit direct year-on-year comparability. Notably, recognition of heritage's contribution to pride and belonging has declined slightly among younger and more diverse audiences, emphasising the need for clear communication of the value and relevance of our work and the value and benefits of heritage in people's lives.

Performance by Corporate Priority Area

The following pages present year-end results for selected principal KPIs that reflect our contribution to the outcomes under each corporate priority. KPIs are grouped by priority and include the priority descriptor, followed by relevant commentary, results, and analysis.

Better Places

Through heritage, we help improve civic pride, prosperity, wellbeing and opportunity for the people and places most in need of our support.

In 2024–25, Historic England maintained a strong strategic focus on directing funding to the communities most in need. Over 50% of our core grant spend was allocated to areas in the lowest three deciles of the Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD), reaffirming our commitment to place-based investment and heritage-led regeneration. While public sentiment remained broadly positive, 60% of people expressed pride in their local heritage, and 58% agreed it contributed to a sense of belonging, reflecting a stable long-term trend.

Our engagement has gone beyond investment. The Rejuvenate Project, delivered with Historic England, Wessex Archaeology, and Isle Heritage, worked with a Youth Justice Team in Kent to engage young people in an 8-week heritage-led programme using archaeological methods. This exemplifies how heritage can support wellbeing and opportunity, working with young people through archaeology to build confidence and gain practical skills. In times of local and global social-economic uncertainty, the role of heritage in supporting individual and community wellbeing is essential, and our work demonstrates how these benefits are being realised in practice.

Corporate Outcome	KPI	Result	Commentary
Economically and socially disadvantaged places become safer and more prosperous due to investment in their heritage, and in the skills required to sustain it.	1A. HE Grant spend (£) in areas of deprivation / Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) deciles as a percentage of total.	2024–25 IMD 1–3: 50.4% IMD 4–5: 20.4% IMD 6–10: 29.2% 2023–24* Tier 1 47% Tier 2 32% Tier 3 21%	<p>£8.34m of Historic England's core grant investment was in areas with an identified IMD decile. £4.2m of this was in the lowest three deciles, demonstrating a sustained focus on supporting the more disadvantaged communities.</p> <p>In addition to this, we have invested a further £4.6m in Commissions & National Capacity Building during 2024–25, the majority of which covers national issues.</p> <p><i>*Grant investment in 2023/24 was assessed using Levelling Up Tiers rather than IMD deciles, so results are not directly comparable.</i></p>
People's pride in their local place has improved due to our work.	1B. Percentage of people proud of local heritage.	2024–25 60%* 2023–24* 66%	<p>60% of people surveyed agreed with the statement "I am proud to live where I do because of its heritage", indicating a stable and positive long-term view.</p> <p>Following from our High Streets Heritage Action Zones Programme, 43% of people across England said that they are proud of their local high street, and 48% agreed it is a good place to spend time.</p> <p><i>*The lower headline agreement score is likely influenced by a change in polling methodology.</i></p>
Our work has a positive impact on the wellbeing of people and communities.	1C. Percentage of people who agree heritage adds to a sense of belonging.	2024–25 58%* 2023–24 69%	<p>58% of respondents agreed that having heritage in their local area contributed positively to their life. While lower than the previous annual figure, this remains a positive long-term indicator, with more than half of respondents affirming a sense of belonging linked to heritage.</p> <p><i>*The lower headline agreement score is likely influenced by a change in polling methodology.</i></p>

Inclusive Opportunities

We want to ensure that everyone can connect with, enjoy and benefit from the historic environment.

Work to make heritage more accessible and inclusive continues across a range of initiatives, with particular focus on reaching under-represented groups. While 79% of people agreed that Historic England's work benefits society, younger respondents and those from lower socio-economic backgrounds were less likely to agree. This feedback has helped shape a targeted programme of interventions, including our Everyday Heritage Grants and work to strengthen youth engagement through data-informed approaches and tailored projects.

There is more to do to shape perceptions and ensure our impact is better understood across all communities. However, the year's results provide a valuable diagnostic, enabling us to refine our approach and connect our initiatives more clearly to the outcomes that matter for people's lives.

Corporate Outcome	KPI	Result	Commentary
A greater diversity of people engage with the historic environment through the work we do and the programmes and organisations we fund.	2B. Percentage of people who agree that the work Historic England does benefits society.	2024–25 79%*	This KPI helps us understand how our work is perceived across society. It serves as a measure for public awareness of our impact and informs how we shape engagement to reach and resonate with different audiences. The results continue to guide our focus on inclusive representation and ensure the benefits of heritage are more widely felt. <i>*The lower headline agreement score is likely influenced by a change in polling methodology.</i>
		2023–24 86%	
The heritage sector is more inclusive and benefitting from greater diversity	2C. Number of visits to our Inclusive Heritage Advice Hub.	2024–25 12,775 2023–24 N/A – New KPI	<p>Launched in August 2024, the Inclusive Heritage Advice Hub is a part of Historic England's long-term commitment to supporting greater diversity across the heritage sector. It brings together guidance, tools, and case studies to help organisations embed inclusive practice into their work.</p> <p>Looking ahead, we are developing a clearer strategic vision for the Hub, including improvements to usability and a more proactive promotion across the sector. Early engagement levels have been promising, and we see this as a key resource to help drive long-term sector-wide change.</p>

Planning, Listing and Conservation Advice and Investment

We secure positive change and sustainable futures for historic places through our expertise, advice and investment.

Our performance this year highlights both the reach and influence of Historic England’s expertise. In nearly 70% of planning cases where we raised concerns, amendments were made in line with our advice, an important measure of our impact on sustainable, heritage-sensitive development. This included transformative schemes such as Grimsby’s Grade II* listed Ice Factory, a rare survival of the town’s fishing heritage, into a future-facing hub for the offshore wind industry. Our constructive engagement helped secure planning permission for the scheme, enabling regeneration while maintaining the setting of one of Grimsby’s most significant historic buildings.

In parallel, over 5,100 sector training opportunities were delivered this year, far exceeding the target, and illustrating strong demand for our knowledge offer. Uptake has been particularly high among local authorities, helping to build resilience and capability across the heritage sector. Our training webinars and new content streams continue to be a vital part of our role in strengthening the system that underpins sustainable heritage management.

Corporate Outcome	KPI	Result	Commentary
Heritage assets and historic places are adapted and changed in sustainable ways that respect their significance.	3A. Proportion of cases in which amendments in response to our substantive advice positively reflected that advice.	2024–25 68.90%	This KPI demonstrates how our advice on planning and listed building consent applications influences the development of schemes. It measures the proportion of amendments which respond to our advice.
		2023–24 75%	The result shows that in 2024–25 our advice was influential in 68.9% of cases in which we raised concerns or objected, and for which at least one amendment was logged.
Our partners, including local authorities, have the skills and knowledge they need to effect positive change.	3C. Historic England sector training: Number of training opportunities completed.	2024–25 5,147	Take-up of sector training is a clear indicator of how effectively we are building skills and resilience across the heritage sector. It also reflects the sector’s appetite for practical support and shared learning. These results help guide our response to emerging needs and strengthen the sector’s ability to manage change with confidence and sustainability.
		2023–24 3,535	

Climate Action

Our leadership ensures that heritage plays an important role in the fight to limit the impact of climate change on the environment.

Historic England’s climate action work saw major progress in 2024–25. Through the Sector to Net Zero Carbon Literacy programme, 437 organisation completed training, with pledges estimated to save 376 tonnes of CO₂e. This is part of a wider effort to embed climate awareness and action across the heritage sector.

Our Heritage Carbon Literacy Sharable Course has been licensed by seven organisations and delivered by five independent trainers. Digital engagement continues to support this work, with targeted communications, events, and resource sharing contributing to growing momentum, including a webinar in February 2025 that drew in over 110 cultural organisations. As detailed in our TCFD (Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures) report, emissions reporting and reduction efforts are now more closely integrated across the organisation.

Corporate Outcome	KPI	Result	Commentary
More organisations in the heritage sector are committed to achieving net zero by 2050 or earlier.	4B. Number of heritage organisations undertaking carbon literacy courses.	2024–25 437	Carbon literacy training remains a powerful driver of sector-wide climate action. This KPI helps us track both the scale of delivery and the wider ripple effects of that training across the heritage landscape. The result, along with supporting metrics, provide insight into how our interventions are sparking practical change and building long-term momentum.
		2023–24 104	
People are better equipped to make historic buildings and places more resilient to our changing climate	4D. Number of visits to our Climate Change online resources.	2024–25 395,136	Performance was strong, supported by two digital advertising campaigns and the publication of a new Historic England Advice Note . The autumn campaign saw a surge in visits to energy efficiency pages, while a focused two-week push in March promoting heat pumps and solar panels in historic homes achieved 565k video views and 212k click-throughs on social media. These results highlight growing public interest in making heritage more resilient to climate change. They also demonstrate how well-targeted campaigns, combined with timely and practical advice, are equipping people with the tools and knowledge they need to take informed action.
		2023–24 389,144	

Stewardship of the National Collections

Our effective management of the National Collections ensures they have a sustainable future.

Engagement with the Historic England Archive continued to grow, with over 8.4 million digital views and 12,662 physical visits. The number of in-person visits rose by 11% over the year, boosted by targeted engagement with young people, including a workshop with our Young Advisors and outreach at national career events.

Public interest was significantly enhanced by the acquisition of the Janette Rosing Collection, which attracted widespread national media coverage and reinforced the value of our collections as a public asset.

Strong usage figures and sustained media interest throughout the year highlight both the cultural relevance of the archive and the public’s appetite for accessible content. Together, these results reflect the enduring significance of our national collections and the evolving ways in which they are accessed and used.

Corporate Outcome	KPI	Result	Commentary
The National Collection (looked after by English Heritage) and the sites and collections in our care are effectively managed, with the most significant elements repaired and maintained in a sustainable way.	5A. Percentage of properties in the national collection under EHT’s stewardship that are judged to be in a sustainable condition.	2024–25 –	This information will be available from the effective date of the new Property Licence and Operating Agreement.
		2023–24 –	
More people are using and engaging with our Archive services and collections.	5B. Number of people using and engaging with our Archive services and collections.	2024–25 Physical: 12,662 Digital: 8,497,308	This KPI tracks how people are accessing and engaging with our Archive, helping us monitor the reach and relevance of the national collection. The results provide insight into the evolving ways the public interacts with heritage and inform how we tailor access, content, and promotion to increase impact over time. <i>*The digital figure for 2023/24 represents a partial return, as tracking began partway through the financial year.</i>
		2023–24 Physical: 11,378 Digital:* 4,387,519	

Essential Enabling Activities

Historic England is a smooth-running organisation that is supported and equipped to deliver its purpose.

We achieved 98% compliance with the Government Functional Standard for Finance, assessed at the ‘good’ level for the first time using the Continuous Improvement Assessment Framework. This change from spreadsheet-based evaluation to a structured maturity model reflects our commitment to transparency, consistency, and continuous improvement.

As we embed the tools, systems, and frameworks that support high performance, we are also improving the quality and consistency of non-financial reporting. These enablers are crucial to delivering our broader strategic ambitions and ensuring Historic England remains resilient, accountable, and well-governed.

Corporate Outcome	KPI	Result	Commentary
Historic England is compliant with government functional standards and backbone business services are performing strongly.	EEA A. 100% compliance with ‘shall’ statements within the Finance Government Standard.	2024–25 98%	This KPI provides assurance that our core financial systems meet government expectations. By tracking compliance against an established national standard, it demonstrates that we are operating effectively, transparently, and in line with good governance principles.
		2023–24 99%	

Long-Term Expenditure Trends

The following table outlines expenditure trends across different areas of the organisation.

	Actuals					Budgeted	
	2020–21 £m	2021–22 £m	2022–23 £m	2023–24 £m	2024–25 £m	2025–26 £m	2026–27 £m
Grants	79.6	54.7	15.3	17.0	16.4	30.9	15.7
Regions	16.6	17.0	18.1	19.3	20.2	21.2	20.1
Policy & Evidence	11.4	12.4	13.8	14.8	14.6	15.2	14.2
Public Engagement	7.1	7.3	7.7	8.6	9.0	9.1	8.3
Business Improvement	3.4	4.0	4.2	4.3	4.3	5.1	4.6
Shrewsbury Flax Mill Maltings	2.2	1.6	1.3	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6
High Streets Project	1.7	40.8	36.2	18.7	0.0	0.0	0.0
Corporate/Support Services to HE	13.7	15.6	14.4	17.7	18.4	23.7	20.0
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	13.2	6.6	8.1	8.5	8.6	6.2	6.6
Expenditure Relating to Core Historic England Activities	148.9	160.0	119.1	109.7	92.3	112.0	90.1
Corporate and Support Service to Third Parties	7.7	7.5	8.2	8.3	9.2	7.3	7.1
Inter-Company Group Expenditure	23.7	9.9	1.5	1.3	0.9	0.8	0.7
Expenditure Relating to Services Provided to Third Parties	31.4	17.4	9.7	9.6	10.1	8.1	7.8
Totals	180.3	177.4	128.8	119.3	102.4	120.1	97.9

As this is a management summary, figures may not agree to financial statements as excludes certain accounting adjustments.

Our Position at the Close of the Year

Historic England received £83.0 million (2023–24: £102.5 million) Grant in Aid funding from DCMS to fund revenue spend and capital programmes. Non-Grant in Aid income for the group totalled £162.4 million (2023–24: £150.2 million), of which £139.7 million (2023–24: £132.1 million) was earned income from commercial activities. Total expenditure for the group was £259.0 million (2023–24: £267.9 million), while Historic England showed total expenditure of £102.0 million (2023–24: £118.1 million). English Heritage made an unrestricted operating deficit in the year of £7.7 million (2023–24: £13.8 million deficit).

Going Concern

In adopting the going concern basis for preparing the financial statements, the Commissioners have considered the activities and principal risks set out in the Governance Statement. The Commissioners have reviewed the latest financial forecasts and are satisfied that Historic England continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements. The 2021 Spending Review confirmed our Grant in Aid income up to 31 March 2025. Phase one of the spending review process set the budget for 2025–26, and phase two will include 2026–27 and 2027–28, with capital budgets set for 2028–29. As Historic England is a body created through the National Heritage Act 1983, its ongoing activities are assured through statute.

The new Property Licence and Operating Agreement (the Property Licence), under which the English Heritage Trust care for the National Heritage Collection, has been agreed in July 2024 for a 10-year term from April 2025, so that they continue to conserve the Collection for future generations. In addition, the Trustees of The English Heritage Trust and Directors of English Heritage Trading Limited have reviewed the latest financial forecasts and are satisfied that these demonstrate the Trust remains a going concern. Based on this evidence we consider that it remains appropriate for both entities to adopt the

going concern basis in preparing their financial statements and hence it is appropriate for the Historic England group accounts to be prepared on a going concern basis.

2024–25 Sustainability Report

Historic England's Sustainability Report has been prepared in line with the requirements of the Greening Government Commitments, government alignment to the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD), and the Greenhouse Gas Protocol.

Historic England remains committed to reducing our carbon emissions and reaching Net Zero by 2040 and becoming a sustainable organisation. We also support urgent climate action, which is one of our six priority areas, established in our 2023–26 Corporate Plan. Our base year is 2019/20.

To achieve Net Zero by 2040, we have set the following targets:

- a reduction of 5.75 per cent of total base year carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) emissions each year in Scopes 1 and 2 by 2030;
- a reduction of 46 per cent of total base year CO₂e emissions each year in Scope 3 by 2030;
- a reduction of 4.6 per cent of total base year CO₂e emissions each year in Scopes 1, 2 and 3 from 2030 to 2040.

These targets also provide the basis for the annual key performance indicator (KPI) for carbon reduction:

- To continue to take action to reach Net Zero carbon emissions (tonnes CO₂e) by 2040, annually decreasing our Scope 1 and 2 emissions by 5.75% of our total Scope 1 and 2 base year (FY19/20) emissions and reducing our Scope 3 emissions by 46% by 2030.

In 2024–25 we reviewed our Historic England to Net Zero (HENZ) programme. This review resulted in Scope 1 and 2 emissions continuing

to be monitored by the HENZ programme but reassigning mitigation actions to the Estates Portfolio Board, which monitors and implements the Estates Management Strategy. The KPI activity owner sits on both boards, ensuring actions and targets support both the strategic goals of both boards, with the Carbon and Sustainability Team reporting to the Estates Board every six months.

This was a prudent decision to allocate the essential task of reducing our building and energy emissions to the governance structure with the best resource, advice and capacity to complete it. Responsibility of larger, capital works and interventions sit with the Estates Board, thus allowing the HENZ programme to implement supporting policy and behavioural changes, monitor progress and evaluate success.

Additionally, change management has been added as a HENZ programme workstream to ensure that staff know how they can support HE to achieve net zero in their everyday role and understand why they need to do this.

The implementation and success of many actions within our carbon reduction plan depend on supportive staff behaviour change, including areas such as:

- energy and water: Ensuring physical interventions achieve their projected reductions in our sites and offices and support further reductions in usage;
- procurement: The successful implementation of a supplier carbon reduction plan and a more sustainable approach to procurement;
- travel: The reduction of travel mileage and implementation of a climate-conscious travel policy;
- waste management: To achieve our waste reduction and treatment avenue targets;
- data management: Adaptation and alignment of the data management and reporting

processes of various teams to improve our carbon reporting;

- ICT and digital: Improving our whole life carbon impact of ICT hardware and reducing our digital footprint.

Following these strategic changes within the HENZ programme and improvements to our Carbon and Sustainability insights, including the 2023 baseline recalculation, Historic England has identified the need to review and update our Carbon Reduction Plan. The review panel has been appointed and met formally in February 2025. The panel are in the early stages of agreeing the process and timeline to conduct the full review. A review of our Climate Change Strategy will also be undertaken later in 2025–26, following its publication in March 2022. The update of these two key strategic documents is timed to coincide with the planned process of updating the Corporate Plan in order to ensure alignment and consistency.

TCFD-aligned Report

We have reported on climate-related financial disclosures consistent with HM Treasury's TCFD-aligned disclosure application guidance, which interprets and adapts the framework for the UK public sector. We consider climate to be a principal risk, and have therefore complied with the TCFD recommendations and disclosures around:

- Governance – recommended disclosures (a) and (b)
- Risk Management – recommended disclosures (a) to (c)
- Metrics and Targets – recommended disclosures (b)
- Metrics and Targets – recommended disclosures (a) and (c)
- Strategy – recommended disclosure (a) and (b – partial)

We have begun to review how our identified risks impact our organisation financially. Currently, climate is considered in decision making through corporate risks and as part of our corporate priorities. This is detailed throughout this document, namely pages 36–41, and 5–12, with actions detailed on pages 44–51. We plan to provide recommended disclosures for Strategy recommended disclosure (c) in future reporting periods in line with the central government implementation timetable.

Please see the table below for our alignment with the TCFD Report.

TCFD-aligned – Governance Report

All of our strategic decision-making, budget-setting, major action-planning, and risk-management activities are informed by the priorities and activities set out in our Corporate Plan. They are also guided by our progress in achieving our corporate goals. The Corporate Plan contains a Climate Action priority, setting out our inward and outward-facing ambitions in response to the changing climate.

All climate-related activities are managed, monitored and governed through two linked

programmes: one is external, focusing on the historic environment and heritage sector, and the other is internal, focusing on improving our sustainability, organisational adaptation and our journey to net zero, in line with the Greening Government Commitments. Both the internal and external climate programmes are overseen by their own governing bodies, each chaired by an Executive Senior Responsible Owner (SRO), and they meet bi-monthly and six-weekly respectively.

These governance groups monitor progress against our Climate Action Corporate Plan activities, make decisions about resourcing and any changes required to achieve our goals, and are responsible for the management of programme-level risks and issues, including decisions on when risks and opportunities are escalated to the Executive Team. The internal group also has responsibility for oversight of the risks identified in the Climate Change Operational Risk Register (see references in the TCFD-aligned Strategy Report to this risk register, the Climate Change Adaptation Report, and Adaptation Action Plan). Risk is a standing item on the agenda of each meeting, with reports prepared in advance by the programme manager following updates from risk owners, and discussed during

Pillar	Recommended Disclosure	Alignment	Pages
Governance	a) Describe the board's oversight of climate-related risks and opportunities	Compliant	36–37
Governance	b) Describe management's role in assessing and managing climate-related risks and opportunities	Compliant	36–37
Strategy	a) Describe the climate-related risks and opportunities the organisation has identified over the short, medium, and long term	Compliant	37–41
Strategy	b) Describe the impact of climate-related risks and opportunities on the organisation's businesses, strategy, and financial planning	Part Compliant	36–41 Actions are 44–53
Risk Management	a) Describe the organisation's processes for identifying and assessing climate-related risks	Compliant	41
Risk Management	b) Describe the organisation's processes for managing climate-related risks	Compliant	37–39 and 41
Metrics and Targets	a) Disclose the organisation's processes for identifying and assessing climate-related risks	Part Compliant	41–53
Metrics and Targets	b) Disclose Scope 1, Scope 2, and, if appropriate, Scope 3 GHG emissions, and the related risks	Compliant	44–53
Metrics and Targets	c) Describe the targets used by the organisation to manage climate-related risks and opportunities and performance against targets	Explain	34, 44–53

the meeting. Where appropriate, severe risks are escalated from these governance groups to the Executive Team, which meets weekly.

The workstreams within the governance groups reflect the corporate priority activities, with each having an assigned owner with the authority and responsibility to complete the activities. Progress against our corporate climate goals is measured through a set of KPIs, agreed and tracked through our corporate planning and performance monitoring process. Progress is reported to Executive Team and Commission for review, feedback and update on a quarterly basis. The risk movements and any other significant updates around corporate risks and risk management are then reported to Audit and Risk Assurance Committee (ARAC) for review and advisory feedback, also quarterly. In addition, there are two key climate-related risks included in our corporate risk register, which is reviewed and managed by our Audit and Risk Committee on a quarterly basis. Mitigations for these two corporate climate-related risks are managed through the internal and external climate programmes.

For a full understanding of our governance structure, please see pages 55–68 within the Corporate Governance section of this annual report.

We understand that a lot of our impact and organisational work is focused on our grant-giving activities. We realise that our grants can both support mitigation and adaptation actions in response to climate change, and will likely be affected by climate change. We are currently unable to account for this within our carbon emissions footprint. In the coming year, we plan to review how we can include this aspect in a meaningful way within our footprint.

We have been conducting a multi-stage review of our grants processes and systems. Our grant priorities have been finalised and will be integrated into all stages of grant management – from the application stage through to assessment and post-project evaluation.

The four priorities are as follows and activity needs to meet one or more:

1. help more people to connect with, enjoy and benefit from the historic environment;
2. use heritage to improve civic pride, prosperity and wellbeing;
3. achieve a positive change and sustainable future for historic places including buildings, landscapes, archaeological sites and marine assets;
4. ensure heritage plays an important role in the fight to limit and manage the effects of climate change.

This new process is being rolled out externally in the next financial year, and we expect to be able to provide better reporting data from this work going forward.

TCFD-aligned Strategy Report

The climate change scenarios included in the Climate Change Operational Risk Register were developed by Frazer-Nash Consultancy and are based on national climate information and linked to the Network for Greening the Financial System (NGFS) climate scenarios: Net Zero 2050 scenario (1.5°C and consistent with RCP2.6), Delayed Transition scenario (2°C and consistent with RCP 2.6) and Hot House scenario (3°C+ and consistent with RCP 6.0). All NGFS scenarios are based on Shared Socioeconomic Pathway 2 (SSP). Each risk is scored and assessed for each scenario, with additional consideration of proximity of the risk for each scenario: Short Term (to 2030), Medium Term (2030–2040) or Long Term (2040+). For detail as to how the risks were identified, see our Climate Change Adaptation Report, pages 52 and 53.

Currently, the climate-related issues we have identified are broadly similar in terms of issues and subsequent actions throughout each time horizon, with the severity and number changing. Our forward work will address this to become more nuanced, as we work through each risk in

more detail. Our work on risk and financial impact is still emerging. Currently, we carry out financial planning around the internal and external climate programmes on an annual basis. In 2024–25 we initially planned for a three-year period, but had to adjust plans and prioritise in line with the Spending Review. This budget scoping activity took place before our risk and adaptation work was formally signed off and submitted. Therefore, we are not fully aligned for this coming financial year, but our work will continue to become more aligned, formalised, and mature in coming years.

Our highest scoring risks are identified in our Climate Change Adaptation Report, which details our adaptation action plan in response to these risks.

The risks we have identified as likely having a material financial impact on the organisation are those relating to our grant funding and how our operations will be impacted by the effects of climate change, including extreme and unpredictable weather events. We do not currently have quantitative data for these risks and opportunities; however, we are focusing our efforts this coming year on these risks, and expect to have quantitative data in our next financial reporting period. This is focused around our ability to conduct site visits, the advice that we give, our research, and the power of our grant funding. We see these risks as having inter-dependencies through the reputational impact as well as financial.

Conduct Site Visits and Give Advice

Extreme weather events can impact our ability to conduct site visits, which in turn affects our ability to carry out key work processes and provide sector-wide support. These disruptions will likely result in our advice to the heritage sector evolving more rapidly and responsively. The historic environment can play a meaningful role in responding to climate change. Traditionally constructed buildings are inherently sustainable. They use locally sourced materials with comparatively low embodied carbon, such as

stone, timber, and lime. They achieve thermal comfort through passive design features like thick walls, natural ventilation, and breathable construction, which regulate temperature and moisture effectively. When properly maintained and appropriately adapted, they can perform efficiently, reduce operational emissions, and avoid the environmental costs associated with demolition and new construction. However, targeted adaptation will be needed to ensure they remain resilient to the changing climate. Historic landscapes, coastal and marine environments can also be a useful part of climate mitigation and adaptation, through carbon sequestration, flood management and nature-based solutions. Our role in delivering expert, responsive advice will be a vital part of mitigation and adaptation in the face of climate change, ensuring these contributions are realised and maintained. As the pace of climate change increases, so too will the frequency and complexity of the advice we must provide, placing growing demands on staff capacity and productivity. It is therefore essential that we continue to invest in our advisory capacity to support the heritage sector through these transitions.

Our Research

As an established independent research organisation, and the expert advice provider for the heritage sector, we pride ourselves on the research we conduct. We must make use of our limited resource to focus our research on the those topics with the most useful outputs. The widespread effects of climate change, together with the inherent unpredictability and speed of climate change, will make it hard to ensure our research is always focused on the most useful and timely outputs. This risk may lead to our inability to give up-to-date and timely advice to the heritage sector, and put our grant-in-aid funding at risk, if we are seen to not be fulfilling our statutory duties successfully.

The Power of Our Grant Funding

Our grants are key for the heritage sector. They are often used as seed funding to start off projects, leading to further funding; our influence and impact on the heritage sector cannot be understated. We rely on receiving funding from the government to distribute to the heritage sector. Climate change can affect prices and supply chains and lead to disruption and cost increases. This will limit the buying power of grant funding, which will have a knock-on impact to the heritage sector. At a time when interventions for traditional buildings can be seen as complex and costly, we need to make sure we work with government to highlight the importance of the heritage sector in fighting the effects of climate change.

We do not yet fully understand the financial impact of each risk, and therefore are unable to describe the specific climate-related issues that could have a material financial impact on the organisation. We are reviewing our risks in turn to assign figures for these, which can then be used to assess the material financial impact arising in each time horizon. The process involves

assessing the operations impacted by each risk in order to map potential financial impacts, checking the mapping with colleagues across the organisation, and, where we have found there to be a financial impact, calculating the estimated annual costs. We are focusing first on the risks that have clear alignment to financial impact, or the potential for greatest disruption to our operations (financial or otherwise), before moving through the risks. Though this process looks at the risks in turn, we will regularly review them holistically to understand and take advantage of interdependencies.

Our Carbon Reduction Plan¹ targets can be found on page 34 and associated actions can be found on pages 44–53.

The table below shows the risks we are currently focusing on, their adaptation action plan, and the figures we believe we may be able to assign to the risk. As we work through the risks individually, we shall continue to evaluate their material financial impact, against each time horizon, and how they interact with other risks, allowing us to review our risk register at a corporate and risk level.

