



Department  
for Business  
Innovation & Skills

Alastair McCapra  
Chairman  
National Heritage Science Forum  
c/o Katy Lithgow  
Heelis  
Kemble Drive  
Swindon SN2 2NA

Jo Johnson MP  
Minister of State for Universities and  
Science

1 Victoria Street  
London  
SW1H 0ET

T +44 (0) 20 7215 5000  
E [enquiries@bis.gov.uk](mailto:enquiries@bis.gov.uk)