Risk Number (aligns to Adaptation Report)	Risk Description	Adaptation Action Plan	Proposed Financial Figures
2	Due to an increase in extreme weather events, there is a risk that facilities of partners involved in public-facing engagement projects (e.g. participation programmes, heritage schools and public/community engagement events) are unusable due to damage or health and safety risk.	Consideration of this risk will be included in the assessment undertaken before entering into these partnerships, as well as the risk assessments completed prior to arranging any on site activities. It will be discussed with partners in order to ensure sufficient mitigations or adaptations are planned.	New Venue Hire Costs Lost Income Non-refundable supplier costs incurred Rescheduling costs Insurance Grant funding Income generation

¹ <https://historicengland.org.uk/content/docs/about/carbon-reduction-plan/>

Risk Number (aligns to Adaptation Report)	Risk Description	Adaptation Action Plan	Proposed Financial Figures
3	Due to the need to implement climate change mitigations across our operations and estate, and comply with climate change reporting requirements and legislation, there is a risk that funding will need to be diverted away from other BAU activities or that Historic England is non-compliant. There is also an opportunity for a long-term reduction in operational costs.	External funding for this work will be sought through Spending Review bids, grants (such as public sector incentive schemes), and philanthropy. We will continue to plan with Government Property Agency (GPA) for relevant works to Cambridge and Swindon to be funded by GPA.	Loss of income Legal fees Resource costs Impact on grants
9	Due to increasing focus on climate change, there is a risk that Historic England is seen as a low-priority organisation, and heritage is seen as a secondary issue or a barrier to building and climate adaptation. There is an opportunity to strengthen ties with relevant Arm's Length Bodies and organisations to raise awareness of the importance of built and natural heritage in relation to climate change.	Climate action will remain a corporate priority to ensure that the positive links between heritage and climate action are recognised by the Historic England audience and DCMS. Continued close working with Arts Council England, National Trust, and other heritage organisations to ensure alignment in relation to climate change via our Policy Team and on the Sector to Net Zero workstream. The Policy Team will continue to work closely with government departments to inform relevant emerging policy and ensure the positive impact of heritage is recognised.	Project spend Grant-in-aid funding Cost of staff retention and recruitment
10	Due to an increased demand for casework, advice, and grant funding to address climate change issues, there is a risk that we employ insufficient people to meet the higher demand, or grant funds are oversubscribed, insufficient or diverted away from our original intent.	The new casework system should enable us to better monitor the levels of casework related to climate change, and we will use this information to inform any reprioritisation of work/staffing if required. We will continue to work with sector partners to plan for and manage climate-driven loss, for example, a pilot with the National Trust on managed loss. Historic England grants are being more tightly focused around the corporate priorities, including climate change. To the extent these are used for preventive works, it may reduce reactive work. In addition, the North West region is piloting proactively building a climate-change-linked pipeline of grants. We will continue to undertake relevant research and produce guidance for asset owners and managers, thereby reducing the likelihood of reactive casework. Climate resilience and climate hazards will be included in relevant assessments undertaken by Historic England staff (e.g. Heritage At Risk). Climate hazards will be considered when establishing major programmes and included in contingency budgets where relevant. We will factor this risk into Historic England workforce planning modelling.	Legal costs Project spend

Risk Number (aligns to Adaptation Report)	Risk Description	Adaptation Action Plan	Proposed Financial Figures
11	<p>There is a risk that income from donors reduces due to the negative impact of economic uncertainty and disruption caused by climate change, and the increased focus on funding humanitarian and environmental crises.</p> <p>There is an opportunity for us to form new partnerships and access green finance around our climate change work.</p>	<p>Climate change and heritage could be developed as a priority campaign under the new fundraising strategy (part of new income generation strategy).</p> <p>If approved, we will undertake a fundraising feasibility study, develop and deliver an impactful fundraising campaign for 'climate change and heritage'.</p> <p>Alternatively, through policy, guidance and training, we will enable all parts of the organisation involved in income generation (philanthropic or otherwise) to ensure that new income makes a contribution towards associated core costs. We would also ensure other fundraising campaigns are well designed and resourced to maximise income for core heritage programmes in a decreasing market.</p>	Donor income
12	<p>Due to an increasingly volatile economic climate there is a risk that our grants will have less purchasing power.</p>	<p>We will consider this risk annually during the grant budget setting and also during the Spending Review bidding process.</p> <p>We will review cost data collected during High Streets Heritage Action Zones programme to assess and analyse the impact of reduced purchasing power and recommend actions to address this in future similar schemes.</p>	<p>Grant funding</p> <p>Inflation benchmarks</p>

TCFD-aligned Risk Management Report

Climate change is considered a principle risk to Historic England's operations. When identifying and assessing any risks within the organisation, regardless of which register they sit within, the same likelihood and impact scoring framework is used, to achieve consistency in establishing the significance of the risk, and also to support the risk escalation process. In addition to the scoring framework, corporate risk categories, sub-categories and appetites help to identify where risks are within or deviate from the corporate tolerance levels within different operational areas of the organisation. The risk appetites and categories were revised in early 2025, some of which are relevant to and include climate references, and the changes are now being applied to the corporate risk register. The revised appetites will be applied to our internal and external programme risk registers and the Operational Climate Change Risk Register in 2025–26.

Currently, two key climate-related risks are included in our corporate risk register, which is reviewed and managed by ARAC on a quarterly basis. For more information on how we identify and manage our risks at a corporate level, please refer to pages 55–68 of this annual report.

We have adhered to the Fourth Adaptation Reporting Power Report Guidance from Defra, Treasury's guidance relating to the TCFD and benchmarked our efforts against ISO 14090:2019 and ISO 14091:2021. Due to resource constraints, we have conducted a high-level risk assessment in accordance with ISO 14091:2021 and, following government guidance on adapting risks to the public sector, we will continuously improve this as our organisation matures. For more information on our approach to scenario analysis, hazard identification and risk screening, please see our **Fourth Adaptation Reporting Power Report**, which also details our highest scoring risks.

Oversight of the Operational Climate Change Risk Register and Adaptation Action Plan is the responsibility of the HENZ Oversight Group, though the individual risks are owned by a range of Directors from across the organisation.

Decisions regarding risk controls/mitigations and escalations take place as follows:

- Corporate Risk Register: Change decisions are put forward by the internal and external climate programme manager in consultation with the risk owners – the two SROs of these programmes. The suggested changes are put forward to and approved by ARAC.
- Operational Climate Change Risk Register: Change decisions are put forward by the programme manager in consultation with risk owners. The suggested changes are put forward to the HENZ Oversight Group – the governing body for the internal climate programme – for approval.
- Internal and external climate programme risk registers: Change decisions are put forward by the programme manager in consultation with risk owners. The suggested changes are put forward to the relevant governing body for the programmes for approval.

We have taken four main steps to raise awareness of climate-related risks and ensure the integration of climate-related risks in all organisational activities to support decision making:

- the inclusion of climate action as a key priority in our Corporate Plan;
- the inclusion of cross-cutting climate risks in our Corporate Risk Register;
- assigning operational climate change risks to a range of Directors across the organisation;
- the management of climate change programme risks by two governing bodies of senior staff and Directors.

Identification of additional risks will be the responsibility of the governing bodies of the two climate change programmes, and will be captured through the inclusion of a 'horizon scanning' agenda item at each meeting.

TCFD-aligned Metrics and Targets Report

Following government requirements, we report on the Greening Government Commitments. You can find our progress this year on pages 44–53. Internally we have KPIs that support our fourth corporate priority – climate action, including our Carbon Reduction plan, published net zero targets, and our commitments to supporting the heritage sector with net zero. You can find our progress this year on pages 31–32. We have also included our GHG Emissions intensity for the first time, in line with TFCF disclosures. Our focus is on carbon, with internal KPIs to measure various workstreams. We have developed Nature Improvement Plans for each site and are working towards developing an overarching monitoring metric for them.

Metric/Target	Alignment	Pages	Next Steps
GHG Emissions: Absolute Scope 1, Scope 2, and Scope 3	Compliant	45	Continue to use Greening Government Commitment (GCG) and our KPI reporting and align our reporting with the next iteration of GGCs. Use our reporting inform business decisions and carbon reduction actions.
GHG Emissions: Emissions intensity	Compliant	46	Use our emissions intensity to support evaluation of our Carbon Reduction Plan actions, on an annual basis.
Transition Risks: Amount or extent of assets or organisational activities vulnerable to transition risks	Explanation	41–43	Work with relevant teams to gather the data and identify areas of focus for future reporting.
Physical Risks: Amount or extent of assets or organisational activities vulnerable to physical risks	Explanation	41–43	Work with relevant teams to gather the data and identify areas of focus for future reporting.
Climate-Related Opportunities: Proportion of revenue, assets, or other business activities aligned with climate-related opportunities	Explanation	41–43	Work with relevant teams to gather the data and identify areas of focus for future reporting.
Capital Deployment: Amount of capital expenditure, financing, or investment deployed toward climate-related risks and opportunities	Explanation	41–43	Work with relevant teams to gather the data and identify areas of focus for future reporting. We will report this figure nominally in our next annual report.
Internal Carbon Prices: Price on each ton of GHG emissions used internally by an organisation	Explanation	43	We do not currently use internal carbon pricing; however, as part of our Carbon Reduction Plan Review, we will be looking at whether it is possible to introduce this to support our actions. Develop a policy and process to fully and consistently consider carbon and sustainability in business cases. Review opportunities to instate a carbon budget within the organisation.
Remuneration: Proportion of executive management remuneration linked to climate considerations	Explanation	43	Our remuneration policies are not designed to support specific remuneration for Corporate targets. Regularly review whether this should change.

English Heritage Trust-TCFD aligned Governance Report

English Heritage views climate change as a principle risk. Disruptive weather and climate change impacts are included on the corporate risk register, focusing on acute and chronic harm to the properties, impacts on visitor numbers and therefore income. The risk register is considered at every meeting of the Audit & Risk Committee (which meets four times a year) and by the Board (twice a year). Both the Senior Leadership Team and Board receive an annual report from the Head of Climate and Sustainability, describing

their progress against publicly-stated targets in the Climate Action Plan.

Within English Heritage there are assigned climate risk-related responsibilities, including the recent creation of a corporate risk manager role within the newly formed management structure. The Building Carbon Reduction Project Board meets regularly to oversee the implementation of carbon reduction projects, including those relating to climate risk. Managers across a broad range of functions are represented.

The Board approved the organisation's Climate Action Plan 2022–2025. One of its key points is 'Resilience'. One of the Climate Action Plan targets

is for 'All sites to be mapped for climate hazards, exposure and vulnerability'. English Heritage's Climate Action Plan has a target of achieving net zero emissions for Scopes 1 and 2 by 2035 and 2040 for Scope 3. English Heritage, in collaboration with Historic England, has submitted joint reports for the previous two reporting rounds (**3** and **4**).

More widely within English Heritage's governance arrangements, the standard template for the Board and Committee reports includes a section on how any likely impacts and implications of the subject-matter are addressed, including environmental impacts.

English Heritage Trust TCFD-aligned Risk Management Report

With respect to the conservation and operation of National Heritage Collection, we have begun to develop processes to assess climate related risk. This includes the development of a national climate change risk assessment, allowing prioritisation of sites at greatest risk from a variety of climate impact drivers. This informs targeted site-specific climate change risk assessments to understand specific place-based climate impacts, feeding into an adaptation action plan. This aligns with the 'Resilience' pillar of English Heritage's Climate Action Plan. Detailed information is included in English Heritage's **Adaptation Report**.

We are working to embed climate resilience in our organisational processes. A new project management framework includes a sustainability appraisal, which will highlight climate risks and opportunities, alongside other important aspects of environmental sustainability.

Performance against Greening Government Commitments

We continue to track progress against all applicable Greening Government Commitment (GGC) headline targets. The GGC targets are incorporated into the sub-targets of our internal carbon reduction KPI and our internal programme of climate-related activities, and they continue

to influence our decision making, policy and processes.

We are taking an operational approach to meeting the net zero targets by reducing emissions in all of our direct and indirect activities, not just those required by GGC. We report on all Scope 1 and 2 activities and all Scope 3 categories, except grants, applicable to our organisation. Our emissions data collection and calculation methodology are in line with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol standard and are subject to ongoing improvements.

The differences between our own carbon reporting and our GGC reporting are:

- GGC reporting includes only our Scope 1 gas usage and not our Scope 3 gas usage;
- GGC reporting includes our Scope 2 and 3 electricity usage as one figure;
- Our Birmingham office is not included in our GGC reporting, as we have confirmed it is reported in its entirety by our landlord, Arts Council England;
- GGC require detail around seat class distinction and number of flights as well as distance;
- We report in the GGC our emissions for employee-owned vehicles and hired vehicles collectively. In our KPI reporting we separate these out;
- We collect water consumption figures internally for supply and treatment, but GGC reporting only requires supply.

Greening Government Commitment A: Mitigating climate change: working towards net zero

The bold figures provided in the emissions tables in this report reflect the period from April 2024 to March 2025. Figures from the previous year's submission, 2023–24, have been updated to replace any figures where additional data was supplied after report closure. The original tables are available on request.

Energy data for our Scope 2 estate and Bristol office is available from April 2024 to Feb 2025; March 2025 figures are estimates. Quarter 4 energy figures for our London office are also estimates until the exact consumption is made available.

	2019–20	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Non-Financial Indicators (tCO₂e: tonnes of CO₂ equivalent)²				
Total gross emissions for Scopes 1 and 2 ³	1,056	856	843	886
Total net emissions for Scopes 1 and 2	1,056	856	843	886
Gross emissions Scope 3 business travel	331	245	249	191
Other Scope 3 emissions measured (including waste)	7,416	5,263	4,764	5,551
TCFD Carbon Emissions Intensity Ratio (tCO₂e: tonnes of CO₂ equivalent)				
Gross carbon inventory emissions for Scope 1, 2 and 3 per employee	10.63	6.81	5.76	5.65
Related Energy Consumption (kilowatt hour)				
Electricity: non-renewable	2,924,222	–	–	2,455,933
Electricity: renewable	–	2,416,368	2,516,951	
Gas	1,868,767	1,996,292	1,885,023	2,085,909
Financial Indicators				
Expenditure on energy	£509,000	£706,000	£880,963	£929,402
Expenditure on official business travel	£1,181,000	£425,000	£865,155	£837,328

Our energy expenditure increased this year, reflecting both higher gas usage and costs. We took the decision to change from renewable energy tariff certified by Renewable Energy Guarantees of Origin certificates to a low carbon nuclear tariff, as it was deemed to make better use of public funds while still helping us move away from fossil fuels, a published goal in our Carbon Reduction Plan. We continue to use a Green Gas tariff. Please see page 47 for more details into our energy usage.

Our policy as an organisation is to look at reducing our carbon emissions before purchasing offsets, therefore we have not purchased any carbon offset credits this year.

This year we successfully removed five cars from our company owned and leased vehicles, and replaced four of these with plug-in hybrid vehicles, resulting in a fleet that is made up of 36% low-emission vehicles. We are in the early stages of establishing formal charging infrastructure on relevant sites, which will allow for greater flexibility to explore more ultra-low or zero emission vehicle options at lease renewal.

Historic England continues to work with our hire car supplier to promote use of low and ultra-low emitting vehicles to staff and encourage staff to choose these options when booking travel.

We are making excellent progress in reducing our mileage, with total car mileage decreasing by 11% in 2023–24 and a further 24% in 2024–25. We have also made good progress in moving mileage from employee-owned to hire cars. This year, all car mileage conducted was 28% in employee-owned, 56% in hire vehicles and 17% in vehicles owned/leased by Historic England.

The successful reduction and changes can be attributed to the vast number of staff engaging with our climate action priorities, such as completion of the Carbon Literacy training, for which we now have silver level accreditation, and the initiative taken by the HENZ Champions – a group of staff who have volunteered to advocate for and promote our efforts to achieve net zero – to communicate effective and unique solutions to accessing environmentally sustainable travel. This demonstrates the need to focus on change management, as well as physical interventions.

The HENZ Champions also facilitated an internal communications takeover and led a series of employee commuting workshops for a small number of staff, presenting the associated emissions from Historic England's footprint, conducting barrier analysis to understand what prevents access to sustainable travel and offering potential solutions. Though focused on commuting emissions, the discussions in these sessions were transferrable to better business travel practices.

Historic England has conducted significantly less travel by air this financial year, with the number of domestic flights decreasing by 62% and international by 40%. We continue to encourage our staff to seek best value for money when traveling for work purposes, supporting and encouraging all employees to make sustainable decisions when booking transport, even

where this could incur a reasonable cost and journey-time increase.

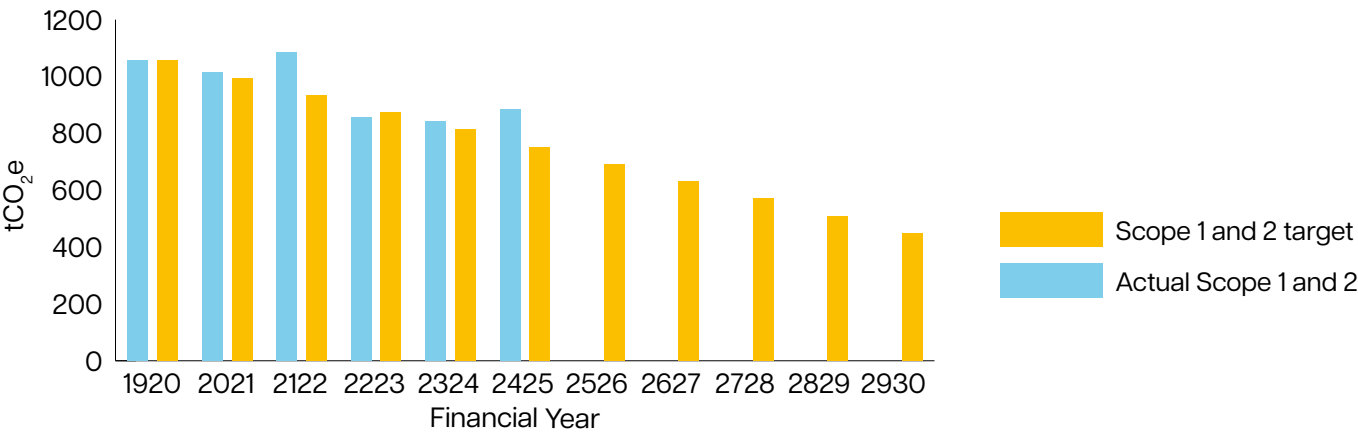
Scope 1 and 2 Progress

The graph below shows our progress towards our 2030 Scope 1 and 2 target. In 2024/25 our Scope 1 and 2 emissions increased by 5%. We did not expect to make a reduction this year as we focused on gaining the information we need to make larger cuts, such as undertaking the decarbonisation survey for Swindon and tendering for the Utilities Management Platform. This complemented wider improvements to our emissions methodologies in place for the coming year. This has allowed us to establish a clear foundation for targeted reduction actions to ensure solutions to generate the greatest, long-term impact are sought. These actions will be built into the review of our carbon reduction plan with an updated target trajectory.

Air Travel

		2019–20	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
International Air Travel – non-financial indicators					
Number of international flights		66	34	35	20
Emissions (tCO ₂ e)		25	7.5	24	14
Total Distance travelled (km)		162,400	49,866	132,117	72,829
Disaggregated by category:	Long-haul flights	99,581	0	72,859	43,021
	Short-haul flights	62,819	49,866	59,258	29,808
Disaggregated by class:	First	–	–	–	
	Business	–	–	–	
	Premium economy	–	–	–	
	Economy	162,400	49,866	132,117	72,829
Domestic Air Travel – non-financial indicators					
Number of domestic flights		85	19	21	8
Emissions (tCO ₂ e)		10	5	6	2
Total distance travelled (km)		39,305	19,088	20,432	8,123

Scope 1 and 2 Near term target – Actual Progress FY 24–25

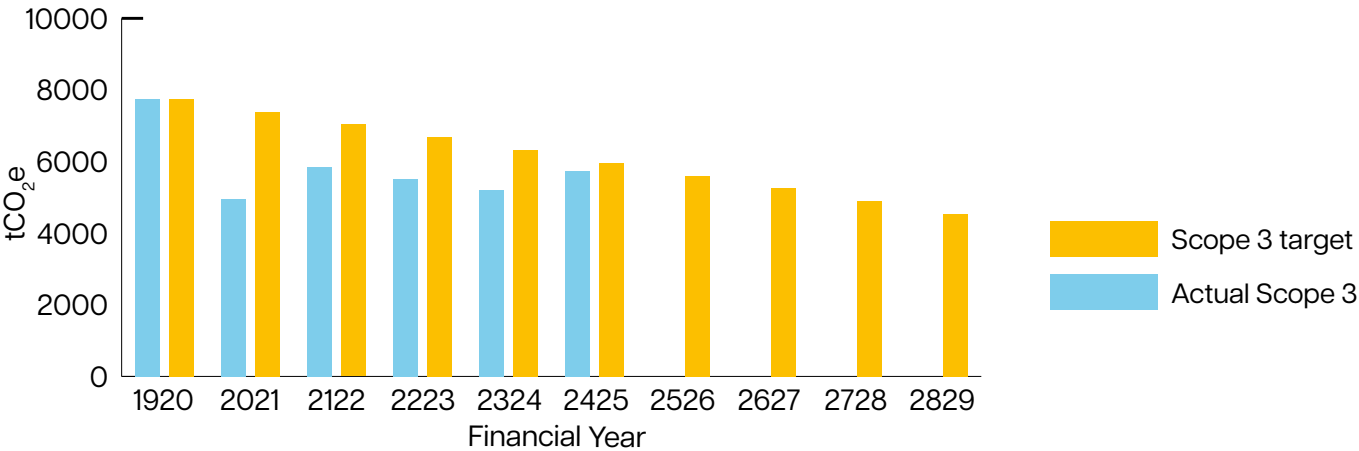


In 2024–25 we took the following actions:

- We completed LED installation works in Swindon through working with Government Property Agency.
- We completed M&E Condition Survey for our Swindon office, which represents 55% of our Scope 1 and 2 emissions, and draft Climate Resilience Feasibility Report.
- We removed five cars from our company owned and leased vehicles and replaced four of these with plug-in hybrid vehicles.
- We reallocated ownership of Scope 1 and 2 emissions to the Estates Board, granting the responsibility of decarbonising our main office buildings to sit with the department with the most specialist skill, time-resource and funding to apply to required works.
- We tendered for a utility monitoring platform which will support offices in finding smaller reductions.

Scope 3 Progress

Scope 3 Near term target – Actual Progress FY 24–25



Our five highest emitting categories in 2024–25 are purchased goods and services, employee commuting, capital goods, business travel and downstream leased assets (which is the energy supplied to our tenants). Purchased goods and services is consistently our highest-emitting reporting category of carbon emissions.

In 2024–25, we emitted 5741 tCO₂e in Scope 3 (including business travel emissions). Although this is an increase from last year’s emissions, we remain on track to meet our 2030 target, which predicts that we needed to emit less than 5965 tCO₂e in 2024/25. Therefore, we have exceeded our Scope 3 target for the year by approximately 4%.

We recognise that as we take actions to lessen our emissions, the amount of carbon we generate will fluctuate and not necessarily show a steady rate of reduction each year as larger interventions take effect. This is something we will address in the carbon reduction plan review, which will include an updated trajectory based on key actions. In 2024–25, we took the following actions to address our Scope 3 emissions:

- We established a more accurate calculation methodology for the majority of our IMT and digital emissions reported under purchased goods and services and capital goods. This is a shift from spend methodology to a supplier or product lifecycle emissions calculation. Our goal is to expand on this in 2025–26 and apply this methodology to other activities which fall under purchased goods and services and capital goods.
- We established a more accurate calculation methodology for our upstream transportation and distribution emissions, replacing spend-based emissions calculations with supplier-specific data taken from our main courier.

- We improved our process for collecting waste data from our sites by implementing standardised scales and collection templates. We have also created a plan to install separate food collection and terracycling bins, with increased guidance for staff, in all of our sites that previously did not have them.
- We held employee commuting workshops to understand the challenges faced by our employees when accessing environmentally sustainable transport, and conducted an internal communications awareness campaign, which 50 of our employees engaged with.
- We removed emissions associated with home/hybrid working, due to the low carbon impact previously reported and an awareness to seek a more accurate calculation methodology. This will be factored into the review of our Carbon Reduction plan in 2025–26.
- We stopped buying single-use plastic items for kitchens and began investigating/trialling various options for stationery across our FM department, Library and Archive. We have also consolidated our stationery use to reflect current working habits.
- We established a 'Reduce, Reuse and Recycle' internal site for staff to allow for more inter-office borrowing and prevent unnecessary purchasing of materials, furniture and equipment.
- We purchased new TCO-certified laptops to replace old equipment for over 80% of staff. The purchase of this new equipment took into account the laptops' sustainability credentials. These will be rolled out by October 2025 to staff via in-person set-up days hosted at our main offices, to reduce emissions usually generated by packaging and shipping.
 - We are retaining existing laptops where they are fit for purpose, and working with The Good Things Foundation to donate

our old equipment. We continue to review our approach to Bring Your Own Device.

- We got involved in the re-tender of our car hire supplier to ensure environmental sustainability was embedded in the social aspects of the tender, and sustained a relationship with our supplier accounts manager to improve the data we received to accurately calculate our road emissions. We are continuing to work with our accounts manager to gain additional insights into our hiring habits that will allow us to monitor the hiring of low/ultra-low emitting vehicles and analyse our range and location mileage in greater depth.

The information provided in the following Greening Government Commitment (GGC) headings will incorporate measures taken to reduce our Scope 3 emissions in financial year 2024–25.

Greening Government Commitment B: Minimising waste and promoting resource efficiency

Waste figures for our Swindon office are incomplete for March 2025. Estimates have not been used.

Historic England has made excellent progress in supporting the current GGC for waste:

- We have made outstanding progress, exceeding the first target by bringing our treatments avenues to 82% recycling, 14% combustion, 2% landfill and 2% composting or anaerobic digestion.
- We have identified the treatment of food and paper in all of our waste streams, and are working with our waste collectors to comply with the Simpler Recycling Guidance that came into force on 31 March 2025.
- We have achieved significant waste reduction this year, with Newcastle, York and Cambridge exceeding their 5% reduction targets.

The achievement of both targets can be attributed to the dedication of our Facilities Management Department and their work with collection and treatment suppliers to identify and optimise our waste streams, improve data collection consistency, and support minimising waste created.

We are unable to count single-use plastics on our estate due to resource constraints; however, we have changed our processes to stop buying single-use plastic kitchen items in all our offices,

save for Swindon, where appropriate processes are being developed. We have been trialling alternatives to single-use plastic stationery items in our offices, library and archive, and hope to fully phase out single-use plastics in the coming years once current stocks have been used.

Waste Minimisation and Management

Hazardous waste mostly consists of sanitary waste and is included within the total for incineration with energy recovery.

		2019–20	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Non-Financial Indicators (tonnes)					
Total waste		150	74	59	61
Hazardous waste:	Total	–	–	7	1
Non-hazardous waste	Landfill	94	7	6	1
	Reused/recycled	56	23	19	50
	Incinerated/energy from waste	–	44	27	9
Financial indicators					
Total deposit cost		£27,000	£7,200	£23,500	£33,779
Hazardous waste – total deposit cost		–	–	£1,500	£5,589
Non-hazardous waste	Landfill	£14,000	£700	–	–
	Reused/recycled	£13,000	£6,100	–	–
	Incinerated/energy from waste	–	£400	–	–

Greening Government Commitment C: Reducing our water use

We have successfully tendered a new automated metering service and platform that will allow Historic England to fully track and monitor its water consumption, as well as energy usage, in all sites. Currently water consumption is calculated using a spend-based methodology. The platform will launch mid 2025. Using the data supplied by this, we will establish a water reduction target that will align with the Government's 8% reduction target.

Finite Resource Consumption – Water and Paper

		2019–20	2022–23	2023–24	2024–25
Non-Financial Indicators (m³)					
Water consumption	Supplied	9,019	3,880	11,154	6,023
	Abstracted	–	–	–	–
Financial Indicators					
Water supply costs		£18,000	£11,000	£17,100	£18,399
Non-Financial Indicators (Reams)					
A3 paper		297	31	43	74
A4 paper		4,375	695	602	827
Financial Indicators					
A3 and A4 paper combined		£11,000	£5,300	£4,500	£3,922

Greening Government Commitment D: Procuring sustainable products and services

As a public body, Historic England is required to meet the relevant public procurement regulations to ensure we achieve value for public money in a transparent and fair manner. We comply with the Government Buying Standards to ensure best and ethical use of public funds, and our Procurement Manual mandates procedures aimed at delivering social value, combating modern slavery and reducing our carbon emissions.

Purchased goods and services is consistently our highest-emitting reporting category of carbon emissions. We are currently using spend data to calculate these emissions, but from the next financial year will be replacing some of the spend categories with more accurate data. We will look to remove spend data wherever possible in future. We have also taken the following steps to reduce these emissions this year:

- We have continued our dialogue with the suppliers of our ten highest-value contracts to better understand their carbon reduction activities and initiate work to achieve our mutual decarbonisation objectives.
- Our IT department is looking at the end use of our hardware to support reuse wherever possible.

- Sustainability considerations are now incorporated into our tender evaluation process and we are planning for the introduction of sustainability related KPIs.
- 19 buyers have completed our Sustainable Procurement e-learning.
- We have drafted a Supplier Carbon Reduction Programme and look to begin implementing it over the coming year.

Greening Government Commitment E: Nature recovery – making space for thriving plants and wildlife

This year, Historic England celebrated the drafting of site-specific Nature Improvement Plans for the majority of our offices and buildings, including our rented spaces. Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings does not have a new Nature Improvement Plan, as special care and considerations to protect and enhance nature and biodiversity were implemented throughout the site's development and maintained after completion in 2022. We are currently reviewing how to align this work with our Nature Improvement Plans.

Our Nature Improvement Plans collectively include actions to protect and enhance nature for birds, mammals, invertebrates, plants and habitats. For those sites where either we hold little operational control over the building and exteriors, or they exist in an urban centre with

no green space, we believe this should not be a barrier, and our Nature Improvement Plans instead focus on the people within our spaces and how we can provide creative ways to educate about, expose to and get involved in nature. Actions for these plans specifically range from becoming advocates for nature when discussing site management with our landlords, to sharing resources and promoting community initiatives that focus on the protection of our natural environment.

Greening Government Commitment F: Adapting to climate change

We are currently developing our plan to adapt our own estates and operations, and working to help others who care for heritage to do the same. We reviewed and updated our organisational Climate Change Risk Assessment, and are developing our Adaptation Action Plan, to align with the Climate Adaptation Reporting fourth round guidance and phase 2 recommendations from the Task Force on Climate-related Financial Disclosure. Implementation of our adaptation actions, which include adaptation of our office estate, will be managed through our internal climate change programme.

We have set up an advisory panel for heritage building climate change adaptation. We are developing our capacity and capability to model long-term impacts of climate change on cultural heritage caused by increased temperatures, increased rainfall, sea level rise and extreme weather, including in-combination effects, as well as providing support to understand the best options for mitigation and adaptation.

Greening Government Commitment G: Reducing environmental impacts from information communication technology (ICT) and digital

Currently, our ICT and digital usage is captured with Scope 3 emissions for services and equipment. This year, we have established a

revised collection methodology to implement in 2025–26.

This methodology will seek product- and supplier-specific data that will allow us to more accurately calculate the impact of our digital and ICT usage, understanding whole carbon lifecycle of individual products using insights from Sustainable Technology and Reporting, use supplier insights such as customer dashboards to monitor the emissions generated from use of systems and services we procure, and identify ways in which we can understand the impact of our ICT use on Scope 2 emissions.

We are now considering the environmental impacts of our work from planning stages, including during roll-outs of new equipment, as well as ongoing maintenance. In May, we held a 'Green Software Hackathon', which has led to the formation of a green working group, and our IMT staff continue to complete a green development course.

We work with the Good Things Foundation to ensure that as much of our equipment is reused or alternatively recycled as possible.

Sustainable Construction

As we seek more sustainable means of procuring goods and services, we expect to gain a greater understanding of the environmental impact of any construction works we carry out. It is possible that the majority of construction works we see in our organisation is the result of grants awarded and so, in future, we plan to analyse our grant activity to determine the significance of its environmental impact.

Historic England has established an Estates Board to direct maintenance projects on our estate. The Board considers the carbon impacts of projects and how it supports our net zero goals. The Carbon and Sustainability Team report to the Board on a six-monthly basis, and provide advice when needed. We are looking to commence pilot projects to support our data collection improvement, allowing us to develop better

ways of considering carbon in our maintenance projects, and allowing projects to understand the impact they have on the environment. We are working with the heritage sector to improve and evidence our understanding of construction in the heritage sector.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Duncan H. Wilson". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Duncan Wilson

Chief Executive and Accounting Officer

14 July 2025



Historic England
Annual Report and Accounts
2024–25

Accountability Report

Section 02

Accountability Report

This section explains how Historic England is accountable to Parliament and how we comply with governance good practice and guidance.

Corporate Governance Report

The Corporate Governance Report summarises our governance arrangements, explains how they support the achievement of our objectives and provides an assessment of their effectiveness.

Director's Report

Historic England is the common name of the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (HBMCE). It is part of a group with the Historic England Foundation, Historic England (Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings) Limited, the English Heritage Trust, English Heritage Trading Limited, the Iveagh Bequest, English Heritage Limited and Historic England Limited. Further details of Historic England's purposes can be found in the Performance Report Overview.

Commissioners and Executive Team Members

Lord Mendoza was appointed Chairman of Historic England from 1 September 2023. Details of his remuneration and that of Duncan Wilson, the Chief Executive, along with other Commissioners and senior staff who served between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025, can be found in the Remuneration and Staff Report.

The terms of reference and membership of Commission, its committees and the Executive Team can be found on Historic England's website.

Responsibilities of Commissioners

The key responsibilities of Commissioners are to:

- ensure that the statutory responsibilities of Historic England are undertaken;
- provide expert advice and guidance on heritage matters;
- establish the overall strategic direction of Historic England;
- oversee and monitor planned performance against strategic objectives and targets;
- ensure the highest standards of probity are applied in the administration and use of funds, and maximise the economical, efficient and effective use of resources for the public good;
- ensure the highest standards of corporate governance and ensure Commission acts within all statutory and regulatory requirements;
- ensure, through the Chief Executive, that Commission, as employer, acts in accordance with all relevant legislation and best practice;
- ensure that Historic England conducts its dealings with the community in an open, responsive and accountable manner.

Register of Interests

We maintain a record of declarations of interest made by Commissioners, which includes company directorships. A copy of the current Register of Interests and the guidance we ask members to follow is available here: www.historicengland.org.uk/about/who-we-are/commission

All Commissioners, committee members and members of the Executive Team are asked to review their Register of Interests entries twice a year, although members can provide updates at any time. We also seek declarations of potential conflicts at each meeting in relation to the business on the agenda. Where there is a material conflict, the individual does not participate in proceedings.

Fraud and Personal Data-Related Incidents

Historic England suffered no material fraud losses during 2024–25. All losses, including immaterial amounts and failed attempts, were reported to the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) in accordance with our Framework Agreement.

No significant losses of information occurred during 2024–25 and no data loss incidents met the threshold for the Information Commissioner's Office to take regulatory action, reflecting our commitment to data protection and adherence to regulatory guidelines.

Audit Arrangements

The Comptroller and Auditor General has been the auditor of HBMCE since 1 April 2004, English Heritage Trading Limited from 1 April 2008, the English Heritage Trust from 1 April 2015 and the Historic England Foundation from 16 January 2017. Historic England (Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings) Limited is covered by the small company audit exemption. During the period covered by these accounts, the Iveagh Bequest, English Heritage Limited and Historic England Limited were dormant and not subject to audit or independent examination. Audit fees charged for the year are reported in note 11.

Statement of Commissioners' and Accounting Officer's responsibilities

Under paragraph 12(2) of Schedule 3 of the National Heritage Act 1983, the Secretary of State, with the consent of HM Treasury, has directed Historic England to prepare for each financial year a statement of accounts in the form and on the basis set out in the Accounts Direction.

The accounts are prepared on an accruals basis and must give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of Historic England and of its net comprehensive expenditure, Statement of Financial Position, changes in taxpayers' equity and cash flows for the financial year.

In preparing the accounts, the Commissioners and Accounting Officer are required to comply with the requirements of the Government Financial Reporting Manual and, in particular, to:

- observe the Accounts Direction issued by DCMS Secretary of State, including the relevant accounting and disclosure requirements, and apply suitable accounting policies on a consistent basis;
- make judgements and estimates on a reasonable basis;
- state whether applicable accounting standards, as set out in the Government Financial Reporting Manual, have been followed and disclose and explain any material departures in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

The Accounting Officer for DCMS has designated the Chief Executive as the Accounting Officer of Historic England. The responsibilities of an Accounting Officer, including responsibility for the propriety and regularity of the public finances for which the Accounting Officer is answerable and for keeping proper records and safeguarding Historic England's assets, are set out in *Managing Public Money*, published by HM Treasury.

Disclosure of Relevant Audit Information

As Accounting Officer, in conjunction with the Commissioners and Executive Team, I have taken all the steps that ought to have been taken to make ourselves aware of any relevant audit information and to ensure that the National Audit Office is aware of that information. I am not aware of any audit information of which the National Audit Office is unaware.

I confirm that the Annual Report and Accounts as a whole is fair, balanced and understandable. I also take personal responsibility for the Annual Report and Accounts and for the judgements

required to determine that it is fair, balanced and understandable.

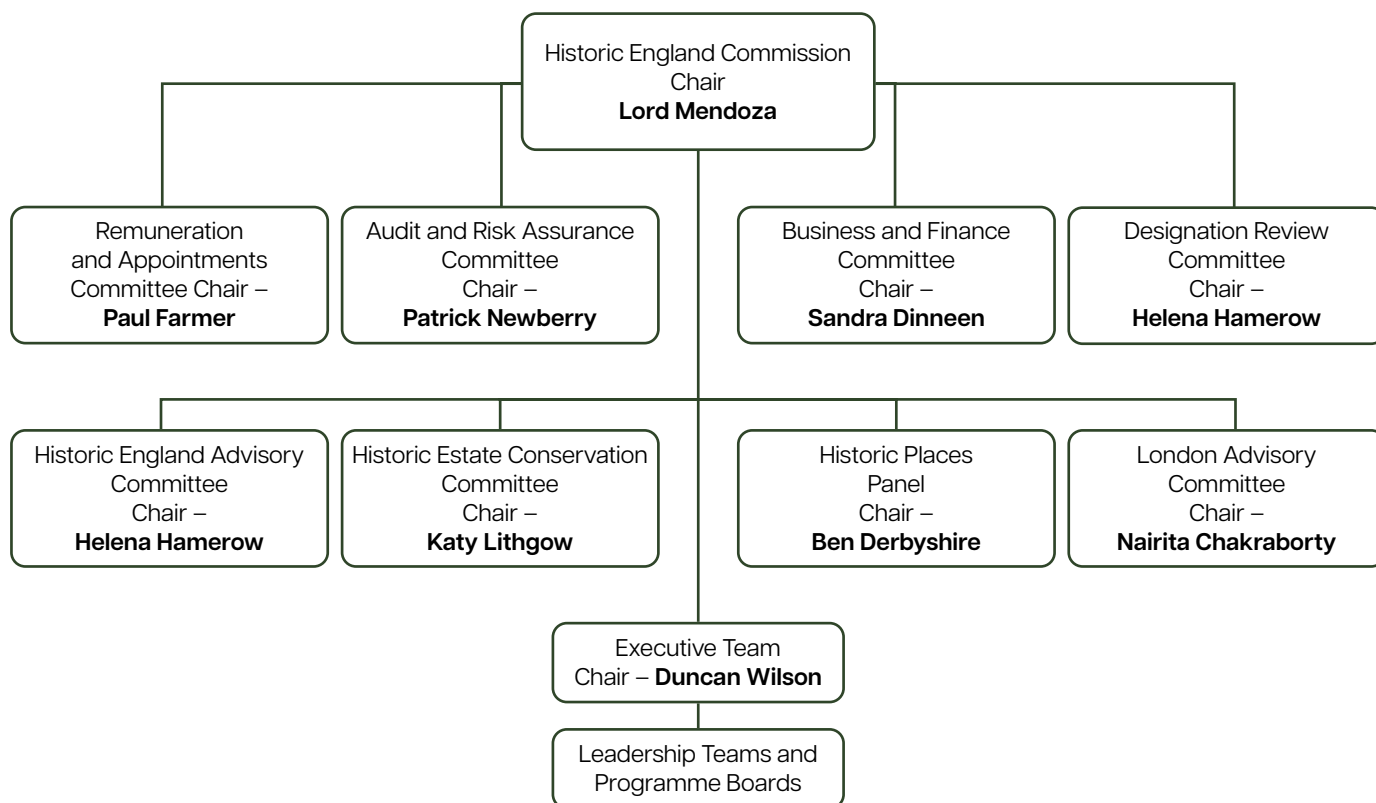
Governance Statement

The Governance Statement, for which I take personal responsibility as Accounting Officer, provides an overview of Historic England's governance arrangements and how they support the achievement of our aims and objectives. The statement also explains how we comply with good governance principles and how we ensure the effectiveness of our arrangements is appropriately reviewed and challenged.

Scope of Responsibility	How We Are Accountable
Historic England is a non-departmental Public Body. The National Heritage Act 1983 sets out our statutory purposes , with the 2002 Act making further provision in relation to our functions.	Accountability to Ministers and Parliament is maintained in accordance with the Framework Agreement and through my role as Accounting Officer. The current Framework Agreement was signed in March 2024.
A Framework Agreement with DCMS sets out the framework and resources within which we operate .	<p>We report regularly to DCMS on our performance against the Framework Agreement and I hold regular meetings with senior DCMS staff, as do other members of the Executive Team.</p> <p>As a public body, we must demonstrate to Government the ongoing need for our functions and show that we are accountable, efficient and effective in how we deliver our work. Historic England is subject to Government's Public Body Reviews programme.</p>
Commission, as our governing body, establishes the overall strategic direction of the organisation and our corporate aims , which are published in our Strategy and Corporate Plan. The plan also describes how we deliver our vision, aims and objectives, and it outlines the outcomes we are working towards.	<p>Through discussions at its meetings, Commission contributes to the development of the organisation's corporate priorities and objectives. It also approves Historic England's Strategy and its Corporate Plan.</p> <p>At each of its meetings, Commission receives a summary of activity performance by corporate priority. This includes updates on strategic, operational and financial performance, alongside Red-Amber-Green ratings for key performance indicators.</p> <p>The Business and Finance Committee receives a detailed update on performance against our corporate priorities and key performance indicators four times a year. Commission receives a comprehensive overview at year end.</p> <p>The Audit and Risk Assurance Committee receives a detailed update on corporate risk four times a year.</p> <p>Commission reviews its effectiveness each year; further details appear on page 64.</p>

Scope of Responsibility	How We Are Accountable
As board members of a public body, Commissioners are obliged to observe various Government requirements and standards in their role, notably the Cabinet Office's Code of Conduct for board members of public bodies, which includes the Seven Principles of Public Life, or 'Nolan Principles'.	Commissioners are appointed by DCMS. All Commissioner appointments follow the recruitment process set out in the Cabinet Office's Governance Code for Public Appointments . On appointment, Commissioners sign terms and conditions that commit them to abiding by Historic England's Conduct Guidance for Commissioners, which sets out the various requirements and standards applicable to the role (within the context of Historic England's business and governance arrangements), including the Nolan Principles. The Chair holds one-to-one appraisal meetings with each Commissioner annually. The Chair has an annual appraisal meeting with DCMS's Director of Arts, Heritage and Tourism. Feedback from Commission and the Executive Team inform this appraisal meeting. The Executive Team reviews organisational performance and financial management information on a regular basis. It also leads the assessment and management of corporate risks, reviewing the Corporate Register at least four times a year. It takes a strategic view of risks across the organisation, ensuring alignment with Historic England's priorities and obligations. I also hold regular meetings with each of my direct reports, during which I seek assurances on performance and risk management.
Day-to-day management of the organisation rests with me as the Chief Executive and Accounting Officer. I delegate authority to my direct reports to incur expenditure and make decisions in accordance with our Scheme of Delegations and the limits set out in the Framework Agreement and our Finance Manual.	
Historic England is accountable to Government for the care and maintenance of the National Heritage Collection , which is managed on our behalf by the English Heritage Trust under an operating licence. Two Commissioners sit on the English Heritage Trust Board and other Commissioners are members of the Trust's sub-committees.	Commission's oversight of the Trust is supported by the work of the Historic Estate Conservation Committee (HECC), which includes Commissioner members and has two English Heritage Trust observers. During 2024–25, HECC carried out its business through committee meetings and a programme of visits to sites within the National Heritage Collection. It produces an annual report to Commission. A report on the Trust's financial and non-financial performance is a standing item at each Commission meeting. The Chairman and Chief Executive of each organisation has a standing invitation to the other's board meetings. Regular bilateral meetings between Historic England and the English Heritage Trust are held at Chairman, Chief Executive and officer level. Two Historic England Commissioners are also English Heritage Trustees. A Historic England Commissioner sits on the Trust's Remuneration and Appointments Committee. The Chair of Historic England's Audit and Risk Assurance Committee meets regularly with his English Heritage Trust counterpart.

Our Structure and System of Governance During 2024–25



The purpose of Historic England’s system of governance is to maximise the potential of the organisation in achieving its aims. Governance within Historic England is exercised primarily through the following bodies:

- Commission** is Historic England’s governing body, comprising non-executive Commissioners appointed by the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. It establishes the overall strategic direction of Historic England and ensures that our statutory responsibilities are carried out. Commission is responsible for oversight and monitoring of performance and for ensuring the highest standards of corporate governance. To support its role, Commission routinely receives reports prepared by the Executive Team on key operational and risk areas, strategy and policy, and financial and non-financial performance, as well as detailed reports from its specialist sub-committees at each meeting. Minutes of Commission meetings are publicly available on our website.
- The Audit and Risk Assurance Committee** supports Commission and me in my role as Accounting Officer in discharging our responsibilities for maintaining sound risk management, control and governance arrangements. It receives reports on risk management at each of its meetings and reports on corporate performance twice a year. The Committee also has oversight of governance arrangements generally. DCMS Finance team colleagues have a standing invitation to observe Audit and Risk Assurance Committee meetings.
- The Executive Team**, which I chair, comprises the six group directors who report to me. Each director is accountable for achieving the aims and managing the risks that are wholly or partly the responsibility of their group. The Executive Team is responsible for establishing control arrangements and ensuring that these operate as intended.
- Other Commission sub-committees** help manage our internal business, including:

- the **Business and Finance Committee**, which oversees our financial strategy and the overall financial management of Historic England;
- the **Remuneration and Appointments Committee**, which has oversight of pay policy and recruitment, approves my remuneration, agrees my objectives and monitors my performance against them.
- Various specialist non-executive committees** advise staff and Commission on strategy, policy and casework matters. These include:
 - the Historic England Advisory Committee
 - the London Advisory Committee
 - the Historic Estate Conservation Committee
 - the Designation Review Committee
 - the Historic Places Panel.

Details of committee membership and individuals’ expertise are published on Historic England’s website. Minutes of sub-committee meetings are standing items at Commission meetings.

- Terms of reference** for these groups and their membership are reviewed routinely as part of our governance monitoring arrangements, to ensure they remain fit for purpose and reflect our operating environment. After a rolling programme of self-assessments and effectiveness reviews, the main committees report a summary of their conclusions to Commission.

Membership of and Attendance at Commission and Committee Meetings

Details of Commission membership and attendance during 2024–25 are detailed in the table below.

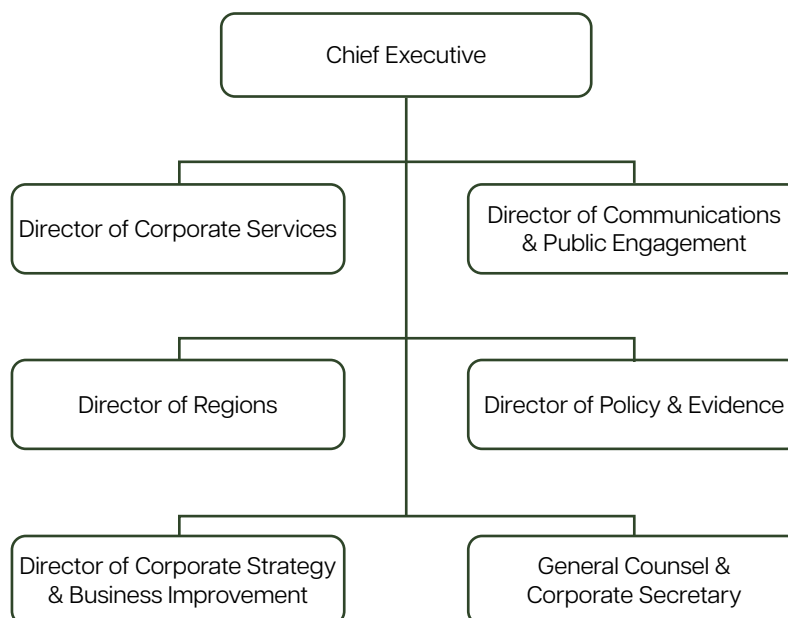
Commissioner	Commission	Audit and Risk Assurance Committee	Business and Finance Committee	Remuneration and Appointments Committee
Lord Mendoza (Chair)	4 of 4			2 of 2
Nairita Chakraborty	2 of 4			
Sandie Dawe ¹	2 of 2	2 of 2	1 of 1	
Ben Derbyshire	3 of 4			
Sandra Dinneen	3 of 4	4 of 4	3 of 3	
Paul Farmer	2 of 4			2 of 2
Jane, Lady Gibson	4 of 4	3 of 4	3 of 3	
Helena Hamerow	3 of 4			
Dame Julie Kenny ²	3 of 3	1 of 1	2 of 3	
Sir Jonathan Marsden	4 of 4			
Patrick Newberry	4 of 4	4 of 4	3 of 3	1 of 2
Robert Sackville-West	4 of 4			
Susie Thornberry	3 of 4			2 of 2
Richard Upton	4 of 4			
Sue Wilkinson	3 of 4			1 of 2
Independent members of business committees				
Shri Mukundagiri		3 of 4		

¹ Term of office finished 30 September 2024.
² Dame Julie Kenny sadly passed away 21 February 2025.

In addition to the formal schedule of business meetings, non-contentious matters were reviewed via email, outside of the meeting cycle. Commissioners also served on the advisory committees and on some of the strategic programme boards for major projects.

Two-day regional Commission visits took place in London in April 2024, in South Essex in October 2024 and to the World Heritage Site of Derwent Valley Mills in March 2025.

Executive Team in 2024–25



The Executive Team includes the Chief Executive and the directors who report directly to me. The team holds a formal business meeting each week, plus a catch-up call. Whenever a group director is unavailable for a business meeting, a member of their leadership team usually attends in their place.

Executive Team member during 2024–25	Term of membership	Meeting attendance
Duncan Wilson, Chief Executive	1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025	36 of 40
Elizabeth Bushell, Director of Corporate Services	1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025	36 of 40
Katharine Grice, Director of Communications & Public Engagement	28 October 2024 – 31 March 2025	16 of 17
Claudia Kenyatta and Emma Squire, Director of Regions (job share)	1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025	35 of 40
Melanie Lewis, Director of Strategy & Business Development	27 August 2024 – 31 March 2025	20 of 23
Ian Morrison, Director of Policy & Evidence	1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025	37 of 40
Amy Pitts, Director of Communications & Public Engagement	1 April 2024 – 25 October 2024	23 of 24
Andrew Wiseman, General Counsel & Corporate Secretary	1 April 2024 – 31 March 2025	37 of 40

The Audit and Risk Assurance Committee in 2024–25

Commission has established an Audit and Risk Assurance Committee to support it – and me as the Accounting Officer – in our responsibilities for maintaining sound risk management, control and governance arrangements. The main responsibilities of the Committee are to advise on:

- the financial accounting and external reporting processes and external audit;
- the effectiveness of risk management and control systems and internal audit;
- the effectiveness of anti-fraud and whistleblowing arrangements.

These responsibilities do not alter the oversight responsibilities of Commission, or of me as the Accounting Officer, for the maintenance of sound systems of governance, risk management and internal control, and for financial and other external reporting.

In practice, the Committee carries out its work by reviewing and challenging the assurances it receives on the effectiveness of internal controls and risk management, the way in which these assurances have been developed and the management priorities on which they are based.

The Committee's membership comprises Commissioners and an independent member who collectively have a broad range of experience, including finance, risk management and governance. The Committee reports to Commission following each of its meetings.

The Audit and Risk Assurance Committee met on four occasions during 2024–25, its business covering a broad range of matters, including the following:

- the National Audit Office (NAO)'s audit plans, progress and findings. In line with good practice, the Committee also held discussions with the NAO without members of the Executive present;

- regular reports and assurances from management and the Government Internal Audit Agency (GIAA) in relation to risk management, control and governance arrangements. GIAA and the Committee are able to hold meetings without members of the Executive present, in line with good practice;
- standing items, including mid-year and year-end reporting on corporate performance against strategic aims and key performance indicators; the monitoring and mitigation of corporate risks; and operational risk performance, including accidents and incidents, fraud and loss, whistleblowing and sickness;
- specific reports and assurances on high-risk operational and business areas, including a review of our risk appetite, risk management of the National Heritage Collections and the climate change operational risk register;
- routine reports on information assurance and compliance, including reports on the organisation's approach to cybersecurity, information management and compliance with Government standards;
- the Registers of Interests for Commissioners, Committee and Executive Team members, and summaries of hospitality given and received by the Chairman and Chief Executive;
- reports on finance matters, including updates on accounting and auditing policies;
- various discussions relating to the production and approval of the 2023–24 Annual Report and Accounts, preparation of the 2024–25 financial statements and early drafts of the Performance and Accountability reports.

In line with good practice, the Committee also reviewed and approved its terms of reference during 2024–25. The Committee's 2023–24 review of its own effectiveness informed its agenda in 2024–25.

The Committee was given the opportunity to comment on and challenge the assurances made in this Governance Statement.

Risk Management at Historic England

Risk management is integral to delivering Historic England's objectives and ensuring good governance. Our approach is underpinned by the principles and best practice set out in *Managing Public Money* and HM Treasury's *Management of Risks – Principles and Concepts* (the Orange Book), supporting informed decision making and performance management at all levels.

Rather than seeking to eliminate all risk, we aim to manage it within clearly defined appetites that balance accountability and proportionality with strategic ambition. Our approach promotes flexibility, informed judgement and continuous learning.

Risk Oversight

We recognise that everyone in Historic England has a role to play in identifying, managing, escalating and communicating risk, and we encourage a shared understanding of these responsibilities.

We use the Three Lines Model to organise and clarify how risk is managed across the organisation:

- those who own and manage risks (First Line);
- those who support, oversee and challenge risk management (Second Line);
- those who independently assess and provide assurance (Third Line).

This model enables risk-informed decision making, supports a clear line of accountability and underpins our joined-up approach to governance, assurance and performance.

The Executive Team, as our strategic leadership body, is accountable for the governance and oversight of risk. It sets the tone, provides direction and ensures that risk management is

embedded in the way the organisation is led, managed and held to account.

The Chief Executive, as Historic England's Accounting Officer, holds personal responsibility for the proper use of public funds and the effectiveness of governance, control and risk management.

The Audit and Risk Assurance Committee provides independent scrutiny and assurance on risk, control and governance. It tests whether risk arrangements are proportionate, effective and embedded in organisational practice.

In line with best practice, a senior individual has been designated to lead our approach to risk, ensuring it remains aligned with strategic priorities and that governance arrangements remain robust.

Risk Appetite

The Executive Team is responsible for establishing, monitoring and periodically reviewing the organisation's risk appetite, to ensure ongoing alignment with Historic England's strategic priorities, funding arrangements and statutory obligations.

In December 2024, the Executive Team approved a tailored set of risk categories and sub-categories reflecting Historic England's operational context and strategic objectives. These are underpinned by a defined risk appetite framework that enables confident decision making, balancing innovation and opportunity with the prudent use of public funds.

Risk Appetite	Description	Risk Category
Open	We will proactively take bold decisions and delivery approaches whilst accepting the associated substantial risk levels in order to secure highly successful outcomes and benefits.	
Curious	We are prepared to consider innovative decisions and delivery approaches, even when there are elevated levels of associated risk, if there is a high probability of productive outcomes.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • External Historic Environment Risks • Reputational Risks • Assets/Estates Risks • Projects/Programmes Risks
Cautious	We are willing to accept modest and largely controllable levels of risk in order to achieve acceptable key, but possible unambitious outcomes or benefits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial Risks • People Risks • Operations Risks • Technology Risks • Legal Risks
Minimalist	We have an overall preference for safe decision making and delivery approaches but are willing to accept some low-level risk , despite the probability that there may be restricted potential for innovation and increased outcomes and benefits.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance Risks
Averse	We will take very safe decision making and delivery approaches and accept only the very lowest levels of risk , avoiding risk and uncertainty wherever we are able, whilst recognising that this may restrict exploitation of opportunities and innovation.	

Corporate Risks

The Executive Team leads the assessment and management of corporate risk. The Corporate Risk Register is reviewed quarterly to monitor changes in risk exposure, the effectiveness of controls and the emergence of any new risks. The Audit and Risk Assurance Committee receives quarterly reports covering both corporate risks and the broader risk framework.

A summary of Historic England's principal corporate risks in 2024–25 is presented below. This includes only those risks that have been newly introduced, removed, or have experienced a change in risk rating or trend since the last report.

Risk Description	Risk Appetite	How we managed this risk	Risk Trend
Corporate Risks removed from the register in 2024/25			
Delivery of High Streets Programme Failure to deliver part or all of the High Streets Programme, including effective Programme closedown.	N/A	Risk closed following successful delivery of programme objectives, effective handover and closure activities.	N/A
Corporate Risks introduced in 2024/25			
Condition of HE-owned assets Continued deterioration of key Historic England buildings, due to funding constraints, may lead to compliance breaches and reputational harm.	Curious	Structural risks are managed through ongoing surveys, urgent repairs and revised access protocols. A new site lead is coordinating regeneration, while planning work addresses long-term repair and partnership opportunities.	N/A
Sector financial resilience Inflation and reduced public funding may drive closures and diminish care of heritage assets by third-party organisations.	Curious	Financial monitoring and resilience planning are under way with sector partners. Grant funding is being targeted where most needed and community guidance is being updated to support sustainable asset stewardship.	N/A
Key Corporate Risks carried forward with an increasing or decreasing risk trend			

Financial sustainability Insufficient income from grant-in-aid or other sources could compromise the delivery of Historic England's corporate objectives.	Curious	Scenario modelling, business case submissions and engagement with DCMS support financial resilience, alongside development of an income generation strategy and identification of operational efficiencies.	Increasing
Pay and cost-of-living pressures Pay constraints and cost-of-living pressures could reduce staff engagement, affect wellbeing and reduce our ability to attract and retain talent.	Cautious	Maximum affordable budgets allocated to annual pay reviews, complemented by wellbeing resources, pay benchmarking, union engagement and communications to promote the wider value of HE's benefits package.	Increasing
Corporate reputation Unexpected media coverage or public scrutiny could harm Historic England's reputation and stakeholder trust.	Curious	Proactive communications and issue tracking are in place, alongside crisis and cyber-incident plans. Quality assurance, stakeholder engagement and insight monitoring ensure swift response and escalation.	Decreasing
Advice standards and consistency Poor judgement, inconsistent practice or capacity issues could weaken the credibility and impact of our statutory advice.	Cautious	Updated protocols, casework governance, cross-team training and improved learning and development support have been implemented. New systems and corporate reviews aim to ensure advice remains consistent, credible and well informed.	Increasing
Local authority heritage capacity Loss of planning resource at local level may erode the effectiveness of heritage protection and increase pressure on HE's own services.	Curious	Strategic engagement with the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government and devolution agendas supports local authority skills and staffing. HE is enhancing access to heritage information, building peer networks and delivering training to support resilience in the planning system.	Increasing
Heritage protection in policy Planning and listing reforms may reduce statutory protections and weaken heritage outcomes, in favour of other policy objectives.	Cautious	Evidence and advocacy work is shaping reforms through close liaison with Government, a cross-sector policy group and stakeholder influencing strategies aimed at preserving heritage protections.	Increasing
Delivery of Digital Strategy Failure to deliver the strategy could entrench reliance on outdated systems, limit process improvements and reduce stakeholder confidence.	Curious	Delivery is governed through the Digital Strategy Board, with project reprioritisation and additional contract support agreed to sustain progress. A digital skills programme is in place and a new dashboard will enhance oversight through aggregated risk ratings.	Increasing

Independent Assurance

Internal audit provides me – as Accounting Officer – and Commission, directly and via the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee, with an independent, objective evaluation of the adequacy and effectiveness of our framework of governance, risk management and control. It also adds value by providing risk and control advice and recommendations for the improvement of existing arrangements and on new arrangements under consideration.

GIAA provides internal audit services to Historic England. An Internal Audit Charter between GIAA and Historic England sets out the purpose, authority and responsibilities of internal audit. The Accounting Officer and Chair of the Committee signed the Charter on behalf of Historic England in July 2023.

The Internal Audit Plan for 2024–25 was adopted by the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee in July 2024, having been considered in draft form in March 2024. It was reviewed throughout the year to respond to changing priorities or emerging risks. The Audit and Risk Assurance Committee and the Executive Team were kept updated on changes, progress against the plan and key emerging findings and assurances – and monitored the progress in implementing agreed management actions.

The Internal Audit team carried out cyclical assurance activity across all major areas of Historic England's operations. The following areas were identified as contributing to the 2024–25 Opinion: corporate planning, workforce strategy, business continuity, information security, grants verification and risk management.

GIAA's annual report provided a Moderate overall assurance opinion, meaning that our established controls remain adequate and that key programmes assessed in the year are operating effectively. The direction of travel towards a Limited overall assurance opinion reflected the increase in percentage of reviews that obtained a Limited or Unsatisfactory opinion in 2024–25 (36%) compared to the prior year (15%). However, the audit plan was focused on areas that Historic England highlighted as requiring improvement at the start of the year, and therefore GIAA anticipated identifying weaknesses in these areas. Management has made significant progress with implementing recommendations from previous audits, leading to a more robust control environment.

Whistleblowing

Our whistleblowing policy commits us to maintaining high standards of integrity within a culture of openness and honesty. The policy identifies various routes for concerns to be raised internally, including via the Chair of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee. We also signpost independent sources of advice, such as Protect, a British charity supporting safe whistleblowing.

Open Government and Freedom of Information

Historic England is subject to the public sector freedom of information regime. As part of our ongoing commitment to transparency and accountability, much of our information is available on our website. The Freedom of Information Act 2000 and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004 provide a general right of access to recorded information held by public authorities. In 2024–25, we responded

to 360 requests under this legislation (404 in 2023–24).

Information Security and Compliance

Historic England is committed to securely storing, handling and sharing the information we hold, maximising its value to our business and mitigating reputational, legal and financial risks from potential loss, theft, misuse or inappropriate disclosure.

We have a dedicated Corporate Information Management Group responsible for the leadership, corporate oversight and monitoring of corporate information management, General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) compliance and cybersecurity.

We are required to provide assurance to DCMS that the necessary measures are in place to meet data protection legislation and cybersecurity standards (including Government Functional Standard for Security GovS:007, Cyber Essentials and GovAssure).

We were successfully reaccredited for Cyber Essentials on 23 October 2024 for a further 12 months. In 2024–25, we engaged a supplier to provide 24/7 security monitoring and cyberattack technical support. We have completed initial work on Government's GovAssure certification process and have an improvement plan agreed with the Cabinet Office. HE have implemented the Disclosure for Government Scheme recommendations and are taking advantage of associated services.

Historic England remains compliant with public records legislation, having been granted permission by the Advisory Council on National Records and Archives to retain legacy records while addressing a backlog.

Monitoring the Effectiveness of Governance in 2024–25

As Accounting Officer, I have responsibility for the effectiveness of our system of governance.

My views on the effectiveness of Historic England's governance were discussed with the Executive Team and the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee during the year. Throughout 2024–25 I was assured of its effectiveness by:

- the work of the Executive Team;
- the work of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee;
- the advice of the General Counsel & Corporate Secretary and other specialist governance staff;
- regular reporting on performance and risk;
- the annual programme of internal audit reviews;
- the advice of external auditors;
- other assurances from groups, programme and project boards.

Executive Team directors have confirmed to me that, to the best of their knowledge and belief, and based on the assurances they have received, Historic England maintained a sound system of governance during the year, while managing risks and safeguarding public funds and departmental assets in accordance with the responsibilities set out in *Managing Public Money*.

At year end, Commission undertook a review of its own effectiveness, considering:

- its processes and practices;
- the views of the Audit and Risk Assurance Committee, internal audit and other means of assurance;
- formal performance and risk reporting via group directors;
- the quality of data provided to the Board;
- the business of Commission and its committees;
- any survey or external views received on Historic England's performance.

Commission concluded that its operations had been satisfactory and that the data provided had been adequate for sound decision making and risk management. A summary of the findings of Commission's review of its effectiveness is shared with DCMS. In line with best practice and Cabinet Office guidance, the 2025–26 review will be led externally and will report in mid-2026.

Conclusion on Corporate Governance in 2024–25

A satisfactory system of governance was in place at Historic England for the financial year ending 31 March 2025 and up to the date of approval of the 2024–25 Annual Report and Accounts. It accorded with HM Treasury guidance, including *Corporate Governance in Central Government Departments: Code of Good Practice 2017* and *Management of Risks – Principles and Concepts* (the Orange Book), insofar as these are applicable to Historic England as an Arm's Length Body.

The governance system in place provided me, as Accounting Officer, with adequate assurance that Historic England is making the best use of its resources in achieving its aims, while managing risks appropriately. I believe the system of governance was fit for purpose in 2024–25 and remains so. My fellow Executive Team members and Commission support this view.

Duncan Wilson CBE

Chief Executive and Accounting Officer
14 July 2025

Remuneration and Staff Report

The Remuneration and Staff Report has been prepared in accordance with the Government Financial Reporting Manual and contains information on the remuneration policy for directors and how the policy has been implemented. It also shows the amounts awarded to the directors during the year, plus the relevant details relating to remuneration and staff.

Remuneration Report

Remuneration Policy

The remuneration of the Executive Team is determined with reference to relevant external market benchmarks for the respective role.

Remuneration and Appointments Committee

The objective of the Committee is to review and advise on the Human Resources Strategy to ensure that it contributes effectively to the success of the organisation. It is also the objective of the Committee to review the reward and remuneration of the staff, so as to:

- demonstrate that reward and remuneration is considered by a Committee that has no personal interest in the outcome of its advice, and which gives due regard to the interests of the public and the financial health of the organisation;
- ensure that staff are fairly rewarded for their individual contributions to the organisation's overall performance within DCMS and HM Treasury delegated limits.

In carrying out the above, the Committee provides advice and oversight external to the Historic England group management, necessary to demonstrate public accountability.

The Committee determines the frequency of its meetings in order to ensure that the remit of the Committee is fulfilled. The Committee is chaired by a Commissioner (who is not the Chairman of Commission) and comprises no fewer than five members, all of whom are Commissioners or independent external members. In accordance with Historic England's published Appointments

Policy, members of the Committee are appointed by the Chairman of Commission, following consultation with (and approval by) Commissioners.

Since 1 June 2021, the Committee has been chaired by Commissioner Paul Farmer. The Committee has met once during the reporting period and comprised five Commissioners, including the Committee Chair.

Executive Board Contracts

Executive Team members are employed on continuous contracts and are required to give three months' notice of termination of employment by resignation. The Chief Executive is also on a continuous contract and is required to give six months' notice of termination of employment by resignation. Early terminations of contract by Historic England are dealt with in accordance with the rules of the Civil Service Compensation Scheme.

The only employee with a contractual performance award arrangement is the Chief Executive. The Chief Executive's remuneration package has, since the date of his original appointment (with effect from May 2015), been based on a 'salary at risk' model. This means that his basic salary was set at a level below the prevailing market rate with the ability to earn an annual performance-related award to supplement it. The award is payable for the achievement of specific performance targets and objectives, at a maximum of £17,500 per annum. Following the end of each financial year, the Remuneration and Appointments Committee assess the Chief Executive's performance against his annual

targets and objectives and determines the rate of his performance-related award.

The remaining Executive Team members are participants in the organisation’s Performance-Related Pay Scheme for Directors. They can allow awards of up to 7.5% of salary, assessed

every year against annual targets and objectives. Following the end of the financial year, the Chief Executive assesses the performance of the Executive Team members against their annual targets and objectives. His recommendations are put forward to Human Resources.

Emoluments of the Commissioners

The following information has been subject to audit:

	Appointments since 1 April 2024	Appointments ended since 1 April 2024	2024–25 £’000	2023–24 £’000
The Chair of the Commission				
Lord Mendoza			35–40	20–25
Current Commissioners				
Nairita Chakraborty			0–5	0–5
Benjamin Derbyshire			0–5	0–5
Sandra Dinneen			0–5	0–5
Paul Farmer			0–5	0–5
Jane, Lady Gibson			0–5	0–5
Professor Helena Hamerow			0–5	5–10
Sir Jonathan Marsden			0–5	0–5
Patrick Newberry			0–5	0–5
Robert Sackville–West			0–5	0–5
Susie Thornberry			0–5	0–5
Richard Upton			0–5	0–5
Susan Wilkinson			0–5	0–5
Former Commissioners				
David Laing		20 February 2024	–	0–5
Sandie Dawe		30 September 2024	0–5	0–5
Dame Julie Kenny		21 February 2025	0–5	0–5

- Commissioners’ emoluments wholly related to basic fees in respect of their duties as Commissioners and as chairs of advisory committees. No Commissioner received any performance-related fees.
- All Commissioners’ appointments are non-pensionable. Commissioners’ emoluments are set by DCMS.
- No new Commissioner took office during 2024–25.
- Sandie Dawe left at her end of office 30 September 2024.
- Dame Julie Kenny sadly passed away 21 February 2025.

Single Total Figure of Remuneration for Executive Team

The following information has been subject to audit:

	Salary		Performance Award		Pension Benefits ¹		Total	
	2025 £'000	2024 £'000	2025 £'000	2024 £'000	2025 £'000	2024 £'000	2025 £'000	Restated 2024 £'000
Executive Team as at 31 March 2025								
Duncan Wilson OBE Chief Executive	140–145	135–140	15–20	15–20	86	81	245–250	235–240
Elizabeth Bushell Director of Corporate Services	130–135	120–125	0–5	0–5	51	49	180–185	175–180
Claudia Kenyatta ² Full time equivalent salary (job share) Director of Regions	75–80 (110–115)	95–100 (105–110)	0–5	0–5	64	69	145–150	170–175
Emma Squire ² Full time equivalent salary (job share) Director of Regions	75–80 (110–115)	25–30 (105–110)	–	–	84	88	160–165	115–120
Ian Morrison Director of Policy and Evidence	105–110	105–110	0–5	0–5	60	24	170–175	135–140
Amy Pitts ³ Director of Communications & Public Engagement	90–95	90–95	0–5	0–5	22	36	120–125	135–140
Katharine Grice ⁴ Full year equivalent salary (Maternity Leave Cover) Director of Communications & Public Engagement	75–80 (85–90)	–	0–5	–	32	–	110–115	–
Melanie Lewis ⁵ Full year equivalent salary Director of Business Improvement	55–60 (110–115)	–	–	–	22	–	75–80	–
Andrew Wiseman General Counsel & Corporate Secretary	105–110	100–105	0–5	0–5	41	40	150–155	145–150

¹ The value of pension benefits accrued during the year is calculated as (the real increase in pension multiplied by 20) less (the contributions made by the individual) plus (the real increase in any lump sum). The real increase excludes increases due to inflation or any increase or decrease due to a transfer of pension rights. This figure is provided by MyCSP, the pension scheme administrator.

² Director of Regions job share commenced from 27 November 2023.

³ Director of Communications & Public Engagement Maternity leave from 25 October 2024.

⁴ Director of Communications & Public Engagement Maternity cover from 28 October 2024.

⁵ Director of Business Improvement appointed 27 August 2024.

⁶ Accrued pension benefits included in this table for any individual affected by the Public Service Pensions Remedy have been calculated based on their inclusion in the legacy scheme for the period between 1 April 2015 and 31 March 2022, following the McCloud judgment. The Public Service Pensions Remedy applies to individuals that were members, or eligible to be members, of a public service pension scheme on 31 March 2012 and were members of a public service pension scheme between 1 April 2015 and 31 March 2022. The basis for the calculation reflects the legal position that impacted members have been rolled back into the relevant legacy scheme for the remedy period and that this will apply unless the member actively exercises their entitlement on retirement to decide instead to receive benefits calculated under the terms of the Alpha scheme for the period from 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2022.

‘Salary’ includes gross salary and any other allowance to the extent that it is subject to UK taxation.

The data presented is based on accrued payments made by Historic England and thus recorded in these accounts. Performance awards are based on performance levels attained and are made as part of the annual appraisal process. Due to the timing of the appraisal process, awards reported in 2024–

25 relate to performance in 2023–24 and comparative bonuses reported for 2023–24 relate to the performance in 2022–23.

Pension Benefits for Executive Team

The following information has been subject to audit:

	Accrued pension at pension age ¹	Total lump sum at pension age ¹	Real annual increase in pension at pension age	Real annual increase in lump sum at pension age	CETV ²		Real annual increase in CETV
	2025 £'000	2025 £'000	2025 £'000	2025 £'000	2025 £'000	2024 £'000	2025 £'000
Executive Team as at 31 March 2025							
Duncan Wilson OBE Chief Executive	40–45	–	2.5–5	–	704	605	72
Elizabeth Bushell Director of Corporate Services	5–10	–	2.5–5	–	72	54	21
Claudia Kenyatta ³ Director of Regions (job share)	55–60	–	2.5–5	–	1048	948	52
Emma Squire ³ Director of Regions (job share)	40–45	–	2.5–5	–	756	661	65
Ian Morrison Director of Policy & Evidence	40–45	105–110	2.5–5	0–2.5	1009	915	50
Amy Pitts ⁴ Director of Communications & Public Engagement (maternity leave)	20–25	–	0–2.5	–	251	218	10
Katharine Grice ⁵ Director of Communications & Public Engagement (maternity cover)	20–25	–	0–2.5	–	314	287	24
Melanie Lewis-O'Boyle ⁶ Director of Business Improvement	0–5	–	0–2.5	–	16	–	12
Andrew Wiseman General Counsel and Corporate Secretary	25–30	–	0–2.5	–	462	391	34

All figures are provided by MyCSP, the pension scheme administrator. Amounts shown in () indicate that, taking account of inflation, the CETV funded by the employer has decreased in real terms.

¹ Balances as at 31 March 2025.

² Cash Equivalent Transfer Value. Figure stated is the latest of 31 March or date of joining the executive team.

³ Director of Regions job share commenced from 27 November 2023.

⁴ Director of Communications & Public Engagement Maternity leave from 25 October 2024.

⁵ Director of Communications & Public Engagement Maternity cover from 28 October 2024.

⁶ Director of Business Improvement appointed 27 August 2024.

The figures stated in the table above represent the cost to the organisation and are thus based on the gross benefits accrued, before any adjustments for personal Pension Sharing Orders or other such deductions are applied. The figures relating to the Chief Executive are subject to a personal Pension Sharing Order.

Cash Equivalent Transfer Value

The Cash Equivalent Transfer Value (CETV) is the actuarially assessed capitalised value of the pension scheme benefits accrued by a member at a particular point in time. The benefits valued are the member's accrued benefits plus any contingent spouse's pension payable from the scheme.

A CETV is a payment made by a pension scheme or arrangement to secure pension benefits in another pension scheme or arrangement when the member leaves a scheme and chooses to transfer the pension benefits accrued in their former scheme.

The pension figures relate to the benefits that the individual has accrued as a consequence of their total membership of the pension scheme, not just their service in a senior capacity to which disclosure applies.

The figures include the value of any pension benefit in another scheme or arrangement that the member has transferred to a Civil Service pension. They also include any additional accrued pension benefit as a result of buying additional pension benefits at the member's own cost.

CETVs are calculated in accordance with The Occupational Pension Schemes (Transfer Values) (Amendment) Regulations 2008 and do not take account of any actual or potential reduction to benefits resulting from Lifetime Allowance Tax that may be due when pension benefits are taken.

CETV figures are calculated using the guidance on discount rates for calculating unfunded public service pension contribution rates that was extant at 31 March 2024. HM Treasury published

updated guidance on 27 April 2023; this guidance will be used in the calculation of 2024–25 CETV figures.

Real increase in CETV

This reflects the increase in CETV that is funded by the employer. It does not include the increase in accrued pension due to inflation, or contributions paid by the employee (including the value of any benefits transferred from another pension scheme or arrangement) and uses common market valuation factors for the start and end of the period.

Emoluments

The following information has been subject to audit. Emoluments include gross salary, performance-related awards and any other allowance to the extent that they are subject to UK taxation. This report is based on payments made by Historic England and thus recorded in these accounts. No benefits-in-kind were paid during the year (2023–24: £nil).

Fair Pay Disclosure

The following information has been subject to audit:

Reporting bodies are required to disclose the relationship between the remuneration of the highest-paid director in their organisation and the lower quartile, median and upper quartile remuneration of the organisation's workforce.

	2024–25	Restated 2023–24
Band of highest paid director's total remuneration (£'000)	155–160	150–155
Median salary (£)	39,926	38,392
Median total remuneration (£)	40,374	40,290
Ratio	3.90	3.78
25th percentile salary (£)	32,863	30,758
25th percentile total remuneration (£)	33,311	32,656
Ratio	4.73	4.66
75th percentile salary (£)	46,755	44,910
75th percentile total remuneration (£)	47,203	46,808
Ratio	3.34	3.25

The banded remuneration of the highest-paid director in Historic England in the financial year 2024–25 was £155,000–160,000 (2023–24: £150,000–£155,000). This was 3.90 times (Restated 2023–24: 3.78) the median remuneration of the workforce, which was £40,374 (Restated 2023–24: £40,290). In 2024–25, no employees received remuneration in excess of the highest paid director (2023–24: nil). Remuneration ranged from £20,000–£25,000 to £155,000–£160,000 (2023–24: £15,000–£20,000 to £150,000–£155,000).

The Chief Executive was the highest paid director. His total package (including salary and excluding bonus) increased by 3.90%.

The base salary, excluding bonus for the average employee (excluding the Chief Executive), increased by 4.33%. We spent 4.04%, the average award was 3.96% and staff received consolidated increases between 2.97% and 10.77%.

Please note, increases below 3.6% also received a non-consolidated payment to ensure the total minimum received was 3.6%.

Bonus for the average employee decreased by 76.40% in 24/25 due to the £1,000 cost of living payment given to all employees in 23/24.

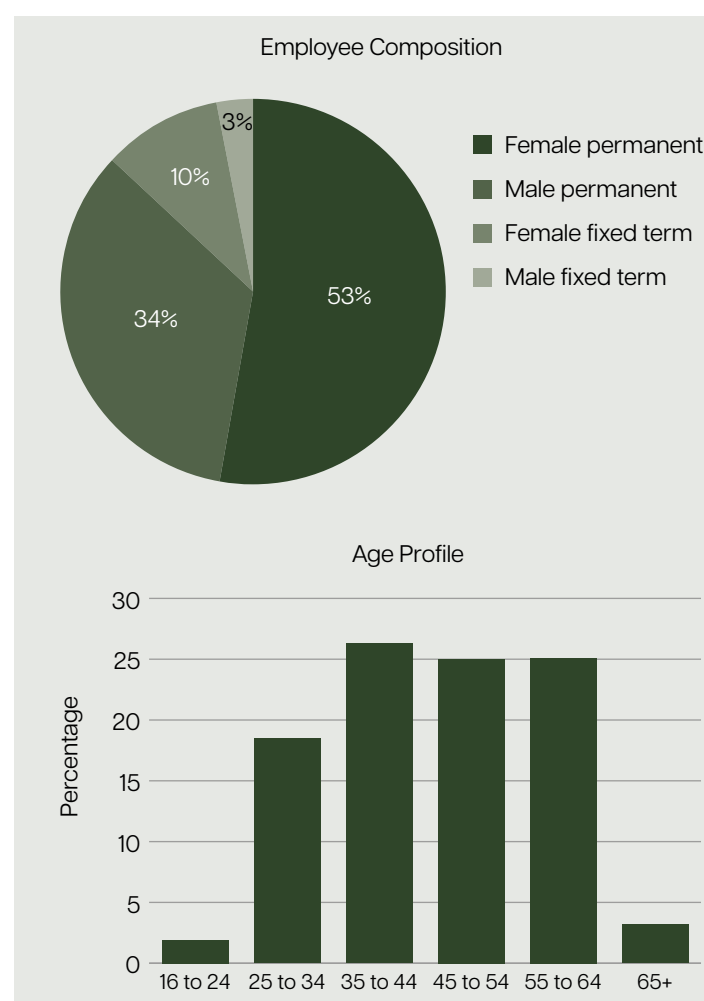
Total remuneration includes salary, non-consolidated performance-related pay and benefits-in-kind. It does not include severance payments, employer pension contributions and the cash equivalent transfer value of pensions.

Historic England Staff Report

Organisational Headcount and Demographic Profile as at 31 March 2025

Current Employee Headcount stands at 1,000 employees (2023–24: 1027). Fixed Term Contracts account for 13.4% of the general population (2023–24: 17.7%), with the remaining 86.9% employed on a permanent basis. The gender split of the organisation remains more strongly represented by females, at 62.7%. Our Executive Team is made up of six women and three men (this includes a maternity cover arrangement and a job-share arrangement).

We have an ongoing action plan to reduce our gender pay gap. This has led to our mean pay gap being reduced from 13.4% in April 2017 to 5.7% in April 2024. More information about this is available on our website: www.historicengland.org.uk.



Equality and Diversity

Historic England recognises the importance of equality and the need to increase the diversity of our workforce. Some of the main areas we are focusing on are as follows:

- **Ethnicity** – Black, Asian and minority ethnic employees are particularly under-represented at Historic England, at 7.6% (76 employees). This figure has improved from last year (2023–24: 6.9%) and the long-term trend is upwards. This under-representation remains particularly acute in our heritage specialist roles and we have published an action plan to address this and other areas of under-representation. This includes activities such as work on our employer brand and our Future Talent Programme, which aims to attract people from under-represented groups into heritage careers.
- **Age** – Employees under the age of 25 remain significantly under-represented, at 1.90% (2023–24: 3.12%), although our early careers activities aim to address this. This year, five of our apprentices have secured either permanent or fixed term contracts. We continue to promote our apprenticeship opportunities. Our virtual work experience programme is now ‘on-demand’, meaning it is more accessible to a wider and even more diverse audience of young people. Since the launch of the programme, over 1500 students have registered to take part.
- **Social Mobility** – We were recognised for our work to improve opportunities for people from lower socio-economic backgrounds with a place in the 2023 Social Mobility Foundation’s Top 75 employers. This recognition reflected initiatives such as our Future Talent Programme, the reach of our Virtual Work Experience offer, our approach to recruitment and our now thriving Social Mobility staff network. We continue to work with the Social Mobility Foundation to help steer our work in this area and to align with

best practice. We are currently working on our 2025 Social Mobility Index submission.

- **Gender** – We have a fair gender balance in our senior level roles, with balanced representation of women in roles from our Band C roles through to our Executive Team. Further work is still needed to improve the representation of men in support and administrative roles.
- **Sexual Orientation** – 9.1% (91 employees) of our employees have self reported as lesbian/gay/bisexual/other (2023–24: 9.1%, 93 employees). This reflects our efforts to create a supportive and welcoming environment, working with our Pride staff network.
- **Disability** – 9.7% of our employees (97 employees) have a disability (2023–24: 8.9%, 91 employees). We have been working to attract and hire more disabled people through a variety of activities. These include implementing a new recruitment system, ‘Applied’, which reduces bias in the recruitment process and assesses candidates based on their role-based skills and experience. We have developed our employer brand, formed disability recruitment partnerships with Even Break and Scope UK, become a Disability Confident Leader and continue to work on our Future Talent Programme. We have also been working to give more people the confidence to share their disability with us. These activities have led to an improvement in disability representation.

Further information about how we promote equality and diversity can be found on our website, <https://historicengland.org.uk/>.

Health and Safety

In 2024–25 there were 12 work-related accidents (2023–24: 7), one of which was reportable to the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) (2023–24: 0). The number and type of work-related accidents is consistent with previous years. We have a current health and safety policy and risk register in place.

Safety operational risk management policies and practices are currently under review.

Disability

Historic England aims to increase participation by disabled people. Full and fair consideration is given to applications for employment from disabled people where they have appropriate skills to perform the job. We achieved Disability Confident Level 3 accreditation (Disability Confident Leader) in 2023, which evidences our ongoing commitment to this. We make our recruitment processes inclusive and provide disability awareness training. If an employee develops a disability during their employment, then we make extensive efforts to maintain employment, including training and career development. We operate a Disability at Work policy that describes this. We also have a disability staff network group, which provides peer support and feedback to Historic England on disability-related matters.

Sickness Absence

The average working time lost per person for Historic England employees was 6.4 days for the financial year 2024–25 (2023–24: 5.2 days). This remains below the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development's Health and Wellbeing at Work Report (2023) average sickness absence rate of 7.8 days per person in the UK. We updated our HR system to make it easier to record sickness absence this year, which may have improved levels of reporting.

Staff Turnover

Our voluntary staff turnover for 2024–25, which includes resignations and retirements, was 7.9% (2023–24: 6.8%). Our overall staff turnover, including fixed-term contracts that concluded on their planned end date, was 12.5% (2023–24: 8.9%).

Career Management and Training

Historic England recognises the importance of developing our staff and managers to enable us to fulfil our plans and mission, and to ensure our staff remain productive and engaged. We provide training to help staff to achieve more in their role, to implement strategies and programmes and to progress as people and professionals. We offer leadership and management training, supporting everyone from aspiring managers to those in executive level roles. Our Performance and Development Review includes a section dedicated to career aspirations and how they might be achieved. We offer career development training sessions to focus on this element in more detail.

Mental Health and Wellbeing

During this financial year, our work to improve and protect the mental health and wellbeing of our people has once again been recognised with a seventh successive Gold Award from the Mind Workplace Wellbeing Index – a scheme we have participated in for the past eight years. We have expanded our dedicated network of mental health first aiders and mental health champions, who play a key role in raising awareness and promoting a supportive workplace culture. We also continue to offer resilience and stress management training, financial wellbeing sessions and access to the Calm Wellbeing app to reduce stress and boost wellbeing.

Union Relationship

We have a constructive and long-standing working relationship with the Prospect trade union. There were 21 employees who were relevant union representatives during 2024–25 (FTE equivalent of 20.00).

Percentage of Time Spent on Facility Time	Number of Employees
0%	5
1%–50%	16
51%–99%	0
100%	0

Percentage of Pay Bill spent on Facility Time	
Total Cost of Facility Time	£31,255
Total Pay Bill	£54,743,201
Percentage of the Total Pay Bill Spent on Facility Time	0.06%

Zero hours were spent on trade union activities by employees who were relevant union officials during the year 2024–25 (2023–24: zero hours).

Employee Numbers

The average number of fulltime equivalent staff employed by Historic England during the year was as follows and was subject to audit:

	2024–25				2023–24		
	Historic England						
	Perm. Employed	Fixed Term Contracts	Agency Staff	Total	Group Total	Historic England Total	Group Total
Policy & Evidence	189	8	–	197	197	206	206
Public Engagement	121	14	3	138	138	135	135
Regions Group	306	32	1	339	339	329	329
Corporate Services	204	16	14	234	234	224	224
Business Improvement	51	19	–	70	70	68	68
Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings	4	–	–	4	4	3	3
The English Heritage Trust	–	–	–	–	1,450	–	1,457
Total Employee Numbers	875	89	18	982	2,432	965	2,422
Total Costs (£'000)	50,772	4,747	1,085	56,604	128,333	54,400	115,504
Employee numbers included in the above who have been engaged on capital projects	11	2	9	22	50	9	11

Employee Costs

Total staff costs for the year are as follows and have been subject to audit:

	2024–25			2023–24		
	Capital £'000	Revenue £'000	Total £'000	Capital £'000	Revenue £'000	Total £'000
Group						
Wages and Salaries	1,645	92,804	94,449	1,040	89,252	90,292
Social Security Costs	62	8,691	8,753	65	8,639	8,704
Pension Costs	155	16,084	16,239	106	14,649	14,755
Redundancy and Severance Costs	–	7,013	7,013	–	300	300
Agency Staff Costs	–	1,706	1,706	–	1,347	1,347
Inwards Secondment Staff	–	173	173	–	106	106
Total Employee Costs	1,862	126,471	128,333	1,211	114,293	115,504

In 2024–25 there were six outward secondments (2023–24: seven).

	2024–25			2023–24		
	Capital £'000	Revenue £'000	Total £'000	Capital £'000	Revenue £'000	Total £'000
Historic England						
Wages and Salaries	588	39,311	39,899	338	38,839	39,177
Social Security Costs	52	4,041	4,093	40	4,070	4,110
Pension Costs	141	11,059	11,200	88	9,899	9,987
Redundancy and Severance Costs	–	154	154	–	246	246
Agency Staff Costs	572	513	1,085	267	507	774
Inwards Secondments	–	173	173	–	106	106
Total Employee Costs	1,353	55,251	56,604	733	53,667	54,400

In 2024–25 there were six outward secondments (2023–24: seven). During the year, 60 consultants were employed (2023–24: 68), to whom £250,231 was paid in the year (2023–24: £291,049).

Tax Arrangements of Public Sector Appointees

All of Historic England's senior staff and Board members are paid through the payroll, and arrangements are in place to provide assurance to DCMS that appropriate tax arrangements are in place to cover other appointees.

In 2024–25, Historic England had one 'off-payroll' engagement that falls within the criteria set out in the Alexander Review of 2012, with regards to tax arrangements of senior public appointees.

Historic England is in compliance with the recommendations in HM Treasury's 'Review of the Tax Findings of Public Sector Appointees'.

Highly paid off-payroll worker engagements as at 31 March 2025, earning £245 per day or greater.

No. of existing engagements as of 31 March 2025	Of which, no. that existed:	less than one year	for between 1 and 2 years	for between 2 and 3 years	for between 3 and 4 years	for 4 or more years
1						1

**All highly paid off-payroll workers engaged at any point during the year ended 31 March 2025,
earning £245 per day or greater**

No. of off-payroll workers engaged during the year ended 31 March 2025	Of which:	Not subject to off-payroll legislation	Subject to off-payroll legislation and determined as in-scope of IR35	Subject to off-payroll legislation and determined as out-of-scope of IR35	No. of engagements reassessed for compliance or assurance purposes during the year	Of which: No. of engagements that saw a change to IR35 status following review
1						1

**For any off-payroll engagements of board members, and/or senior officials with significant financial responsibility,
between 1 April 2024 and 31 March 2025**

No. of off-payroll engagements of board members, and/or senior officials with significant financial responsibility, during the financial year	Total no. of individuals on payroll and off-payroll that have been deemed 'board members, and/or senior officials with significant financial responsibility', during the financial year. This figure includes both on payroll and off-payroll engagements	Details of the exceptional circumstances that led to each of these off-payroll engagements.	Details of the length of time each of these exceptional off-payroll engagements lasted.
0	7	N/A – No such arrangements	N/A – No such arrangements

Reporting of Civil Service and Other Compensation Schemes – Exit Packages

Total staff exit packages are detailed as follows and are subject to audit:

Exit Package Cost Band	Number of Compulsory Redundancies		Number of Other Agreed Departures		Total Number of Exit Packages	
	2024–25	2023–24	2024–25	2023–24	2024–25	2023–24
£0 to £25,000	9	1	2	–	11	1
£25,001 to £50,000	–	–	1	1	1	1
£50,001 to £100,000	–	–	1	1	1	1
£100,001 to £150,000	–	–	–	–	–	–
Greater than £150,000	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total Number of Exit Packages	9	1	4	2	13	3
Total Resource Cost (£'000)	94	18	116	104	210	121

¹ No staff member left under Voluntary Exit terms in the 2023–24 financial year. Four staff members left under Voluntary Redundancy terms in the 2024–25 financial year. They received total compensation payments of £116,258.

² Nine staff members left under compulsory redundancy terms in the 2024–25. They received total compensation payments of £93,144.

³ The detailed Exit Packages relate to individuals whose last day of service occurred in the disclosed financial year.

Redundancy and other departure costs have been paid in accordance with the provisions of the Civil Service Compensation Scheme (CSCS), a statutory scheme under the Superannuation Act 1972. Exit costs are accounted for in full in the year of departure. Where Historic England has agreed early retirements, the additional costs are met by the organisation and not by the Civil Service Pension Scheme. Ill health retirement costs are met by the pension scheme and are not included in the table. Exit payments (including ex gratia payments) not covered by the CSCS are made to the employee directly by Historic England.

Civil Service Pensions

Pension benefits are provided through the Civil Service pension arrangements. From 1 April 2015, a new pension scheme for civil servants was introduced – the Civil Servants and Others Pension Scheme (or alpha) – which provides benefits on a career average basis with a normal pension age equal to the member's state pension age. From that date all newly appointed civil servants, and the majority of those already in service, joined alpha. Before that date, civil servants participated in the Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme (PCSPS). The PCSPS has four sections: three providing benefits on a final salary basis (classic, premium or classic plus) with a normal pension age of 60; and one providing benefits on a whole career basis (nuvos) with a normal pension age of 65.

These statutory arrangements are unfunded, with the cost of benefits met by monies voted by Parliament each year. Pensions payable under classic, premium, classic plus, nuvos and alpha are increased annually in line with pensions increase legislation. Existing members of the PCSPS who were within 10 years of their normal pension age on 1 April 2012 remained in the PCSPS after 1 April 2015. Those who were between 10 years and 13 years and 5 months from their normal pension age on 1 April 2012 switched into alpha some time between 1 June 2015 and 1 February 2022. As part Government's plan to remedy discrimination (as identified by court) in the implementation of the 2015 pension reforms, eligible members with relevant service between 1 April 2015 and 31 March 2022 may be entitled to different pension benefits for that period. This may also affect the Cash Equivalent Transfer Values shown in this report – see below.

All members who switch to alpha have their PCSPS benefits 'banked'. For those with earlier benefits in one of the final salary sections of the PCSPS, those benefits will be calculated based on their final salary when they leave alpha. The pension figures quoted for officials reflect pension earned in PCSPS or alpha – as

appropriate. Where the official has benefits in both the PCSPS and alpha, the figure quoted is the combined value of their benefits in the two schemes. Members who joined from October 2002 may opt for either the appropriate defined benefit arrangement or a defined contribution (money purchase) pension with an employer contribution (partnership pension account).

Employee contributions are salary related and range between 4.6% and 8.05% for members of classic, premium, classic plus, nuvos and alpha. In classic, benefits accrue at the rate of 1/80 of final pensionable earnings for each year of service. In addition, a lump sum equivalent to three years' initial pension is payable on retirement. For premium, benefits accrue at the rate of 1/60 of final pensionable earnings for each year of service. Unlike classic, there is no automatic lump sum. Classic plus is essentially a hybrid, with benefits for service before 1 October 2002 calculated similarly to classic, and with benefits for service from October 2002 calculated as per premium. In nuvos, a member builds up a pension based on their pensionable earnings during the period of scheme membership. At the end of the scheme year (31 March) the member's earned pension account is credited with 2.3% of their pensionable earnings in that scheme year, and the accrued pension is uprated in line with pensions increase legislation. In alpha, benefits accrue in a similar way to nuvos, except that the accrual rate is 2.32%. In all cases, members may opt to give up (commute) pension for a lump sum, up to the limits set by the Finance Act 2004.

The partnership pension account is an occupational defined contribution pension arrangement that forms part of the Legal & General Mastertrust. Under this scheme, the employer makes a basic contribution of between 8% and 14.75%, depending on the age of the member. Employees are not required to contribute; but if they do, the employer will match contributions up to a limit of 3% of pensionable salary (in addition to the employer's basic contribution). Employers also contribute a further

0.5% of pensionable salary to cover the cost of centrally provided risk benefit cover (death in service and ill health retirement).

The accrued pension quoted represents the amount the member is entitled to receive when they reach pension age (or immediately upon leaving the scheme if they are already at or above the pension age). Pension age is 60 for members of classic, premium and classic plus; 65 for members of nuvos; and the higher of 65 or State Pension Age for members of alpha. Pension figures quoted for officials reflect benefits accrued in PCSPS or alpha, as appropriate. Where benefits are held in both schemes, the figure represents the combined value of their benefits in the two schemes, although parts of that pension may be payable from different ages.

Further details about the Civil Service pension arrangements can be found at the website **www.civilservicepensionscheme.org.uk**.

For 2024-25, employers' contributions of £11,104,000 were payable to the Civil Service Pensions (CSP) (2023-24 £9,928,000) at 28.97% (2023-24: 26.6% to 30.3%) of pensionable pay. Employer's contributions into the CSP in respect of the Executive Team totalled £317,000 (2023-24 : £241,000). No persons (2023-24: no persons) retired early on ill-health grounds.

Employers' contributions of £92,000 (2023-24: £91,000), were paid to one or more of a panel of appointed stakeholder pension providers for the partnership pension.

Parliamentary Accountability

Regularity of Expenditure

The Accounting Officer confirms the regularity of all expenditure incurred through his statement on page 60.

During the year ended 31 March, the following losses and special payments were made and have been subject to audit:

	2025						2024					
	Historic England			Group			Historic England			Group		
	Special		Total	Special		Total	Special		Total	Special		Total
	Losses	Payments		Losses	Payments		Losses	Payments		Losses	Payments	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Amounts Accrued	6	–	6	46	(3)	43	(16)	9	(7)	120	16	136
Amounts Written Back	–	–	–	–	3	3	–	–	–	–	–	–
Total Net Losses and Special Payments	6	–	6	46	–	46	(16)	9	(7)	120	16	136

Losses incurred relate to bookkeeping losses, stock write-offs and abandoned claims. Special payments relate to compensation, largely in respect of personal injury claims.

Fees and Charges

£912,645 has been raised in the year through the provision of the Enhanced Advisory Service (2023–24: £775,000). Income is higher than last year, predominantly due to the advent of advisory work on Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects. The target for the year was £772,456 (2023–24: £745,000).

Income is invoiced at full cost recovery according to *Managing Public Money* guidelines. Therefore, the income received is equivalent to the costs incurred and thus no subsidies or overcharging occurs. During the year, we have reviewed our standard hourly rate and maintained our existing pricing.

Income raised this year relates to 534 completed (invoiced) cases (2023–24: 483). Unit costs charged are per the invoice amount. Our average case price this year was £1,699 (2023–24 £1,604), a year-on-year increase principally due to a larger number of higher-value cases being advised upon this year.

No other material income from fees and charges was received during the financial year (2023–24: £nil). This information has been subject to audit.

Remote Contingent Liabilities

In addition to contingent liabilities reported within the meaning of International Accounting Standard 37, Historic England also reports liabilities for which the likelihood of a transfer of economic benefit in settlement is too remote to meet the definition of contingent liability. In 2024–25, there is one remote contingent liability relating to an employment tribunal claim, which is likely to be heard in 2026–27 (2023–24: £nil) and which we are uncertain to assess the probability of success or an estimated figure. This information has been subject to audit.



Duncan Wilson

Chief Executive and Accounting Officer

14 July 2025

The Certificate and Report of the Comptroller and Auditor General to the Houses of Parliament

Opinion on Financial Statements

I certify that I have audited the financial statements of the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (known as Historic England) and its Group for the year ended 31 March 2025 under the National Heritage Act 1983.

The financial statements comprise the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and its Group's

- Statement of Financial Position as at 31 March 2025;
- Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure, Statement of Cash Flows and Statement of Changes in Taxpayers' Equity for the year then ended; and
- the related notes including the significant accounting policies.

The financial reporting framework that has been applied in the preparation of the Group financial statements is applicable law and UK adopted international accounting standards.

In my opinion, the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and its Group's affairs as at 31 March 2025 and its net expenditure for the year then ended; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the National Heritage Act 1983 and Secretary of State directions issued thereunder.

Opinion on Regularity

In my opinion, in all material respects, the income and expenditure recorded in the financial statements have been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions recorded in the financial statements conform to the authorities which govern them.

Basis for Opinions

I conducted my audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs UK), applicable law and Practice Note 10 *Audit of Financial Statements and Regularity of Public Sector Bodies in the United Kingdom (2024)*. My responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements* section of my certificate.

Those standards require me and my staff to comply with the Financial Reporting Council's *Revised Ethical Standard 2024*. I am independent of the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and its Group in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to my audit of the financial statements in the UK. My staff and I have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

I believe that the audit evidence I have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for my opinion.

Conclusions Relating to Going Concern

In auditing the financial statements, I have concluded that the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and its

Group's use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work I have performed, I have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and its Group's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

My responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Commissioners and Accounting Officer with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this certificate.

The going concern basis of accounting for the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and its Group is adopted in consideration of the requirements set out in HM Treasury's Government Financial Reporting Manual, which requires entities to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements where it is anticipated that the services which they provide will continue into the future.

Other Information

The other information comprises information included in the Annual Report, but does not include the financial statements and my auditor's certificate and report thereon. The Commissioners and Accounting Officer are responsible for the other information.

My opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in my certificate, I do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

My responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or my knowledge obtained

in the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated.

If I identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, I am required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work I have performed, I conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, I am required to report that fact.

I have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on Other Matters

In my opinion the part of the Remuneration and Staff Report to be audited has been properly prepared in accordance with Secretary of State directions issued under the National Heritage Act 1983.

In my opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the parts of the Accountability Report subject to audit have been properly prepared in accordance with Secretary of State directions made under the National Heritage Act 1983; and
- the information given in the Performance and Accountability Reports for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements and is in accordance with the applicable legal requirements.

Matters on Which I Report by Exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and its Group and its/ their environment obtained in the course of the audit, I have not identified material misstatements in the Performance and Accountability Reports.

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters which I report to you if, in my opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept by the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and its Group or returns adequate for my audit have not been received from branches not visited by my staff; or
 - I have not received all of the information and explanations I require for my audit; or
 - the financial statements and the parts of the Accountability Report subject to audit are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
 - certain disclosures of remuneration specified by HM Treasury's Government Financial Reporting Manual have not been made or parts of the Remuneration and Staff Report to be audited is not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
 - the Governance Statement does not reflect compliance with HM Treasury's guidance.
- the financial statements such as records, documentation and other matters;
 - providing the C&AG with additional information and explanations needed for his audit;
 - providing the C&AG with unrestricted access to persons within the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and its Group from whom the auditor determines it necessary to obtain audit evidence;
 - ensuring such internal controls are in place as deemed necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements to be free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error;
 - preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view in accordance with Secretary of State directions issued under the National Heritage Act 1983;
 - preparing the annual report, which includes the Remuneration and Staff Report, in accordance with Secretary of State directions issued under the National Heritage Act 1983; and
 - assessing the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and its Group's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Commissioners and Accounting Officer anticipate that the services provided by the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and its Group will not continue to be provided in the future.

Responsibilities of the Commissioners and Accounting Officer for the Financial Statements

As explained more fully in the Statement of Commissioners' and Accounting Officer's Responsibilities, the Commissioners and Accounting Officer are responsible for:

- maintaining proper accounting records;
- providing the C&AG with access to all information of which management is aware that is relevant to the preparation of

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

My responsibility is to audit, certify and report on the financial statements in accordance with the National Heritage Act 1983.

My objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue a certificate that includes my opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting non-compliance with laws and regulations including fraud

I design procedures in line with my responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud. The extent to which my procedures are capable of detecting non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud is detailed below.

Identifying and assessing potential risks related to non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, I:

- considered the nature of the sector, control environment and operational performance including the design of the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and its Group's accounting policies;
- inquired of management, the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England's head of internal audit and those

charged with governance, including obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation relating to the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and its Group's policies and procedures on:

- identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations;
- detecting and responding to the risks of fraud; and
- the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations including the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and its Group's controls relating to the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England's compliance with the National Heritage Act 1983 and Managing Public Money;
- inquired of management, the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England's head of internal audit and those charged with governance whether:
 - they were aware of any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
 - they had knowledge of any actual, suspected, or alleged fraud;
- discussed with the engagement team including relevant component audit teams regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, I considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and its Group for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in the following areas: revenue recognition, posting of unusual journals, complex transactions, and bias in management estimates. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), I am required to

perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

I obtained an understanding of the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and its Group's framework of authority and other legal and regulatory frameworks in which the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and its Group operates. I focused on those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England and its Group. The key laws and regulations I considered in this context included the National Heritage Act 1983, Managing Public Money, employment law, pensions legislation and tax legislation.

Audit response to identified risk

To respond to the identified risks resulting from the above procedures:

- I reviewed the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described above as having direct effect on the financial statements;
- I enquired of management and the Audit and Risk Committee concerning actual and potential litigation and claims;
- I reviewed minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and the Board and internal audit reports;
- I addressed the risk of fraud through management override of controls by testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements on estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business; and

- I addressed the risk of fraud and irregularity in grant expenditure by testing grant expenditure to gain assurance that grants made had been spent on the intended purposes.

I communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential risks of fraud to all engagement team members including and relevant component audit teams and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

A further description of my responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: **www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities**. This description forms part of my certificate.

Other auditor's responsibilities

I am required to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence to give reasonable assurance that the expenditure and income recorded in the financial statements have been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions recorded in the financial statements conform to the authorities which govern them.

I communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control I identify during my audit.

Report

I have no observations to make on these financial statements.

Gareth Davies
Comptroller and Auditor General

15 July 2025

National Audit Office
157–197 Buckingham Palace Road
Victoria
London
SW1W 9SP



Historic England
Annual Report and Accounts
2024–25

Financial Statements

Section 03

Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure

for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Note	2024–2025		2023–2024	
		Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Income					
Revenue from Contracts with Customers	2, 3	11,693	136,501	10,685	129,466
Earned Income	2, 4	592	3,216	562	2,670
Other Operating Income	2, 5	2,835	22,603	3,727	18,056
Income from investments	2, 6	–	87	–	50
Total Income		15,120	162,407	14,974	150,242
Expenditure					
Grants	2, 7	(16,339)	(16,363)	(33,684)	(33,812)
Staff Costs	2, 13	(55,251)	(126,471)	(53,667)	(114,293)
Running Costs	2, 8	(16,564)	(67,058)	(16,863)	(70,747)
Commercial Activities' Costs	2, 9	(630)	(18,212)	(511)	(17,142)
Subsidy Expenditure	2	(705)	–	(1,088)	–
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	2, 15–18	(8,858)	(18,437)	(8,546)	(17,705)
Other Expenditure	2, 10	(3,610)	(12,480)	(3,774)	(14,241)
Total Expenditure		(101,957)	(259,021)	(118,133)	(267,940)
Financing					
Finance Costs	2	(1,084)	(1,317)	(1,253)	(1,494)
Net Finance (Cost)		(1,084)	(1,317)	(1,253)	(1,494)
Net Gain/(Loss) on Investments	2g, 20	–	(76)	–	260
Net Expenditure for the Financial Year		(87,921)	(98,007)	(104,412)	(118,932)
Other Comprehensive Expenditure					
Items which will not be reclassified to Net Expenditure					
Net loss on revaluation of investments in subsidiaries	32	(7,892)	–	(13,954)	–
Net Gain on Revaluation of Non-Current Assets	15–18	3,471	4,957	3,355	4,538
Total other comprehensive expenditure		(4,421)	4,957	(10,599)	4,538
Total Comprehensive Expenditure for the Financial Year		(92,342)	(93,050)	(115,011)	(114,394)

Details of Grant In Aid received by Historic England are disclosed in the Statement of Changes in Taxpayer's Equity.

Income and expenditure relates to continuing activities. Section 4 – Notes to Financial Statements form part of the financial statements.

Statement of Financial Position

as at 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Non-Current Assets					
Property, Plant and Equipment	16	90,960	150,818	92,808	152,494
Heritage Assets	18	49,834	50,544	48,834	49,505
Right of Use Assets	17	26,635	37,450	28,636	39,970
Intangible Assets	15	6,675	18,498	5,586	16,227
Investments	20	–	3,241	–	3,236
Investment in Subsidiary	32	42,869	–	50,761	–
Total Non-Current Assets		216,973	260,551	226,625	261,432
Current Assets					
Inventories	21	–	6,027	–	7,000
Trade and Other Receivables	22	10,432	18,889	14,633	14,551
Cash and Cash Equivalents	23	1,429	27,700	4,086	47,128
Total Current Assets		11,861	52,616	18,719	68,679
Total Assets		228,834	313,167	245,344	330,111
Current Liabilities					
Trade and Other Payables	26	(10,897)	(47,094)	(16,321)	(56,826)
Provisions	27	–	(6,459)	–	(186)
Obligations Under Leases	25	(1,916)	(2,705)	(1,860)	(2,431)
Total Current Liabilities		(12,813)	(56,258)	(18,181)	(59,443)
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities		216,021	256,909	227,163	270,668
Non-Current Liabilities					
Trade and Other Payables	26	(127)	(2,267)	(131)	(2,269)
Obligations Under Leases	25	(29,609)	(39,758)	(31,410)	(42,112)
Other Borrowings	28	–	(22,591)	–	(23,941)
Total Non-Current Liabilities		(29,736)	(64,616)	(31,541)	(68,322)
Total Assets Less Liabilities		186,285	192,293	195,622	202,346
Taxpayers' Equity					
Financial Asset Reserve	32	42,869	–	50,761	–
Revaluation Reserve		91,160	103,853	90,546	101,781
General Reserve		52,224	86,589	54,257	98,643
Earmarked Funds		32	32	58	58
Endowment Funds		–	1,819	–	1,864
Total Taxpayers' Equity		186,285	192,293	195,622	202,346

Section 4 – Notes to Financial Statements form part of the financial statements.

The financial statements, which comprise the Consolidated and Historic England Statements of Comprehensive Net Expenditure, the Consolidated and Historic England Statements of Financial Position, the Consolidated and Historic England Statements of Cash Flows, the Consolidated and Historic England Statements of Changes in Taxpayers' Equity and the related notes 1 to 32, were approved by the Commissioners and signed on their behalf on 14 July 2025 by:



Duncan Wilson CBE
Chief Executive



Lord Neil Mendoza CBE
Chairman

Statement of Cash Flows

for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	Notes	2025		2024	
		Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Cash Flows From Operating Activities					
Net Income/(Expenditure)		(87,921)	(98,007)	(104,412)	(118,932)
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment Charges	15–18	8,858	18,437	8,546	17,705
(Profit)/Losses on Disposal of Non-Current Assets	15–18	–	(4)	–	8
(Increase)/Decrease in Inventories	21	–	960	–	(668)
(Increase)/Decrease in Trade and Other Receivables	22	4,201	(4,338)	(5,663)	549
Increase/(Decrease) in Trade and Other Payables	26	(5,132)	(8,604)	(4,816)	(4,599)
Increase/(Decrease) in Provisions		–	6,273	–	(101)
Donated Asset Addition	18–19	–	–	(465)	–
Investment Income		–	(1,579)	–	(2,376)
(Increase)/Decrease in Lease Receivables		–	–	–	–
Finance Costs		1,084	(33)	1,253	1,086
(Gains)/losses on investments	2g, 20	–	76	–	(260)
Interest Receivable for Lease Receivables		–	–	–	–
Net Cash Outflow from Operating Activities		(78,910)	(86,819)	(105,557)	(107,588)
Cash Flows from Investing Activities					
(Purchase)/Disposal of Investments		–	(79)	–	(1,829)
Investment Income		–	1,579	–	2,376
Purchase of Property, Plant and Equipment and Heritage Assets	16, 18	(1,239)	(7,996)	(784)	(11,631)
Purchase of Intangible Assets	15	(2,551)	(5,345)	(2,371)	(7,071)
Proceeds on Disposal of Property, Plant and Equipment and Intangible Assets	15, 16	–	5	–	13
Net Cash Outflow from Investing Activities		(3,790)	(11,836)	(3,155)	(18,142)
Cash Flows from Financing Activities					
Government Grant In Aid		83,007	83,007	102,456	102,456
Cash inflows from Culture Recovery Fund Loan		–		–	
Capital Grant In Kind		–	–	–	–
Lease Payments		(2,964)	(3,780)	(2,947)	(3,793)
Interest Receivable for Lease Receivables		–	–		
Net Cash Inflow from Financing Activities		80,043	79,227	99,509	98,663
Net Increase/(Decrease) in Cash and Cash Equivalents	23	(2,656)	(19,428)	(9,203)	(27,067)
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the Beginning of the Year	23	4,086	47,128	13,289	74,195
Cash and Cash Equivalents at the End of the Year		1,429	27,700	4,086	47,128

Consolidated group cash balances are unavailable for use by the Group.

Section 4 – Notes to Financial Statements form part of the financial statements.

Historic England Statement of Changes in Taxpayers' Equity

for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	General Reserve £'000	Revaluation Reserve £'000	Earmarked Funds £'000	Financial Asset Reserve £'000	Total Reserves £'000
Balance at 31 March 2023	54,994	88,301	169	64,715	208,179
Grant In Aid Received	102,456	–	–	–	102,456
Income/(Expenditure) for the Year	(104,301)	–	(111)	–	(104,412)
Net Gain on Revaluation of Non-Current Assets	–	3,355	–	–	3,355
Other Income/(Expenditure)	(3)	1	–	(13,954)	(13,956)
Transfer Between Reserves	1,111	(1,111)	–	–	–
Balance at 31 March 2024	54,257	90,546	58	50,761	195,622
Grant In Aid Received	83,007	–	–	–	83,007
(Expenditure) for the Year	(87,895)	–	(26)	–	(87,921)
Net Gain on Revaluation of Non-Current Assets	–	3,471	–	–	3,471
Other Income	(2)	–	–	(7,892)	(7,894)
Transfer Between Reserves	2,857	(2,857)	–	–	–
Balance at 31 March 2025	52,224	91,160	32	42,869	186,285

The General Reserve records all changes in financial resources for the year, except for those recorded in other reserves.

The Revaluation Reserve reflects the gain or loss on the revaluation of assets, both tangible and intangible, other than donated assets.

Earmarked Reserve are funds that are set aside for specific projects, initiatives, or expenditures.

Financial Asset reserves are the accumulated fair value movements of the investment in subsidiaries.

Section 4 – Notes to Financial Statements form part of the financial statements.

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Taxpayers' Equity

for the Year Ended 31 March 2025

	General Reserve £'000	Revaluation Reserve £'000	Earmarked Funds £'000	Endowment Fund £'000	Total Reserves £'000
Balance at 31 March 2023	113,966	98,470	169	1,674	214,279
Grant in Aid Received	102,456	–	–	–	102,456
Income/(Expenditure) for the Year	(119,011)	–	(111)	190	(118,932)
Net Gain on Revaluation of Non-Current Assets	–	4,538	–	–	4,538
Other Income/(Expenditure)	5	–	–	–	5
Transfer Between Reserves	1,227	(1,227)	–	–	–
Balance at 31 March 2024	98,643	101,781	58	1,864	202,346
Grant in Aid Received	83,007	–	–	–	83,007
Income/(Expenditure) for the Year	(97,937)	–	(26)	(44)	(98,007)
Net Gain on Revaluation of Non-Current Assets	–	4,957	–	–	4,957
Other Income/(Expenditure)	(12)	3	–	(1)	(10)
Transfer Between Reserves	2,888	(2,888)	–	–	–
Balance at 31 March 2025	86,589	103,853	32	1,819	192,293

The General Reserve records all changes in financial resources for the year, except for those recorded in other reserves.

The Revaluation Reserve reflects the gain or loss on the revaluation of assets, both tangible and intangible, other than donated assets.

Earmarked Reserve are funds that are set aside for specific projects, initiatives, or expenditures.

Endowment Reserve is The Once and Future Fund provided by the National Lottery Heritage Fund, with income from the investment used primarily on conservation, improvements and public engagement at the English Heritage Trust's free-to-enter sites.

Section 4 – Notes to Financial Statements form part of the financial statements.



Historic England
Annual Report and Accounts
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Notes to the Financial Statements

Section 04

Notes to the Financial Statements

1 Statement of Accounting Policies

a) Accounting Convention

Historic England is required to prepare a statement accounts under the National Heritage Act 1983, in the form and basis directed by the Secretary of State for the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). In accordance with the accounts direction issued by the Secretary of State for the DCMS, the accounts are prepared in accordance with the 2024–25 Government Financial Reporting Manual (FReM) issued by HM Treasury.

The accounting policies contained in the FReM apply International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS), as adapted and interpreted for the public sector context.

Where the FReM permits a choice of accounting policy, the accounting policy that is judged to be most appropriate to the particular circumstances of the Historic England group for the purpose of giving a true and fair view has been selected. The particular policies adopted by the Historic England group are described below and a chart illustrating the group structure and reporting groups is included overleaf. They have been applied consistently in dealing with items that are considered material to the accounts.

The financial statements have been prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £'000.

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention, modified for the revaluation of property, plant and machinery, IT equipment, furniture and fittings, intangible assets, right of use assets, heritage assets and investment assets where material.

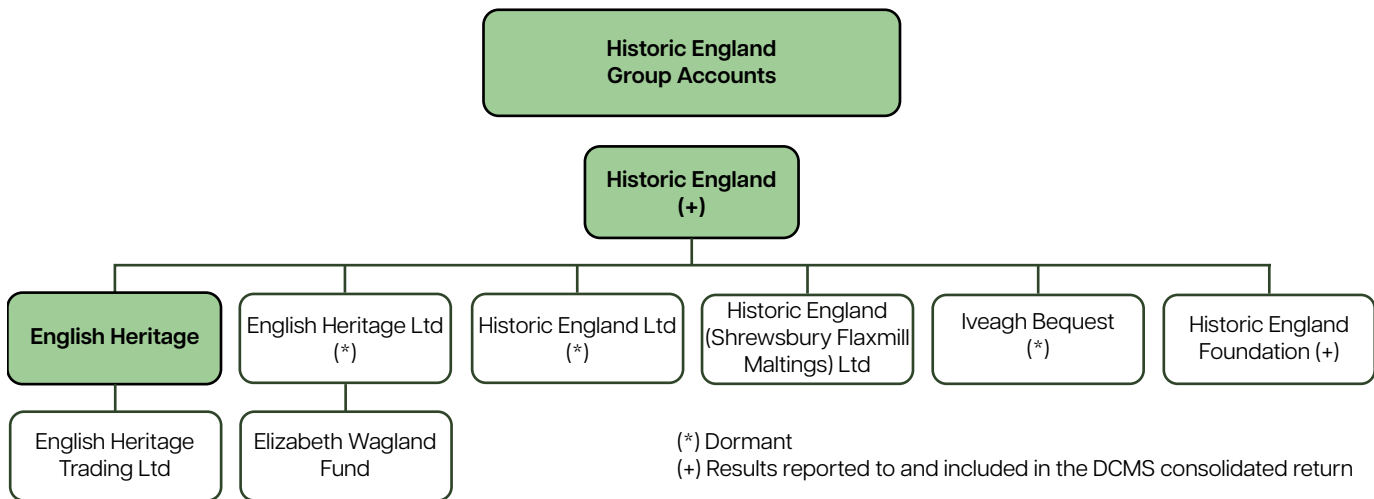
b) Group Structure

The National Heritage Act 1983 requires Historic England to prepare a statement of accounts. Historic England interprets this to mean that parent-only accounts should be provided. In addition, the consolidation requirements of IFRS 10 result in the consolidation of English Heritage, Historic England Foundation and Historic England (Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings) Ltd, as set out below. The financial statements and notes therefore include presentation of both parent-only and consolidated group figures.

The group structure is detailed in the foreword to these accounts.

The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (HBMCE, trading as Historic England) is the sole member of The English Heritage Trust (trading as English Heritage), which has been consolidated from 12 December 2014, when it became part of the Historic England group. English Heritage Trading Limited, a subsidiary undertaking of English Heritage, continued trading throughout the year ended 31 March 2025 and is also consolidated.

The Historic England Foundation was incorporated on 16 January 2017 and is a charitable subsidiary of Historic England and is consolidated. Historic England (Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings) Ltd was incorporated on 14 March 2022 and is a trading subsidiary of Historic England. As at 1 April 2025 the running of the property transferred to the English Heritage Trust under Licence; as a result Historic England (Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings) Ltd has ceased trading as at this date. Elizabeth Wagland Fund was registered on 28 March 2013 and is a charitable subsidiary of English Heritage.



c) Impact of New or Updated Financial Report Standards and Interpretations

The following changes to the valuation and accounting of non-investment assets is to be included in the 2025-26 FReM for mandatory implementation:

- References to assets being held for their ‘service potential’ and the terms ‘specialised/ non-specialised’ assets are being removed from the FReM. Non-investment assets are instead described as assets held for their ‘operational capacity’. This change has no impact on the valuation basis of non-investment assets, which remains Existing Use Value.
- An adaptation to IAS 16 will be introduced to withdraw the requirement to revalue an asset where its fair value materially differs from its carrying value. Assets are now valued using one of the following processes:
- A quinquennial revaluation supplemented by annual indexation.
- For non-property assets only, appropriate indices.
- In rare circumstances where an index is not available, a quinquennial revaluation supplemented by a desktop revaluation in year 3.
- The option to measure intangible assets using the revaluation model is withdrawn.

The carrying values of intangible assets at 31 March 2025 will be considered the historical cost at 1 April 2025.

- IFRS 17 is also being implemented from 2025–26; there are no contracts within scope of IFRS 17 that would impact Historic England or the group.

There are no other new or updated standards and interpretations that impact the financial statements of Historic England or the group in the current financial year.

d) Value Added Tax

Income is shown net of Value Added Tax. Expenditure (both revenue and capital) for Historic England and the group is shown inclusive of any non-recoverable VAT incurred.

English Heritage, English Heritage Trading Limited and Historic England (Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings) Limited are members of the Historic England VAT group. Historic England Foundation is not part of the VAT group and is not registered for VAT. Therefore, all expenditure in that company is shown inclusive of VAT.

e) Revenue from Contracts with Customers

Historic England earns income from sales of digital assets (e.g. photographs) and from providing planning advice to applicants for planning permission on listed buildings. English Heritage earns income from admission fees and from retail sales in gift shops. These transaction

streams are recognised at the point in time when the goods and services are transferred to the recipient (that is, when the item, advice or admission is provided to the customer). Billing is concurrent with the recognition of income, and no significant contract assets or liabilities arise.

Historic England earns shared service income for the provision of finance services to customers, including DCMS and English Heritage Trust. Income is recognised over time, as the services are provided. The services are billed quarterly, and no significant contract assets or liabilities arise.

English Heritage earns income from membership fees, which are recognised over time, reflecting the period over which the benefits are provided to the member. Annual memberships are recognised over one year and lifetime memberships are recognised over ten years. All membership fees are payable in advance, and are recognised as deferred income until recognised in income. Surveys of life members, and analysis of available data, indicate that life members enjoy the majority of their membership benefits in the first ten years of their arrangement, and management considers ten years to be the relevant period over which to recognise life membership income.

All income is earned under contracts that have a single performance obligation, and no allocation of transaction prices between performance obligations is required.

The transaction price is determined as the price as set out in the contract or sale transaction. No variable or non-cash considerations, significant financing components or any other estimates/judgements are included in any income contract arrangements.

HE and its Group is not liable for costs relating to warranties, returns or refunds on any sales, and no estimate of the value of any such liabilities is required.

f) Government Grant in Aid Receivable

Parliamentary grant is voted to meet Historic England's cash payments falling due during the financial year.

Government Grant in Aid received from DCMS is credited to the General Reserve within the Statement of Changes in Taxpayers' Equity upon receipt of funds. Historic England receives Grant in Aid funding from DCMS periodically throughout the year and it is accounted for on a cash basis.

The 2024 Spending Review confirmed the baseline and uplift Government grant funding for Historic England until 31 March 2026, subject to annual business planning as well as savings and efficiency directives.

g) Other Grants Receivable

Other grants receivable are recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure when the conditions of the grant have been fulfilled and the grant is claimable. If such a grant is subject to a condition, the grant will be deferred until such time as the condition has been fulfilled.

h) Grants Payable

Grants payable to individuals and bodies by Historic England in accordance with its statutory powers and duties are recognised when the criteria for a constructive obligation are met, payment is probable, values can be measured reliably, and there are no conditions attached to its payment that limit its recognition.

Where grant awards have not been paid out in full at year end, an accrual is made to reflect the remaining grant payable.

Where grants are paid in advance, a prepayment is recognised and released to expenditure when the criteria for a constructive obligation are met.

i) Intangible Assets

In accordance with the FReM, all intangible assets are carried at current value in existing use. Licences to use software purchased from third parties with a life of more than one year are shown on the Statement of Financial Position

as non-current intangible assets and amortised over the life of the licence or the life of the related asset where there is no licence expiry date. Annual licences to use software are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure as they are incurred.

Systems development is capitalised and amortised over its useful economic life.

Expenditure on developing the brands is charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure as it is incurred. Note 15 provides more details on intangible assets and provides the carrying amounts.

j) Property, Plant and Equipment

Operational Land & Buildings and Dwellings

Land and buildings owned by, or in the guardianship of, the Historic England group are treated as non-current assets in accordance with the FReM and are classified as either:

- Pure heritage (non-operational heritage);
- Operational (heritage); or
- Operational (non-heritage).

The policy on heritage assets is disclosed at note 1l.

Operational (heritage) land and buildings, which, in addition to being held by the Historic England group in pursuit of its overall objectives, are also used for revenue generating or other non-heritage purposes, are professionally valued and held on the Statement of Financial Position within Heritage Assets.

Operational (non-heritage) land and buildings are professionally valued and held on the Statement of Financial Position within Property, Plant and Equipment.

Mixed use buildings are classified according to the majority use. This is an area of judgement: if <50% it will be pure Heritage and if >50% then it is operational Heritage and subject to revaluation. Classification and valuations of vacant properties

are informed by the type of building and its intended future use.

With the exception of major refurbishments and items with a net book value of less than £50,000, all operational land and buildings held on the Statement of Financial Position are subject to a full professional valuation every five years. Major refurbishments are not separately valued, as they are indistinguishable from the underlying asset, but they are depreciated over a shorter useful economic life than the underlying asset.

Assets with a value of less than £50,000 are revalued each year with reference to relevant indices published by the Building Cost Information Service as at 31 March. A full quinquennial revaluation of assets with a value more than £50,000 is undertaken every five years in accordance with the FREM, and the most recent valuation was undertaken as at 31 March 2021 by the following professionally qualified external valuers: Avison Young (UK) Limited and Powis Hughes. We will undertake our next quinquennial exercise as at 31 March 2026. All valuations have been performed in accordance with Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors 'Red Book' principles.

The values of the land and buildings held as property, plant and equipment are reviewed annually using relevant indices published by the Building Cost Information Service as at 31 March.

The professional valuations are obtained on different asset types and uses. The market approaches to support the 2020/21 quinquennial valuation were provided on different bases depending on asset type.

The valuation approaches include market value, income basis, Depreciated Replacement Cost and IFRS 16 valuations.

Management considers that the valuations provided are an appropriate basis on which to determine the property's fair value at the date of reporting.

The valuation approach is selected on an asset by asset basis, rather than by asset class. This approach is taken to ensure a reliable valuation is obtained.

Where possible, assets are valued at fair value. Where there is no available market information due to the specialised nature of the asset, depreciated replacement cost valuation is used. The specialised nature may be a result of the size or location of the assets. A depreciated replacement cost valuation represents the current cost of replacing an asset with a 'like for like' equivalent asset less deductions for physical deterioration and all relevant forms of obsolescence and optimisation. Assets that are valued using the depreciated replacement cost approach include visitor centres.

Any unrealised gain on revaluation at the Statement of Financial Position date is taken directly to the Revaluation Reserve unless the revaluation gain reverses an impairment on the same asset previously recognised as an expense. In such a case, gains are first credited to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure to the extent that the gain reverses a loss previously recognised.

Unrealised losses at the date of the Statement of Financial Position are written off against the proportion of the credit balance on the reserve which relates to the assets concerned. Any other unrealised losses are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure.

Plant & Machinery, Information Systems and Furniture & Fittings

Plant and machinery, information systems equipment and furniture and fittings are initially recorded in the Statement of Financial Position at cost.

When deciding whether or not to treat expenditure as a non-current asset, HE Group uses three de minimis thresholds:

- **£10,000:** for the purchase of a separately identifiable asset which will be used by HE Group for more than one year;
- **£50,000:** when it relates to a capital project;
- **£5,000:** when it relates to a heritage capital improvements.

Our policy is to capitalise subsequent expenditure on the Statement of Financial Position if the expenditure enhances the economic benefits of the asset and it is over the initial capitalisation threshold.

These assets are reviewed annually to ensure that the carrying value remains appropriate. Revaluation and impairment adjustments are re-accounted for in line with Historic England's accounting policy, as described above.

The values of the assets are reviewed annually using the relevant producer price indices published by the Office for National Statistics as at 31 March. Unrealised gains and losses are accounted for in line with Historic England's accounting policy, as described above.

Assets Under Construction

Assets under construction comprise expenditure on the creation or enhancement of non-current assets not brought into use at the Statement of Financial Position date. Reclassifications are made from assets under construction to the relevant category of non-current assets when the asset is available to be brought into use.

k) Rights of Use Assets

Historic England group recognises a right of use asset at the commencement date of the corresponding lease. The right of use asset is initially measured at cost, which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for initial direct costs, prepayments or incentives, and costs related to restoration at the end of a lease.

The right of use assets are subsequently measured at either fair value or current value in existing use in line with property, plant and equipment assets. The cost measurement model

in IFRS 16 is used as an appropriate proxy for current value in existing use or fair value for the majority of leases (consistent with the principles for subsequent measurement of property, plant and equipment), except for those that meet one of the following:

- A longer-term lease that has no provisions to update lease payments for market conditions or if there is a significant period of time between those updates; and;
- The fair value or current value in existing use of the underlying asset is likely to fluctuate significantly due to changes in market prices.

The fair value for right of use assets represents the full replacement cost of the right of use asset. The RICS guidance advises that the right of use asset valuation should reflect the current market rental value that could be achieved for the existing use of the right of use asset, over the full remaining lease term.

The right of use valuation assumes that Historic England requires the use of the entire right of use asset.

The right of use assets are depreciated using the straight line method from the commencement date to the earlier of the end of the useful life of the right of use asset or the end of the lease term. The estimated useful lives of the right of use assets are determined on the same basis as those of property, plant and equipment assets.

Historic England group applies IAS 36 Impairment of Assets to determine whether the right of use asset is impaired. These assets are reviewed annually to ensure that the carrying value remains appropriate. Impairment losses at the date of the Statement of Financial Position are written off against the proportion of the credit balance on the revaluation reserve which relates to the assets concerned. Any other unrealised losses are charged to the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure.

I) Heritage Assets

Historic England's heritage assets are assets of historical and cultural importance. The heritage assets are held and maintained for their contribution to knowledge and culture and to advance Historic England's overall objectives in relation to the preservation of ancient monuments and historic buildings in England. Historic England's heritage assets are categorised as follows and accounted for in accordance with the FReM:

- Land and Buildings: Pure Heritage;
- Land and Buildings: Operational Heritage;
- Dwellings: Pure Heritage;
- Dwellings: Operational Heritage; and
- Artefacts and Archives (Pure Heritage)

Recognition and measurement

Historic England recognise heritage assets in accordance with the FReM.

Heritage assets acquired prior to 1 April 2001 are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position due to the difficulty of obtaining a reliable valuation or cost and that, even if valuations could be obtained, the costs would be onerous compared with the additional benefits derived by Historic England and the users of the accounts. This is because of the diverse nature of the assets held, the number of assets held and the lack of comparable market values.

Pure heritage asset acquisitions made by purchase or donation after 1 April 2021, in excess of the capitalisation threshold of £10,000, have been capitalised at cost or, where donated, at market value at the time of acquisition. These assets are subsequently held at cost and are not revalued.

As disclosed in note 1m, donations do not include assets accepted in lieu of tax.

Operational heritage assets are those which, in addition to being held by Historic England in pursuit of its overall objectives, are also used

for revenue generating or other non-heritage purposes. These assets are professionally valued and held on the Statement of Financial Position as reported in note 1j and are disclosed as Heritage Assets.

Expenditure which, in Historic England's view, is required to preserve or clearly prevent further deterioration of heritage assets is recognised in the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure as it is incurred.

Depreciation and impairment

When a heritage asset is capitalised in the Statement of Financial Position, depreciation is not required on heritage assets that have indefinite lives.

No material depreciation arises on operational heritage assets, as the lives of the assets are considered to be so long and their residual values to be high enough to ensure that any annual depreciation is immaterial.

The carrying amounts of heritage assets capitalised in the Statement of Financial Position are reviewed annually for impairment indicators in line with IAS 36 'Impairment of Assets'.

Further information on the acquisition, disposal, management and preservation of Historic England's heritage assets is given in notes 18 and 19.

m) Donated Assets

Assets donated by third parties, either by gift of the asset or by way of funds for the asset, will be treated as non-current assets and held at current value on receipt.

In line with the Government FReM, donations do not include assets accepted in lieu of tax. Assets accepted in lieu of tax should be accounted for in accordance with IAS 16 in the same way as other assets of that general type and therefore recognised at cost (£nil). On recognition, assets donated in lieu of tax will be revalued to fair value in the same way as other non-current assets.

n) Depreciation and Amortisation

Depreciation is provided on property, plant and equipment (note 16) (excluding land and assets under construction), and amortisation is provided on intangible assets (note 15), in equal amounts each year in order to write down their cost to their estimated residual value over their anticipated useful economic lives. These are as follows:

Intangible Assets	
Software licences	2–10 years
Systems development	4–10 years
<i>Property, Plant and Equipment</i>	
Non-heritage buildings and gardens	
– Dwellings	50 years
– Other brick/stone buildings	50 years
– Non-brick/stone buildings	20–40 years
– Paths, car parks, playgrounds	20–25 years
– Gardens	20–50 years
<i>Refurbishments</i>	
– Shop/café/holiday cottage refurbishment, infrastructure	10–20 years
– Exhibitions and interpretations	5–20 years
Plant and machinery	5–25 years
IT	3–10 years
Furniture and fittings, vehicles	5–25 years

Operational heritage assets are professionally valued and held on the Statement of Financial Position within Heritage Assets. No material depreciation arises on operational heritage assets, as the lives of the assets are considered to be so long and their residual values to be high enough to ensure that any annual depreciation is immaterial.

Right of use assets held under leases are depreciated over the term of the relevant lease.

When considering anticipated useful economic lives, regard is given to the IAS 16 requirement to identify assets that have distinct major components with substantially different useful economic lives. Where such assets are identified, separate useful economic lives for component assets are considered.

o) Investments

Historic England recognises investments in subsidiaries to reflecting its interests in other bodies within the HE group. As permitted by IAS 27 – Separate financial statements, investments in subsidiaries are accounted for in accordance with IFRS 9. Historic England has elected to classify them as fair value through other comprehensive income, with the accumulated fair value movements recognised in the Financial Asset Reserve.

English Heritage holds investments in funds that are intended to produce a long-term return. These assets are classified as fair value through profit or loss. Asset transactions are recognised at the trade date. Net gains or losses are inclusive of interest.

Note 24 includes further details on the measurement of investments assets.

p) Inventories

Goods held for resale are stated at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Costs of internally produced publications for resale are written off over the first print run.

q) Leases

Historic England accounts for leases in line with IFRS 16

Historic England and its subsidiaries operate within the framework of common accounting policies across the Historic England group. Decisions made in Historic England and its subsidiaries are made within the framework of these common policies.

The FREM has expanded the definition of a lease to include arrangements with nil consideration. Peppercorn leases are examples of these, and are defined by HMT as lease payments significantly below market value. On initial recognition these assets are valued at fair value. Any differences between the lease liability and right of use asset for new leases after implementation of IFRS 16 are recorded as grant in kind income on the SoCNE.

Historic England group has elected not to recognise right of use assets and lease liabilities for the following leases:

- non-lease components of contracts where applicable;
- low-value assets (these are determined to be in line with capitalisation thresholds on Property, Plant and Equipment); and
- leases with a lease term of 12 months or less.

At inception of a contract, Historic England group assesses whether a contract is, or contains, a lease. A contract is, or contains a lease, if the contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset for a period of time. This includes assets for which there is no consideration. To assess whether a contract conveys the right to control the use of an identified asset, Historic England group assesses whether:

- The contract involves the use of an identified asset;
- Historic England group has the right to obtain substantially all of the economic benefit from the use of the asset throughout the period of use; and
- Historic England group has the right to direct the use of the asset.

At inception or on reassessment of a contract that contains a lease component, Historic England group allocates the consideration in the contract to each lease component on the basis of the relative standalone prices.

As disclosed in our Significant Accounting Estimates and uncertainties policy (1v), Historic England group assesses whether it is reasonably certain to exercise break options or extension options at the lease commencement date and also reassesses this if there are significant events or changes in circumstances that were anticipated.

The Nature of The Lessee's Leasing Activities

Historic England Leasing activities relate to offices estates and vehicles. The most significant material offices are our headquarters in London and Swindon.

Right of Use Assets

Historic England group recognises a right of use asset and lease liability at the commencement date. The right of use asset is initially measured at cost, which comprises the initial amount of the lease liability adjusted for initial direct costs, prepayments or incentives, and costs related to restoration at the end of a lease.

The right of use assets are subsequently measured in line with PPE assets.

Further information on the movements of Historic England's right of use assets is given in note 17.

Lease Liabilities

The lease liability is initially measured at the present value of the lease payments that are not paid at the commencement date, discounted using the interest rate implicit in the lease, or if that cannot be readily determined, the rate provided by HMT. The HMT discount rates were 4.72% in the 2024 calendar year and 4.81% for the 2025 calendar year.

A lease is remeasured when there is a change in future lease payments arising from a change in the index or rate, if there is a change in the group's estimates of the amount expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee, or if Historic England group changes its assessment of whether it will exercise a purchase, extension or termination option.

Lease payments included in the measurement of the lease liability comprise the following:

- Fixed payments, including in-substance fixed payments;
- Variable lease payments that depend on an index or a rate, initially measured using the index rate as at the commencement date;

- Amounts expected to be payable under a residual value guarantee;
- The exercise price under a purchase option that the group is reasonably certain to exercise, lease payments in an optional renewal period if the group is reasonably certain to exercise an extension option, and penalties for early termination of a lease (unless the group is reasonably certain not to terminate early).

When the lease liability is remeasured, a corresponding adjustment is made to the right of use asset or recorded in the SoCNE if the carrying amount of the right of use asset is zero.

Historic England group presents right of use assets that don't meet the definition of investment properties per IAS 40 as right of use assets on the Statement of Financial Position. The lease liabilities are included within obligations under finance leases within current and non-current liabilities on the Statement of Financial Position.

The National Collection, which is licensed to English Heritage Trust, has not been recognised as an IFRS 16 lease in Historic England as it does not meet the definition of a lease. It is therefore recognised in the Historic England group consolidation, as an intercompany lease.

r) Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash comprises cash on hand and on-demand deposits. Cash equivalents are investments with a short-term maturity of less than three months from the date of acquisition. Within English Heritage, cash that is surplus to immediate cash flow requirements is placed on deposit with a term of less than one year. Historic England does not hold any cash on deposit.

s) Pension Costs

Historic England is a member of the Principal Civil Service Pension Scheme (PCSPS). This is a multi-employer defined benefit scheme, for which Historic England is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities. In accordance with the FReM, Historic England accounts for these as a defined contribution scheme. Historic England recognises contributions payable to defined contribution schemes as an expense in the year in which it is incurred, and the legal or constructive obligation is limited to the amount that it agrees to contribute to the fund.

Under the New Fair Deal policy, those employees who transferred to English Heritage are eligible to remain members of the Civil Service Pension Schemes under the terms of the Transfer of Undertakings (Protection of Employment) Regulations 2006. The scheme is closed to new members. Employees who have joined English Heritage since its launch on 1 April 2015 are entitled to join the English Heritage Group Personal Pension Plan ('the Plan') operated by Legal and General. This is a contract-based, defined contribution (money purchase) scheme.

Historic England also operates a pension scheme for previous chairmen (pre-2000). The terms are set by analogy to the relevant civil service schemes. These schemes satisfy the requirements of applicable accounting standards (see Remuneration and Staff Report on page 72).

t) Borrowings

The Culture Recovery Fund (CRF) loan (see note 28) is treated as a concessionary loan and, in line with the FReM. It was initially recognised and measured at the amount received, with the carrying amount adjusted in subsequent years to reflect repayments and any accrued interest and adjusted if necessary for any impairment.

u) Segmental Reporting

The primary format used for segmental reporting is by expenditure type, as this reflects Historic England's internal management structure and

reporting. Historic England's assets and liabilities are shared across the operating segments and consequently it is not possible to separately identify which segment they relate to, in line with the IFRS 8 exemption.

The segments reported reflect the management structure reported internally within Historic England on a monthly basis.

Historic England's reporting segments include:

- Regions Group
- Policy & Evidence
- Public Engagement
- Business Improvement
- Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings
- Corporate Services

The following group subsidiaries have been included as operating segments that are consolidated into Historic England group results:

- English Heritage Trust
- Historic England Foundation
- Historic England (Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings) Ltd

Regions Group helps people and communities across England to care for, understand and enjoy the historic environment and create great places to live and work.

Policy & Evidence's role is to provide expert specialist advice to Historic England staff, Commission and Committees, Government, the sector and other national stakeholders on all matters relating to the protection, management, understanding and enjoyment of England's historic environment. This advice will be underpinned by robust evidence, including first-rate research and development, ensuring Historic England is widely regarded as the sector leader with a reputation for excellence in all that we do.

Public Engagement inspires and enables our audiences to understand, enjoy and look after the historic environment; to secure public support for, and investment in, Historic England and its mission.

Business Improvement enables Historic England to maximise its public value.

Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings is a material project being undertaken by Historic England to regenerate a Grade I listed mill and the associated buildings and surrounding site.

Corporate Services delivers high-quality and cost-effective support services to our customers, enabling them to care for England's historic environment as effectively as possible.

v) Significant Accounting Estimates and Judgements

Critical Accounting Estimates and Judgements

The preparation of the Historic England group accounts requires management to make judgements, estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, income and expenditure. The resulting accounting estimates will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. Revisions to accounting estimates are recognised in the period in which the estimate is revised if the revision affects only that period, or in the period of the revision and future periods if the revision affects both current and future periods. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are addressed below.

Key sources of estimation, uncertainty and judgements made in applying accounting policies exist in estimations of the stage of completion in calculating grant accruals, deferred membership income, valuation of non-current assets, and lease extension options.

Valuation of Non-current Assets

The value of the group's property, plant and equipment, right of use assets and intangibles are estimated based on the period over which the assets are expected to be available for use. Such estimation is based on experience with similar assets. The estimated useful life of each asset is reviewed periodically and updated if expectations differ from previous estimates due to physical wear and tear, technical or commercial obsolescence or legal or other limits on the use of an asset.

The professional valuations are selected on an asset by asset basis, rather than by asset class. This approach is taken to ensure a reliable valuation is obtained.

Operational heritage assets are not depreciated. Historic England estimates that the useful economic lives of operational heritage assets are significantly long to ensure that depreciation is immaterial.

The Group's Indexation Policy is to perform a quinquennial valuation supplemented by annual indexation. The indices are reviewed each year by management to ensure they remain appropriate.

Indices

Assets with a value of less than £50,000 are revalued each year with reference to relevant indices published by the Building Cost Information Service as at 31 March.

Historic England performs indexation to their non-current assets annually, using appropriate external indices. Indices are applied to the Assets Net Book Value to arrive at the current cost of the assets.

The appropriateness of indices are reviewed regularly by management.

Deferred Membership Income

Annual income received from members is recognised in the SoCNE over the period to which the membership relates.

Life membership subscriptions received are credited to the Group's Balance Sheet and released to the SoCNE in ten equal annual instalments.

Surveys of life members, and analysis of available data, indicate that life members enjoy the majority of their membership benefits in the first ten years of their arrangement. Historic England group therefore feels it is appropriate to use ten years as the relevant period over which to allocate the life membership income.

Lease Extension Options

At lease commencement, Historic England group makes a decision as to whether we are reasonably certain to be exercising break clauses and extension options. This estimate impacts the length of the lease term impacting the lease liabilities and right of use assets. This is reviewed if there is a significant event or significant change of circumstances.

w) Preparation of the Accounts on a Going Concern Basis

In adopting the going concern basis for preparing the financial statements, the Commissioners have considered the activities and principal risks set out in the Governance Statement. The Commissioners have reviewed the latest financial forecasts and are satisfied that Historic England continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing its financial statements. The 2024 Spending Review confirmed our Grant in Aid income up to 31 March 2026. A spending review process for 2026–28 is currently underway. As Historic England is a body created through the National Heritage Act 1983, its ongoing activities are assured through statute.

The new Property Licence and Operating Agreement (the Property Licence), under which the English Heritage Trust care for the National Heritage Collection, has been agreed in July 2024 for a 10-year term from April 2025, so that they continue to conserve the Collection for future generations. In addition, the Trustees of The English Heritage Trust and Directors of English Heritage Trading Limited have reviewed the latest financial forecasts and are satisfied that these demonstrate the Trust remains a going concern. Based on this evidence, we consider that it remains appropriate for both entities to adopt the going concern basis in preparing their financial statements and hence it is appropriate for the Historic England group accounts to be prepared on a going concern basis.

2 Statement of Operating Expenditure by Operating Segment

Due to the nature of Historic England's business, assets and liabilities are not managed on a sector basis and consequently no allocation of assets and liabilities are made to individual operating segments.

a) Regions Group

	2024–2025		2023–2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Income				
Revenue from Contracts with Customers	1,114	1,114	1,180	1,181
Other Operating Income	388	388	122	122
Total Income	1,502	1,502	1,302	1,303
Expenditure				
Grants	(10,463)	(10,463)	(26,487)	(26,487)
Staff Costs	(19,341)	(19,341)	(18,409)	(18,409)
Running Costs	(378)	(378)	(637)	(637)
Commercial Activities' Costs	(38)	(38)	(26)	(26)
Other Expenditure	(607)	(607)	(630)	(630)
Total Expenditure	(30,827)	(30,827)	(46,189)	(46,189)
Regions Group Net Expenditure	(29,325)	(29,325)	(44,887)	(44,886)

Income has been received from Enhanced Advisory Services, which include service level agreements and funding from other public bodies for specific project works. Expenditure incurred include grants being given and expenditure incurred on providing services for development advice, listing, partnerships and project work.

The High Street Heritage Action Zone grant scheme was wound down in 2023–24 and grant expenditure was reduced as a result.

b) Policy & Evidence

	2024–2025		2023–2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Income				
Revenue from Contracts with Customers	1,111	174	1,232	240
Other Operating Income	1,570	1,570	1,433	1,121
Total Income	2,681	1,744	2,665	1,361
Expenditure				
Grants	(545)	(545)	(853)	(853)
Staff Costs	(11,670)	(11,670)	(11,724)	(11,723)
Running Costs	(1,846)	(1,735)	(2,556)	(2,443)
Commercial Activities' Costs	(295)	(295)	(151)	(151)
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	(249)	(249)	(252)	(252)
Other Expenditure	(1,016)	(1,004)	(1,006)	(999)
Total Expenditure	(15,621)	(15,498)	(16,542)	(16,421)
Policy & Evidence Net Expenditure	(12,940)	(13,754)	(13,877)	(15,060)

Income comprises the service level agreement with the English Heritage Trust, grant income for research projects, fundraising income and course provision fees. Expenditure was incurred providing services for policy development, sector resilience and skills training, national specialist services, analytics and development economics.

c) Public Engagement

	2024–2025		2023–2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Income				
Revenue from Contracts with Customers	282	238	299	247
Other Operating Income	114	114	1,475	1,475
Total Income	396	352	1,774	1,722
Expenditure				
Grants	(145)	(145)	(1,603)	(1,603)
Staff Costs	(7,612)	(7,612)	(7,255)	(7,255)
Running Costs	(687)	(687)	(1,552)	(1,552)
Commercial Activities' Costs	(269)	(269)	(288)	(288)
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	(169)	(169)	(209)	(209)
Other Expenditure	(452)	(452)	(482)	(482)
Total Expenditure	(9,334)	(9,334)	(11,389)	(11,389)
Public Engagement Net Expenditure	(8,938)	(8,982)	(9,615)	(9,667)

Income has been received from a combination of grant income for research projects, archive services and the service level agreement with the English Heritage Trust. Participation and learning expenditure was incurred providing participation and learning, archive services, communications and marketing functions.

d) Business Improvement

	2024–2025		2023–2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Income				
Revenue from Contracts with Customers	107	76	159	123
Other Operating Income	25	25	47	47
Total Income	132	101	206	170
Expenditure				
Grants	(5,174)	(5,119)	(4,721)	(4,666)
Staff Costs	(3,971)	(3,971)	(3,805)	(3,805)
Running Costs	(214)	(319)	(389)	(389)
Commercial Activities' Costs	(23)	(23)	(27)	(27)
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	(27)	(27)	(28)	(28)
Other Expenditure	(232)	(227)	(264)	(264)
Total Expenditure	(9,641)	(9,686)	(9,234)	(9,179)
Business Improvement Net Expenditure	(9,509)	(9,585)	(9,028)	(9,009)

Revenue relates to outward secondments of staff, fundraising and grants. The majority of expenditure was on the provision of grants, with the remainder of the expenditure supporting projects, process improvement, fundraising, corporate planning and organisational development.

e) Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings

	2024–2025		2023–2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Income				
Revenue from Contracts with Customers	58	113	25	87
Earned Income	53	53	29	29
Other Operating Income	61	61	19	(25)
Total Income	172	227	73	91
Expenditure				
Grants	–	(10)	–	–
Staff Costs	(214)	(394)	(209)	(367)
Running Costs	(547)	(661)	(614)	(692)
Commercial Activities' Costs	–	(10)	–	(8)
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	(964)	(964)	(940)	(940)
Other Expenditure	(20)	(57)	(19)	(58)
Subsidy Expenditure	(146)	–	(197)	–
Total Expenditure	(1,891)	(2,096)	(1,979)	(2,065)
Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings Net Income/(Expenditure)	(1,719)	(1,869)	(1,906)	(1,974)

During 2022–23, Historic England (Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings) Ltd opened to the public and began providing services to visitors to Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings. The trading results of the subsidiary are included in the group results. As at 31 March 2025 the running of the property transferred to the English

Heritage Trust under Licence, as a result Historic England (Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings) Ltd has ceased trading as of the 31 March 2025.

During 2024–25, Historic England (Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings) Ltd was trading at a loss. Historic England provided a £146k subsidy to maintain cash reserves (2023–24: £197k).

f) Corporate Services

	2024–2025		Represented 2023–2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Income				
Revenue from Contracts with External Customers	8,212	–	7,130	–
Revenue from Contracts with Internal Customers	809	809	660	660
Earned Income	539	539	533	533
Other Operating Income	677	677	631	140
Total Income	10,237	2,025	8,954	1,333
Expenditure				
Grants	(12)	(12)	(20)	(20)
Staff Costs	(12,443)	(12,443)	(12,265)	(12,240)
Running Costs	(12,892)	(12,892)	(11,115)	(10,761)
Subsidy Expenditure	(559)	–	(891)	–
Commercial Activities' Costs	(5)	(5)	(19)	(19)
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	(7,449)	(7,449)	(7,117)	(7,117)
Other Expenditure	(1,283)	(1,257)	(1,373)	(1,374)
Total Expenditure	(34,643)	(34,058)	(32,800)	(31,531)
Financing				
Finance Costs	(1,084)	(1,084)	(1,253)	(1,253)
Net Finance Cost	(1,084)	(1,084)	(1,253)	(1,253)
Corporate Services Net Expenditure	(25,490)	(33,117)	(25,099)	(31,451)

Revenue comprises service level agreement income from the English Heritage Trust as well as provision of finance services to DCMS and BDUK. The expenditure incurred included the provision of central services and the cost of running the offices. Subsidy expenditure was paid to the English Heritage Trust for pension contributions to staff in the Civil Service Pension scheme who were part of a TUPE of staff under the New Model agreement.

g) The English Heritage Trust

	2024–2025		2023–2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Income				
Revenue from Contracts with Customers	–	133,977	–	126,928
Earned Income	–	2,624	–	2,108
Other Operating Income	–	19,575	–	14,821
Income from Investments	–	87	–	50
Total Income	–	156,263	–	143,907
Expenditure				
Grants	–	(69)	–	(183)
Staff Costs	–	(71,040)	–	(60,494)
Running Costs	–	(50,386)	–	(54,273)
Commercial Activities' Costs	–	(17,572)	–	(16,623)
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	–	(9,565)	–	(9,145)
Other Expenditure	–	(8,863)	–	(10,414)
Subsidy Expenditure	–	–	–	–
Total Expenditure	–	(157,495)	–	(151,132)
Financing				
Finance Costs	–	(233)	–	(241)
Finance Income	–	–	–	–
Net Finance Income/(Cost)	–	(233)	–	(241)
Net Gain/(Loss) on Investments	–	(76)	–	260
The English Heritage Trust Net Income/(Expenditure)	–	(1,541)	–	(7,206)

The English Heritage Trust results have been consolidated into the group accounts.

h) Historic England Foundation

	2024–2025		2023–2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Income				
Other Operating Income	–	193	–	355
Total Income	–	193	–	355
Expenditure				
Grants	–	–	–	–
Depreciation, Amortisation and Impairment	–	(14)	–	(14)
Other Expenditure	–	(13)	–	(20)
Total Expenditure		(27)	–	(34)
Historic England Foundation Net Income/(Expenditure)	–	166	–	321

The balances included for The Historic England Foundation represent the values consolidated into the Group accounts. Note 32d provides the full financial results for the organisation for the year, prior to consolidation.

i) Reconciliation between Operating Segments and SoCNE

	2024–2025		2023–2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Regions Group	(29,325)	(29,325)	(44,887)	(44,886)
Policy & Evidence	(12,940)	(13,754)	(13,877)	(15,060)
Public Engagement	(8,938)	(8,982)	(9,615)	(9,667)
Business Improvement	(9,509)	(9,585)	(9,028)	(9,009)
Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings	(1,719)	(1,869)	(1,906)	(1,974)
Corporate Services	(25,490)	(33,117)	(25,099)	(31,451)
The English Heritage Trust	–	(1,541)	–	(7,206)
Historic England Foundation	–	166	–	321
Total Net Expenditure per the Statement of Comprehensive Net Expenditure	(87,921)	(98,007)	(104,412)	(118,932)

3 Revenue from Contracts with Customers

	2024–2025		2023–2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Shared Service Income	8,349	775	8,378	618
Admission Income	–	42,468	–	40,023
Advertising and Licencing	–	601	–	560
Archive and Lecture Fees	231	224	299	286
Commercial Sales Income	56	31,584	35	31,284
Enhanced Advisory Services	913	912	775	775
Hospitality and Events	9	2,440	3	2,267
Membership Income	–	55,680	–	51,434
Other Revenue	2,135	1,817	1,195	2,219
Total Revenue from Contracts with Customers	11,693	136,501	10,685	129,466

4 Earned Income

	2024–2025		2023–2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Other Earned Income	–	35	–	58
Commission	–	879	–	687
Rents	592	2,302	562	1,925
Total Earned Income	592	3,216	562	2,670

5 Other Operating Income

	2024–2025		2023–2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Grants Receivable				
National Lottery Heritage Fund Grants	78	663	972	2,709
European Union Grants	305	305	–	73
Other Grants	2,095	9,153	1,905	3,489
Total Grants Receivable	2,478	10,121	2,877	6,271
Donations and Sponsorship	10	4,872	847	6,332
Other Operating Income	347	6,117	3	3,161
Interest Receivable	–	1,493	–	2,292
Total Other Operating Income	2,835	22,603	3,727	18,056

During 2023–24 and in line with the Service Level Agreement, English Heritage Trust donated their 2023–24 land purchases to Historic England. The donated land consists of the remaining Thornborough Henge (£192,000) and land at Kenilworth (£274,000) to be included in Historic England's national collection. There was no donated land in 2024–25.

6 Income from Investments

	2024–2025		2023–2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Income from Investments	–	87	–	50

7 Grants

	2024–2025		2023–2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Buildings and Monuments	8,495	8,500	7,286	7,359
Capacity Building	3,281	3,285	3,663	3,664
Conservation Areas	481	481	16,765	16,792
Historic Environment	2,985	2,985	3,048	3,048
Management Agreements	126	126	149	149
Maritime	–	–	177	177
Philanthropic	–	–	80	80
Government	–	–	1,617	1,617
Independent Research Organisation	480	480	899	899
Other	491	506	–	27
Total Grants	16,339	16,363	33,684	33,812

The reduction in grant expenditure in the year was due to reduced spend on the High Street Heritage Action Zone grant scheme as the scheme completed in March 2024.

8 Running Costs

	2024–2025		2023–2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
IT Equipment and Services	7,492	10,598	6,937	9,824
Marketing and Branding	350	12,768	842	14,653
Monument Works and Maintenance	–	4,154	–	6,229
Office Rent and Charges	1,251	1,054	1,236	1,914
Other Office Costs	604	566	530	517
Site Maintenance	2,183	20,931	1,462	20,319
Technical Advice	3,652	9,545	4,926	11,470
Utilities	948	4,868	902	4,351
Lease Payments	84	2,574	28	1,470
Total Running Costs	16,564	67,058	16,863	70,747

9 Commercial Activities' Costs

	2024–2025		2023–2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Cost of Sales	101	12,984	61	12,714
Event Production	522	4,639	450	4,092
Inventory Provision Expense	–	288	–	54
Inventory Write-Off	7	301	–	282
Total Commercial Activities' Costs	630	18,212	511	17,142

10 Other Expenditure

	2024–2025		2023–2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Administrative Costs	364	2,355	382	2,678
Audit Fee	105	226	98	229
Operational Costs	2,066	7,199	1,994	7,625
Other	211	907	302	1,172
(Gain)/Loss on Disposal on Non-Current Assets	–	(4)	–	8
Staff Related Costs	864	1,797	998	2,529
Total Other Expenditure	3,610	12,480	3,774	14,241

Operational costs consist of travel and subsistence, office consumables, volunteering expenses and other related costs.

11 Taxation

Historic England enjoys the status of a charity for taxation purposes. No taxation liability is expected on its operations for the year ended 31 March 2025 (2024: nil). English Heritage, as a registered charity, is entitled to certain tax exemptions on income and surpluses on any trading activities carried out in furtherance of the charity's primary objectives.

Subject to having sufficient distributable reserves, English Heritage Trading Limited will make Gift Aid donations of its distributable profits to its parent charity, within 9 months of the financial year end.

12 Auditor's Fees

	2024–2025 Group £'000	2023–2024 Group £'000
Auditor's remuneration and expenses for statutory audit work:		
Historic England	105	98
The English Heritage Trust	91	94
English Heritage Trading Limited	17	17
Historic England Foundation	13	10
Total Auditor's Fees for the Financial Year	226	219

During the year, no member of the Historic England group purchased any non-audit services from its auditor, the National Audit Office (2023–2024: nil).

13 Staff Costs

	2024–2025			2023–2024		
	Capital £'000	Revenue £'000	Total £'000	Capital £'000	Revenue £'000	Total £'000
Group						
Wages and Salaries	1,645	92,804	94,449	1,040	89,252	90,292
Social Security Costs	62	8,691	8,753	65	8,639	8,704
Pension Costs	155	16,084	16,239	106	14,649	14,755
Redundancy and Severance Costs	–	7,013	7,013	–	300	300
Agency Staff Costs	–	1,706	1,706	–	1,347	1,347
Inwards Secondment Staff		173	173	–	106	106
Total Employee Costs	1,862	126,471	128,333	1,211	114,293	115,504

	2024–2025			2023–2024		
	Capital £'000	Revenue £'000	Total £'000	Capital £'000	Revenue £'000	Total £'000
Historic England						
Wages and Salaries	588	39,311	39,899	338	38,839	39,177
Social Security Costs	52	4,041	4,093	40	4,070	4,110
Pension Costs	141	11,059	11,200	88	9,899	9,987
Redundancy and Severance Costs	–	154	154	–	246	246
Agency Staff Costs	572	513	1,085	267	507	774
Inwards Secondment staff	–	173	173	–	106	106
Total Employee Costs	1,353	55,251	56,604	733	53,667	54,400

Further information on staff costs is available in the Remuneration and Staff Report.

14 Related Party Transactions and Connected Bodies

Connected Bodies

Historic England is sponsored by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS), which is regarded as a related party.

There were material transactions with DCMS in respect of the receipt of Grant In Aid and finance shared service provision.

There were also material transactions with the following entities for which DCMS is regarded as the parent department:

Arts Council England	Imperial War Museum	National Maritime Museum
British Museum	National Heritage	Science Museum Group
British Tourist Authority	Memorial Fund	Tate Gallery

In addition, Historic England has had various material transactions with other government departments and central government bodies. These transactions have been with:

Building Digital UK	Forestry Commission	Historic Environmental Scotland
Cabinet Office	Forestry England	HM Revenue & Customs
Cabinet Office: Civil Superannuation	Government Internal Audit Agency	Museum of London
Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs	Government Property Agency	National Highways
	High Speed Two (HS2) Limited	UKRI

Historic England also has transactions with other public bodies such as local authorities.

There were material transactions with English Heritage in respect of receipts for shared services (£7.3 million, 2023–24: £7.8 million) and payments made to English Heritage relating to the annual subsidy which forms part of the New Model arrangements (£0.6 million, 2023–24: £1 million) and for shared services provided to Historic England (£nil, 2023–24: £nil).

Grants of £170,066 were given to Historic England by The Historic England Foundation (2023–24: £382,677). Historic England invoiced The Historic England Foundation in respect of shared services of £36,462, which was unpaid at the end of the financial year (2023–24: £42,296). Historic England also provided capacity building grant funding to The Historic England Foundation of £55,000 (2023–24: £55,000), which was unpaid at the end of the financial year.

The FReM and IAS 24 exemption for entities that are related parties because they are also under government control has been applied.

No other Commissioners, trustees, key management personnel or other related party have undertaken any material related party transactions with Historic England during the year. Compensation for members of the Executive Team has been disclosed in the Remuneration and Staff Report, which starts on page 72.

The related party transactions and connected bodies for English Heritage, English Heritage Trading Limited, The Historic England Foundation and Historic England (Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings) Limited are disclosed within each of their individual accounts.

Material Transactions where Commissioners and Senior Staff Declared an Interest

During the year, Historic England had the following material transactions in which there was a related interest:

Commissioners

- Lord Mendoza, CBE (Chairman) is the Chair of the Culture Heritage Capital Advisory Board for the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, which received £46,000 for staff secondments and paid £671,000 for shared services and expenses. He is also Co-Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Group, National Trust. The National Trust paid £11,000 for advice, £12,000 for training, £1,000 for reproduction fees and £13,000 for storage. They received £3,000 in grant funding and £1,000 in membership.
- Ms Nairita Chakraborty is the London Mayor's Design Advocate. The Mayor and Commonalty and Citizens of the City of London paid £114,000 for advice and reproduction fees.
- Mr Ben Derbyshire's sister-in-law, Anna Eavis, is Chair of the National Heritage Memorial Fund (NHMF) panel. The NHMF has paid £193,000 for shared office space and received £51,000 for staff secondments.
- Mr Paul Farmer is the Chief Executive of Age UK, which received £14,000 of grant funding.
- Dame Julie Kenny was the Chair of Wentworth Woodhouse Preservation Trust, which received £233,000 of grant funding.
- Mr Patrick Newberry is a trustee, Vice Chairman and Treasurer of the Georgian Group, which received £45,000 in grant funding.
- Ms Sue Wilkinson is Deputy Chair of the Churches Conservation Trust, which received £552,000 in grant funding.

Senior Staff

- Ms Melanie Lewis, Director of Strategy and Business Development, is a member of the Business and Enterprise Board for Liverpool Combined Authority, who paid £1,000 for reproduction fees.
- Mr John Neale, Development Advice Director, is a member of the Fabric Advisory Committee of St. Paul's Cathedral, who paid £2,000 for training.
- Mrs Emma Squire and Ms Claudia Kenyatta, Directors of Regions on a job-share basis, are Members of the Mayor of London's Cultural Advisory Board. The Mayor and Commonalty and Citizens of the City of London paid £114,000 for advice and reproduction fees.

No other Commissioners, trustees, key management personnel or other related party have undertaken any material related party transactions with Historic England during the year. Compensation for members of the Executive Team has been disclosed in the Remuneration and Staff Report.

The related party transactions and connected bodies for English Heritage, English Heritage Trading Limited, The Historic England Foundation and Historic England (Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings) Limited are disclosed within each of their individual accounts.

15 Intangible Assets

	Software Licences £'000	Systems Development £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Total £'000
Group				
Cost or Valuation				
At 1 April 2024	567	17,986	6,865	25,418
Additions	–	–	4,815	4,815
Disposals	(294)	(2,235)	–	(2,529)
Impairment reversals		1	–	1
Reclassifications	–	1,137	(1,417)	(280)
Revaluations	5	245	–	250
At 31 March 2025	278	17,134	10,263	27,675
Amortisation				
At 1 April 2024	493	8,698		9,191
Charge in Year	33	2,359		2,392
Disposals	(295)	(2,235)		(2,530)
Revaluations	4	120		124
At 31 March 2025	235	8,942	–	9,177
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2024	74	9,288	6,865	16,227
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2025	43	8,192	10,263	18,498

All Intangible assets are owned outright (2024: all).

Systems development and intangible assets under construction are internally generated.

	Software Licences £'000	Systems Development £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Total £'000
Group				
Cost or Valuation				
At 1 April 2023	2,986	11,859	7,863	22,708
Additions	49	–	7,022	7,071
Disposals	(2,466)	(2,097)	–	(4,563)
Impairments	–	(1)	–	(1)
Reclassifications	–	8,256	(8,020)	236
Revaluations	(2)	(31)	–	(33)
At 31 March 2024	567	17,986	6,865	25,418
Amortisation				
At 1 April 2023	2,907	8,446	–	11,353
Charge in Year	54	2,374	–	2,428
Disposals	(2,466)	(2,097)	–	(4,563)
Revaluations	(2)	(25)	–	(27)
At 31 March 2024	493	8,698	–	9,191
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2023	79	3,413	7,863	11,355
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2024	74	9,288	6,865	16,227

	Software Licences £'000	Systems Development £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Total £'000
Historic England				
Cost or Valuation	–	–	–	–
At 1 April 2024	394	7,222	4,094	11,710
Additions	–	–	2,269	2,269
Disposals	(295)	(1,431)	–	(1,726)
Reclassifications	–	733	(1,013)	(280)
Revaluations	2	73	–	75
Impairment reversals	–	1	–	1
At 31 March 2025	101	6,598	5,350	12,049
Amortisation	–	–	–	–
At 1 April 2024	377	5,747	–	6,124
Charge in Year	17	897	–	914
Disposals	(295)	(1,431)	–	(1,726)
Revaluations	2	60	–	62
At 31 March 2025	101	5,273	–	5,374
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2024	17	1,475	4,094	5,586
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2025	–	1,325	5,350	6,675

All Intangible assets are owned outright (2024: all).

Systems development and intangible assets under construction are internally generated.

	Software Licences £'000	Systems Development £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Total £'000
Historic England				
Cost or Valuation				
At 1 April 2023	1,433	7,927	1,723	11,083
Additions	–	–	2,371	2,371
Disposals	(1,038)	(681)	–	(1,719)
Reclassifications	–	–	–	–
Revaluations	(1)	(23)	–	(24)
Impairments	–	(1)	–	(1)
At 31 March 2024	394	7,222	4,094	11,710
Amortisation				
At 1 April 2023	1,378	5,617	–	6,995
Charge in Year	38	830	–	868
Disposals	(1,038)	(681)	–	(1,719)
Revaluations	(1)	(19)	–	(20)
At 31 March 2024	377	5,747	–	6,124
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2023	55	2,310	1,723	4,088
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2024	17	1,475	4,094	5,586

16 Property, Plant and Equipment

	Operational Land & Buildings £'000	Dwellings £'000	Plant & Machinery £'000	Information Systems £'000	Furniture & Fittings £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Total £'000
Group							
Cost or Valuation							
At 1 April 2024	188,151	3,312	24,434	5,749	6,778	6,675	235,099
Transferred to Pure Heritage Land and Buildings on 1 April	(48)	–	–	–	–	–	(48)
Additions	26	–	890	97	–	6,346	7,359
Disposals	(6,555)	(586)	(6,541)	(995)	(1,015)	–	(15,692)
Impairment reversals	128	4	–	1	–	–	133
Reclassifications	7,455	–	337	280	916	(8,708)	280
Revaluations	4,653	66	558	77	678	–	6,032
At 31 March 2025	193,810	2,796	19,678	5,209	7,357	4,313	233,163
Depreciation							
At 1 April 2024	56,315	893	17,056	4,458	3,883	–	82,605
Charge in Year	9,775	75	1,804	973	454	–	13,081
Disposals	(6,555)	(586)	(6,540)	(995)	(1,015)	–	(15,691)
Reclassifications	(2)	–	–	–	2	–	–
Revaluations	1,520	8	371	72	379	–	2,350
At 31 March 2025	61,053	390	12,691	4,508	3,703	–	82,345
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2024	131,836	2,419	7,378	1,291	2,895	6,675	152,494
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2025	132,757	2,406	6,987	701	3,654	4,313	150,818

	Operational Land & Buildings £'000	Dwellings £'000	Plant & Machinery £'000	Information Systems £'000	Furniture & Fittings £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Total £'000
Group							
Cost or Valuation							
At 1 April 2023	182,335	3,244	28,019	6,516	8,864	7,850	236,828
Additions	1,364	–	723	88	53	8,871	11,099
Disposals	(9,086)	(17)	(5,441)	(836)	(3,115)	–	(18,495)
Impairments	147	4	–	(1)	–	–	150
Reclassifications	8,683	–	449	–	678	(10,046)	(236)
Revaluations	4,708	81	684	(18)	298	–	5,753
At 31 March 2024	188,151	3,312	24,434	5,749	6,778	6,675	235,099
Depreciation							
At 1 April 2023	54,484	733	20,112	4,276	6,396	–	86,001
Charge in Year	9,436	155	1,896	1,033	395	–	12,915
Disposals	(9,085)	(17)	(5,439)	(837)	(3,096)	–	(18,474)
Reclassifications	(2)	–	–	–	2	–	–
Revaluations	1,482	22	487	(14)	186	–	2,163
At 31 March 2024	56,315	893	17,056	4,458	3,883	–	82,605
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2023	127,851	2,511	7,907	2,240	2,468	7,850	150,827
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2024	131,836	2,419	7,378	1,291	2,895	6,675	152,494

	Operational Land & Buildings £'000	Dwellings £'000	Plant & Machinery £'000	Information Systems £'000	Furniture & Fittings £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Total £'000
Historic England							
Cost or Valuation							
At 1 April 2024	124,090	3,145	15,286	3,823	3,619	27	149,990
Transferred to Pure Heritage Land and Buildings on 1 April	(48)	–	–	–	–	–	(48)
Additions	–	–	121	43	–	1,062	1,226
Disposals	(6,034)	(586)	(6,241)	(881)	(967)	–	(14,709)
Impairment reversals	78	–	–	1	–	–	79
Reclassifications	–	–	305	280	–	(305)	280
Revaluations	3,043	66	248	48	313	–	3,718
At 31 March 2025	121,129	2,625	9,719	3,314	2,965	784	140,536
Depreciation							
At 1 April 2024	39,026	869	11,564	3,043	2,680	–	57,182
Charge in Year	4,276	70	619	614	136	–	5,715
Disposals	(6,034)	(586)	(6,241)	(880)	(966)	–	(14,707)
Reclassifications	(2)	–	–	–	2	–	–
Revaluations	962	8	155	44	216	–	1,385
At 31 March 2025	38,228	361	6,097	2,821	2,068	–	49,575
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2024	85,064	2,276	3,722	780	939	27	92,808
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2025	82,901	2,264	3,622	493	897	784	90,961

	Operational Land & Buildings £'000	Dwellings £'000	Plant & Machinery £'000	Information Systems £'000	Furniture & Fittings £'000	Assets Under Construction £'000	Total £'000
Historic England							
Cost or Valuation							
At 1 April 2023	128,888	3,081	18,502	4,063	5,916	80	160,530
Additions	760	–	214	–	11	72	1,057
Disposals	(8,956)	(17)	(3,871)	(227)	(2,485)	–	(15,556)
Impairments	89	–	–	(1)	–	–	88
Reclassifications	–	–	125	–	–	(125)	–
Revaluations	3,309	81	316	(12)	177	–	3,871
At 31 March 2024	124,090	3,145	15,286	3,823	3,619	27	149,990
Depreciation							
At 1 April 2023	42,470	714	14,524	2,616	4,913	–	65,237
Charge in Year	4,459	151	664	664	119	–	6,057
Disposals	(8,956)	(17)	(3,871)	(227)	(2,485)	–	(15,556)
Reclassifications	(2)	–	–	–	2	–	–
Revaluations	1,055	21	247	(10)	131	–	1,444
At 31 March 2024	39,026	869	11,564	3,043	2,680	–	57,182
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2023	86,418	2,367	3,978	1,447	1,003	80	95,293
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2024	85,064	2,276	3,722	780	939	27	92,808

Total Non-Current Asset acquisitions in the year were funded, to their fair value, by:

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000	2023 £'000	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Government Grant	3,178	3,093	3,918	3,830	5,898
Non-government Grant	323	62	–	–	1,273
Donations	–	465	1,230	–	–
Lottery Funding	–	–	506	2,904	3,548
Asset Sale Proceeds	–	–	–	–	–
IFRS 16 Right-Of-Use Assets funded by government grant	133	5,383	5,485	166	14
Other	–	–	104	325	427
Total Non-Current Acquisitions	3,634	9,003	11,243	7,225	11,160

Historic England's obligations under leases are disclosed in note 25; note 17 discloses Historic England's right of use assets. All other property, plant and equipment is either held under guardianship or owned outright by Historic England (2023–24: all).

The transfers from assets under construction to other non-current asset categories represent assets that were started in previous years and have been completed in the year.

17 Right of Use Assets

	Operational Land & Buildings £'000	Plant & Machinery £'000	Total £'000
Group			
Cost or Valuation			
At 1 April 2024	49,976	402	50,378
Additions	339	42	381
Disposals	–	(22)	(22)
Impairment reversals	183	–	183
Revaluations	353	–	353
At 31 March 2025	50,851	422	51,273
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2024	10,140	268	10,408
Charge in Year	3,252	55	3,307
Disposals	–	(22)	(22)
Revaluations	130	–	130
At 31 March 2025	13,522	301	13,823
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2024	39,836	134	39,970
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2025	37,329	121	37,450

	Operational Land & Buildings £'000	Plant & Machinery £'000	Total £'000
Group			
Cost or Valuation			
At 1 April 2023	44,397	246	44,643
Additions	5,402	156	5,558
Disposals	(357)	–	(357)
Impairments	209	–	209
Revaluations	325	–	325
At 31 March 2024	49,976	402	50,378
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2023	7,526	228	7,754
Charge in Year	2,706	40	2,746
Disposals	(189)	–	(189)
Revaluations	97	–	97
At 31 March 2024	10,140	268	10,408
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2023	36,871	18	36,889
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2024	39,836	134	39,970

	Operational Land & Buildings £'000	Plant & Machinery £'000	Total £'000
Historic England			
Cost or Valuation			
At 1 April 2024	35,069	48	35,117
Additions	133	–	133
Disposals	–	(22)	(22)
Impairment reversals	183	–	183
Revaluations	329	–	329
At 31 March 2025	35,714	26	35,740
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2024	6,433	48	6,481
Charge in Year	2,516	–	2,516
Disposals	–	(22)	(22)
Revaluations	130	–	130
At 31 March 2025	9,079	26	9,105
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2024	28,636	–	28,636
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2025	26,635	–	26,635

	Operational Land & Buildings £'000	Plant & Machinery £'000	Total £'000
Historic England			
Cost or Valuation			
At 1 April 2023	29,175	48	29,223
Additions	5,383	–	5,383
Disposals	–	–	–
Impairments	209	–	209
Revaluations	302	–	302
At 31 March 2024	35,069	48	35,117
Depreciation			
At 1 April 2023	4,393	48	4,441
Charge in Year	1,943	–	1,943
Disposals	–	–	–
Revaluations	97	–	97
At 31 March 2024	6,433	48	6,481
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2023	24,782	–	24,782
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2024	28,636	–	28,636

18 Heritage Assets

	Operational Dwellings £'000	Artefacts & Archives £'000	Pure Heritage Land & Buildings £'000	Operational Heritage Land & Buildings £'000	Total £'000
Group					
Cost or Valuation				–	
At 1 April 2024	10,322	18,876	1,406	18,901	49,505
Transferred from operational Land and Buildings on 1 April	–	–	48	–	48
Additions	–	39	–	–	39
Impairment reversals	3	–	–	23	26
Revaluations	263	200		463	926
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2025	10,588	19,115	1,454	19,387	50,544
At 1 April 2023 (Re-Presented)	10,056	18,536	1,214	18,415	48,221
Additions	–	340	192	–	532
Impairments	3	–	–	23	26
Revaluations	263	–	–	463	726
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2024	10,322	18,876	1,406	18,901	49,505

	Operational Dwellings £'000	Artefacts & Archives £'000	Pure Heritage Land & Buildings £'000	Operational Heritage Land & Buildings £'000	Total £'000
Historic England					
Cost or Valuation					
At 1 April 2024	10,321	18,205	1,406	18,902	48,834
Transferred from operational Land and Buildings on 1 April	–	–	48	–	48
Additions	–	–	–	–	–
Impairment reversals	3	–	–	23	26
Revaluations	263	200	–	463	926
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2025	10,587	18,405	1,454	19,388	49,834
At 1 April 2023 (Re-Presented)	10,055	18,205	1,214	18,415	47,889
Additions	–	–	192	–	192
Impairments	3	–	–	23	26
Revaluations	263	–	–	464	727
Carrying Amount at 31 March 2024	10,321	18,205	1,406	18,902	48,834

19 Further Information on Heritage Assets

Nature and Scale

Historic England maintains heritage land and building assets at sites throughout England, as well as historic artefacts, ranging from environmental remains and archaeological artefacts to pottery, fine art and furnishings. The information contained within this note relates to heritage assets held on and off the balance sheet.

The National Heritage Collection consists of a diverse portfolio that includes World Heritage Sites, industrial monuments, castles, historic houses, abbeys, forts, stone circles and a large part of Hadrian's Wall. They range from prehistoric ruins to the lavishly furnished Osborne House. In age they range from Neolithic burial chambers dating from 3500–2600BC to 20th-century houses.

These assets are held by Historic England under various arrangements, with many being in the guardianship of the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, with the freehold being retained by the owner. The remaining properties are in the ownership of Historic England, other Government departments or the Crown Estate.

The English Heritage Trust manages the day-to-day operation of the National Heritage Collection under a 'Property Licence and Operating Agreement'.

A full listing of the National Heritage Collection is contained in the English Heritage Handbook, which is also available on the English Heritage website. The handbook includes full details of public access to these sites.

The National Heritage Collection assets recognised in the Statement of Financial Position are disclosed as 'Pure Heritage Assets' and 'Artefacts & Archives'. These National Heritage Collection assets have been purchased or donated after 1 April 2001 with valuations obtained with the acquisition. The majority of capitalised 'Pure Heritage' assets relate to

Thornborough Henges. All other National Heritage Collection assets are not recognised in the Statement of Financial Position.

Further information on the nature and scale of this collection is contained in the Performance Report on page 8.

National Archaeological Reference Collection & Archaeological Excavation Archives

Historic England maintain collections of archaeological archives and research collections. The permanent collections include human skeletal remains, geographical material, faunal remains, wool collection, charcoal and wood collection, moss collection and archaeobotany.

As well as being significant in their own right, they provide a valuable research resource for heritage professionals and our own staff.

The National Archaeological Reference Collection & Archaeological Excavation Archives are not recorded on the Statement of Financial Position. Further information on the nature and scale of this collection is contained in the Performance Report on page 8.

Historic England Archive

The Historic England Archive holds a collection of 14 million archive items relating to England's historic environment. Historic England holds major collections of national importance covering archaeology, architecture and social and local history. The archive collection includes photographs (terrestrial and aerial), drawings, plans and documents. It includes both digital and non-digital materials.

Archive collections that are recognised in the Statement of Financial Position as 'Heritage Assets; Artefacts & Archives' include dedicated projects that Historic England invested in to create accessible viewing of highlighted areas, including:

- The Images of England <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/photos/englands-places>;

The Britain from Above Collection
www.britainfromabove.org.uk/; and

- Aerial Photograph Explorer <https://historicengland.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=2626ed0c37484d96b8954dd33187084e&mobileBreakPoint=300>

Other Archive Collections are not recorded on the Statement of Financial Position. Further information on the nature and scale of this collection is contained in the Performance Report on page 8.

Preservation and management

The National Heritage Collection

English Heritage has developed an Asset Management Plan (AMP) to manage the National Heritage Collection according to nationally established conservation priorities. This gives English Heritage an awareness of the scale of the conservation deficit in relation to the resources available to it, along with impact assessments of English Heritage's ability to procure the necessary works.

The workstreams within the AMP are as follows:

- Conservation Maintenance Programme: used to fund works to address the conservation defects on heritage assets, specifically on land and buildings;
- Annual Maintenance Programme: planned cyclical and response maintenance;
- Minor Planned Maintenance Programme: small repair projects usually of less than £50,000;
- Major Planned Repair Programme: larger long-term or one-off conservation projects usually of more than £50,000.

The detail on English Heritage's guidance and conservation work can be found at www.english-heritage.org.uk/learn/conservation/

National Archaeological Reference Collection & Archaeological Excavation Archives

The collections are significant assets of national and international importance. Conservation of artefacts within the archaeological archives is carried out to the highest professional standards, with conservation assessments undertaken following excavation and before deposition to the receiving museum if deposition occurs more than 10 years after the initial excavation or where issues have been identified as part of regular monitoring.

Historic England commissioned the National Conservation Service to conduct a review of the collections' storage facilities, and collections are regularly monitored. Historic England are addressing recommendations following support provided from our National Conservation Service membership.

The research and reference collections are accessed by the public as part of our monthly Open Collection days and via tours of the laboratories and archives.

Digital/remote access is provided. Historic England publish research results on collections via open-access publications, principally through the Historic England Research Report Series: <https://historicengland.org.uk/research/results/reports/>

Historic England Archive

Outside of our archaeological artefacts archive, Historic England collects, curates and preserves records for the nation, creating a record of our shared archaeological, architectural and cultural heritage, with a particular focus on photography. We collect material that records England (and the underwater sites around it) and illustrates change both in the presentation and management of historic sites and in the relationships between people and the historic environment.

The Archive building, housing our valuable material, employs rigorous security protocols,

including CCTV surveillance and restricted access, which is routinely reviewed.

Historic England has a statutory obligation to provide access to its archive collections. Public access to our digital assets is primarily provided online.

The Archive was awarded Archive Service Accreditation by the UK Archive Service Accreditation Committee in 2019 and in 2022. The Archive has developed its collections management to be in line with national and international legislation, appropriate sector standards, good practice and ethical codes, including the Copyright, Designs and Patents Act 1988, the Archives and Records Association Code of Ethics (2020), BS 4971: 2017: Conservation and care of archive and library collections and BS EN 16893: 2018: Conservation of Cultural Heritage – Specifications for location, construction and modification of buildings or rooms intended for the storage or use of heritage collections.

Historic England manages a quarterly Archive Collections Review, to discuss collections management, new acquisitions, priorities, proposed deaccessions, and projects.

Acquisition

The National Heritage Collection

Acquisition decisions will consider strategic objectives in relation to the preservation of ancient monuments and historic buildings in England.

Each potential acquisition will be considered on an individual basis with reference to internal policies, and will consider the financial and resource implications and other practical considerations.

Acquisition can be proactively identified or reactive where properties are at risk or offered for potential acquisition.

Historic England, with English Heritage, have identified areas of interest to aid acquisition consideration; special priority will be given to

areas that are poorly represented in the National Heritage Collection. These include buildings, sites and landscapes embodying under-represented narratives and prominent national stories or individuals.

Acquisitions are subject to approval, which includes DCMS approval and, where the acquisition cost exceeds the Delegated Limits, Historic England has to seek the authorisation of the Secretary of State.

National Archaeological Reference Collection & Archaeological Excavation Archives

The majority of the archaeological archives are cared for on a temporary basis and researched as part of our post-excavation programme and prior to their deposition in recognised depositories such as museums.

Each of the major reference collections held has a specific collections policy, based on there being a clearly identified gap in the collection(s), the quality of the item under consideration, appropriate documentation, the transfer of title being agreed and there being available resource and space.

Historic England Archive

Acquisitions will consider the scope of Historic England's collection policy and the item's historical or cultural significance.

Items may not be accessioned if they are in poor condition or present significant preservation challenges beyond our conservation resource.

Acquisitions are discussed in the quarterly Archive Collections Review meetings.

Disposal

Historic England complies with the mandatory guidance on the disposal of heritage assets issued by central government bodies in England. The guidance applies to a wide range of asset types, including historic buildings, monuments memorials, archaeological remains, designed landscapes, battlefields and wrecks.

The detail on Historic England's disposal of heritage assets can be found at <https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/disposal-heritage-assets/guidance-disposals-final-jun-10/>

The majority of the archaeological archives are cared for on a temporary basis and researched

as part of our post-excavation programme and prior to their deposition in recognised depositories such as museums.

Heritage Asset Transactions

The table below provides a summary of transactions relating to heritage assets for the current and previous four accounting periods.

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000	2023 £'000	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Cost of Acquisition	–	–	–	–	–
Value Acquired by Donation	–	192	1,200	–	–
Revaluations/(Impairments) Recognised	952	753	2,255	1,572	3,208
Heritage Assets Charged to Expenditure in Year	12	1	8	35	59

Donated heritage land and buildings received during the year had a value of £nil (2024: £192k). There were no disposals of heritage land and buildings during the year, or in the previous year.

20 Fixed Assets Investments

	2025		2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
At 1 April	–	3,236	–	1,147
Additions to portfolio at cost	–	81	–	1,829
Net gain/(loss) on Investment	–	(76)	–	260
At 31 March	–	3,241	–	3,236

	2025		2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Analysis of investments				
Investment Assets in the UK				
Investment Asset Funds	–	3,238	–	3,234
Cash	–	3	–	2
Total	–	3,241	–	3,236

In June 2022, English Heritage Trustees approved an Investment Policy Statement, setting out risk appetite, target financial returns, and the approach to environmental, social and governance criteria governing the Charity's first investment portfolio. Rathbones were appointed as investment managers for the portfolio, with oversight from the Board's Audit and Risk Committee.

21 Inventories

	2025		2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Inventories	–	6,027	–	7,000
Inventories are stated after the following:				
Inventory Provision Release/(Expense)	–	288	–	54
Inventory Write-Off	7	301	–	282
Total Inventory Adjustment for the Year	7	589	–	336

22 Trade and Other Receivables

	2025		2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Trade Receivables	1,407	2,820	425	2,518
Value Added Tax	2,220	2,169	774	1,671
Prepayments and Accrued Income	6,114	13,707	3,995	9,903
Other Receivables	–	193	22	459
Amount owed by Subsidiary Undertaking	691	–	9,417	–
Total Trade and Other Receivables	10,432	18,889	14,633	14,551

23 Cash and Cash Equivalents

	2025		2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Balance at 1 April	4,086	47,128	13,289	74,195
Net Change in Cash and Cash Equivalents Balances	(2,657)	(19,428)	(9,203)	(27,067)
Balance at 31 March	1,429	27,700	4,086	47,128
The following balances at 31 March were held with:				
Cash				
Government Banking Service	1,283	1,283	3,936	3,937
Commercial Banks	146	19,422	150	15,358
Total Cash	1,429	20,705	4,086	19,295
Cash Equivalents				
Commercial Banks	–	6,995	–	27,833
Balance at 31 March	1,429	27,700	4,086	47,128

24 Financial Instruments

As Historic England has a management agreement with DCMS, it is not exposed to the degree of financial risk normally faced by business entities. Financial instruments play a much more limited role in creating or changing risk than would be typical of the listed companies to which IFRS 7 mainly applies.

Historic England has no borrowings and holds no investments as at 31 March 2025.

The Historic England group subsidiaries have greater financial freedom, enabling them to utilise financial instruments more readily than Historic England.

Surplus funds within The English Heritage Trust are held on short-term (less than one year) fixed interest rate deposit or notice accounts with institutions with low-risk credit ratings, classified as either cash and cash equivalents or current asset investments.

In June 2022, English Heritage approved an Investment Policy Statement, setting out risk appetite, target financial returns, and the approach to environmental, social and governance criteria governing the investment portfolio. An investment manager was appointed to oversee the portfolio.

English Heritage invests amounts that are not required to meet liabilities over the following three years, with the objective of maintaining and growing the real value of the assets and generating stable, sustainable and distributable returns, sufficient to maintain the purchasing power of those distributions. A total return approach (that is, maximising the opportunities for capital growth and income generation within the parameters of the investment policy) is adopted for the investment portfolio.

At 31 March 2025, English Heritage held long-term deposits with an investment manager, amounting to £3,241,000 (2024: £3,236,000).

a) Liquidity Risk

Historic England is funded by grant in aid from DCMS sufficient to meet all forecast expenditure for the year. Long-term financial liabilities, such as lease liabilities, are expected to be funded by future years' grant in aid as payments fall due. Historic England is not therefore exposed to significant liquidity risk.

English Heritage is dependent on generating income to meet planned expenditure. Trustees have reviewed the latest financial projections, which are driven by detailed forecasts of visitor numbers and the member base, and it is sufficient to meet liabilities as they fall due.

b) Interest Rate Risk

English Heritage's amended investment policy targets financial returns and is invested in long-term funds that are subject to investment rate risks. As at 31 March 2025, £76k investment loss has been recognised on the investments (2024: £260k gain).

English Heritage's long-term borrowings are at a fixed rate of interest and are not subject to interest rate risk.

Other financial assets include cash and cash equivalents, current and non-current asset investments, which are not exposed to significant interest rate risk.

c) Currency Risk

English Heritage's investment in funds is denominated in sterling, and includes investments in a large number of unit trusts and similar products, many of which include investment in assets denominated in other currencies. The fund mitigates its exposure to foreign exchange risks by investing in a global spread of equities, bonds and commodities and, therefore, currencies. All other financial assets and liabilities are held in sterling.

d) Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk of financial loss if a customer or counterparty to a financial instrument fails to

meet its contractual obligations. Credit risk largely arises from cash and cash equivalents, fixed asset investments and trade and other receivables.

The group's maximum exposure to credit risk is limited to the value of these assets. The credit risk management policy in relation to trade receivables involves regularly assessing the financial reliability of customers, considering their financial position and historical credit risk.

The changes in amortised cost assets are explained in their respective notes but are not as a result of material changes to credit risk assessments within the year.

e) Valuation and Fair Value Hierarchy

The different levels of the Fair Value Hierarchy set out in IFRS 13 Fair Value Measurement are defined as follows:

Level 1 – uses quoted prices (unadjusted) in active markets for identical assets or liabilities.

Level 2 – uses inputs for the assets or liabilities other than quoted prices that are observable either directly or indirectly.

Level 3 – uses inputs for the assets or liabilities that are not based on observable market data, such as internal models or other valuation methods.

English Heritage currently has investments in an active market through a recognised investment management firm. The investments are quoted in an active market, and are considered to be a recurring level 1 fair value measurement.

Historic England's investment in subsidiaries reflects its interests in other bodies within the HE group. As group bodies are not traded on an active market, fair values are not available for the investments., Historic England considers that the value of the subsidiaries' net assets is an appropriate proxy for fair value. Investments in subsidiaries are considered to be a recurring level 3 fair value movement and relates solely to changes in the net asset value.

There is no material difference between the carrying values and fair values of financial assets and liabilities.

f) Financial Assets and Liabilities

	2025		2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Financial Assets				
Held at Fair Value Through Profit or Loss				
Fixed Asset Investments	–	3,241	–	3,236
Held at Fair Value Through Other Comprehensive Income				
Investments in Subsidiaries	42,869	–	50,761	–
Held at Amortised Costs				
Trade and Other Receivables	2,098	3,013	9,864	2,977
Cash and Cash Equivalents	1,429	27,700	4,086	47,128
	46,396	33,954	64,711	53,341
Financial Liabilities				
Held at Amortised Costs				
Trade and Other Payables	(3,213)	(8,800)	(1,597)	(10,684)
Bank Loans and Overdrafts	–	(22,591)	–	(23,941)
	(3,213)	(31,391)	(1,597)	(34,625)

g) Changes in Liabilities arising from Financing Activities

	2025		2024	
	Lease liabilities £'000	Long term borrowings £'000	Lease liabilities £'000	Long term borrowings £'000
Group				
Balance at 1 April	44,544	24,835	41,458	24,348
Additions	382	–	5,559	–
Disposals	–	–	(176)	–
Finance Charge	1,316	437	1,494	487
Repayments – Interest	(1,316)	(894)	(1,494)	–
Repayments – Capital	(2,463)	–	(2,297)	–
At 31 March	42,463	24,378	44,544	24,835
Historic England				
Balance at 1 April	33,270	–	29,579	–
Additions	133	–	5,383	–
Disposals	–	–	–	–
Finance Charge	1,084	–	1,253	–
Repayments – Interest	(1,084)	–	(1,253)	–
Repayments – Capital	(1,877)	–	(1,692)	–
At 31 March	31,526	–	33,270	–

25 Lease Liability

Total future minimum lease payments under lease liabilities are given in the table below for each of the following periods:

	2025		2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Lease Liabilities for the following periods comprise:				
Land and Buildings				
Not Later than One Year	2,960	3,691	2,942	3,694
Between One and Five Years	11,068	12,808	11,269	13,414
Later than Five Years	35,857	55,509	38,490	58,190
Less Interest Element	(18,359)	(29,694)	(19,431)	(30,911)
Total Land and Buildings	31,526	42,314	33,270	44,387
Other				
Not Later than One Year	–	57	–	43
Between One and Five Years	–	104	–	128
Later than Five Years	–	–	–	–
Less Interest Element	–	(12)	–	(15)
Present Value of Lease Liabilities	–	149	–	156
Total Present Value of Lease Liabilities	31,526	42,463	33,270	44,543

To aid the reader's understanding, the interest element has been disclosed separately.

The right of use assets have been capitalised and are subject to the same revaluation policies as other property, plant and equipment, and are depreciated over the shorter of useful economic life or the lease period, with the outstanding lease obligations (net of interest) shown in payables. Historic England's lease policy is disclosed in note 1q.

Historic England's lease liabilities are secured by the lessors' rights over the leased asset.

26 Trade and Other Payables

	2025		2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Trade and Other Payables for the following periods comprise:				
Current Trade and Other Payables				
Trade Payables	1,737	8,434	850	10,352
Accruals	5,034	15,792	13,311	23,594
Deferred Income	568	19,131	423	20,217
Income Tax and Social Security	962	1,919	967	1,979
Pensions	1,119	1,453	23	352
Other Payables	74	365	43	332
Amount Owed to Subsidiary Undertaking	1,402	–	704	–
Total Current Trade and Other Payables	10,896	47,094	16,321	56,826
Non-Current Trade and Other Payables				
Pensions	127	127	131	130
Deferred Income	–	2,141	–	2,139
Other Payables	–	–	–	–
Accrued Interest	–	–	–	–
Total Non-Current Trade and Other Payables	127	2,268	131	2,269

27 Provisions

	Group		
	Early Retirement & Restructuring £'000	Legal & Constructive Obligations £'000	Total £'000
Balance at 1 April 2024	–	186	186
Provided in the Year	6,242	162	6,404
Provisions Released in the Year	–	(80)	(80)
Provisions Utilised in the Year	–	(51)	(51)
Balance at 31 March 2025	6,242	217	6,459
Balance at 1 April 2023	–	287	287
Provided in the Year	–	34	34
Provisions Released in the Year	–	(123)	(123)
Provisions Utilised in the Year	–	(12)	(12)
Balance at 31 March 2024	–	186	186

Provisions for legal and constructive obligations have been calculated based on the claim amount and the likelihood of payment. Payment of the amount provided is likely to be incurred in the next financial year. Historic England has no identified provisions (2024: £nil).

28 Other Non-Current Borrowings

	2025		2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Bank Loans and Overdrafts	–	22,591	–	23,941
Total Other Non-Current Borrowings	–	22,591	–	23,941

On 12 March 2021 the charity entered into a Repayable Finance Agreement with The Secretary of State for the Department of Digital, Culture, Media & Sport and The Arts Council of England pertaining to a loan of £23.4 million from the Culture Recovery Fund. The loan was awarded to offset projected unrestricted deficits and provide liquidity during the recovery from the Covid-19 pandemic. The loan will cover essential business expenditure (staff and property running costs) and critical maintenance, ensure the safety of the sites and collections and the retention of specialist skills and expertise, and enable the charity to deliver its core charitable activities. The loan is unsecured, with a term of 20 years, a 4-year repayment holiday and an interest rate of 2% per annum. The first £894k interest payment has been repaid in March 2025. The total balance at 31 March 2025 was £24.4m (2024: £24.8m), of which £1.8 was due within one year (2024: £0.9m). There are no financial covenants, however there are non-financial covenants requiring the charity to exercise pay restraint for at least 18 months; demonstrate a commitment to increasing its organisational diversity; demonstrate a commitment to progress towards net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050; demonstrate a commitment to increase educational/ outreach work.

The loan is classified as a financial liability measured at amortised cost under IFRS 9.

29 Commitments

	2025		2024	
	Historic England £'000	Group £'000	Historic England £'000	Group £'000
Capital Commitments				
Not Later Than One Year	69	2,318	165	4,329
Later Than One Year and Not Later Than Five Years	70	78	–	9
Later Than Five Years	–	–	–	–
	139	2,396	165	4,338
Other Financial Commitments				
Not Later Than One Year	9,145	22,655	8,450	22,468
Later Than One Year and Not Later Than Five Years	4,529	4,549	2,542	2,864
Later Than Five Years	–	–	–	–
	13,674	27,204	10,992	25,332
Total Capital and Other Financial Commitments	13,813	29,600	11,157	29,670

Both cancellable and non-cancellable commitments are included.

30 Contingent Liabilities

Various outstanding legal claims existed at 31 March 2025. Provision has been made in the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2025 for those outstanding liabilities that will probably require settlement, and where the amount of the liability can be reliably estimated.

In addition to the above paragraph, Under IAS 37, the Historic England group has identified £161,000 of contingent liabilities (2024: £65,000), of which £nil (2024: £nil) relate to Historic England.

31 Contingent Assets

In 2024–25, Historic England have recognised a contingent asset relating to the review of the partial exemption calculation. While the proposed partial exemption has not been agreed with HM Revenue & Customs (HMRC), it has been discussed in detail, and HMRC have agreed that in principle a claim can be made. Historic England group therefore have an unquantifiable contingent asset.

32 Subsidiary Undertakings

a) The English Heritage Trust (incorporating the results of English Heritage Trading Limited)

The English Heritage Trust was incorporated in 2010, becoming a subsidiary of the Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (HBMCE) on 12 December 2014.

HBMCE (trading as Historic England) is the sole member of The English Heritage Trust.

The English Heritage Trust is the sole shareholder of English Heritage Trading Limited, which was incorporated in 1994.

The results of English Heritage Trading Limited have been consolidated into the results of The English Heritage Trust.

The results of The English Heritage Trust for the year are shown below. These differ from the disclosure in Note 2g due to the elimination of inter-company transactions on consolidation.

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Income and Expenditure Resources		
Total Incoming Resources	155,176	141,415
Total Resources Expended	(162,830)	(155,493)
Net Gains/Losses on Investments	(76)	260
Net Income for the Year	(7,730)	(13,818)
Reconciliation of Funds		
Total Funds Brought Forward	50,622	64,440
Total Funds Carried Forward	42,892	50,622

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Net Assets as at 31 March		
Non-Current Assets	67,312	65,973
Current Assets	45,842	61,453
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due Within One Year	(39,071)	(49,538)
Creditors: Amounts Falling Due After More Than One Year	(31,191)	(27,266)
Net Assets	42,892	50,622
Restricted	13,385	10,531
Unrestricted	29,507	40,091
Funds	42,892	50,622

b) English Heritage Limited

Historic England is the sole member of English Heritage Limited, a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in 1984. English Heritage Limited was dormant throughout the current and prior years.

c) Historic England Limited

Historic England is the sole member of Historic England Limited, a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in 2014. Historic England Limited has been dormant throughout the current and prior years.

d) Historic England Foundation

Historic England is the sole member of The Historic England Foundation, a company established in 2017. The Historic England Foundation was awarded £27,000 in grants during 2019–20 from Historic England. The following results of The Historic England Foundation have been included in the consolidated results:

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Income and Expenditure Resources		
Total Incoming Resources	258	410
Total Resources Expended	(233)	(451)
Net Income for the Year	14	(41)
Reconciliation of Funds		
Total Funds Brought Forward	206	247
Total Funds Carried Forward	231	206

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Net Assets as at 31 March		
Non-Current Assets	14	27
Current Assets	219	233
Current Liabilities	(12)	(54)
Net Assets	231	206
Retained Funds	231	206

e) Historic England (Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings) Limited

Historic England is the sole member of Historic England (Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings) Limited, a company established in March 2022. The company opened to the public in September 2022 and provides services to visitors to Shrewsbury Flaxmill Maltings.

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Statement of Comprehensive Income		
Total Incoming Resources	176	259
Total Resources Expended	(352)	(283)
Net Income for the Year	(176)	(24)
Reconciliation of Funds		
Total Funds Brought Forward	(67)	(43)
Total Funds Carried Forward	(243)	(67)
	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Net Assets as at 31 March		
Current Assets	227	189
Current Liabilities	(470)	(247)
Non-Current Liabilities	–	(9)
Net Assets	(243)	(67)
Total Shareholder's Funds	(243)	(67)

f) The Iveagh Bequest

The Commissioners of Historic England are also the trustee of the Iveagh Bequest, a trust established in 1929 by the Iveagh Bequest (Kenwood) Act for the benefit of Kenwood House. In 1997, Statutory Instrument No 482 transferred custodian trusteeship to Historic England.

The Iveagh Bequest was dormant throughout the current and prior years.

33 Events After the Reporting Period

There were no reportable events between 31 March 2025 and the date the accounts were authorised for issue by the Commissioner and the Accounting Officer. The financial statements were authorised for issue on the date they were certified by the Comptroller and Auditor General.



We are a public organisation that protects and brings new life to the heritage that matters to us all, so it lives on and is loved for longer.

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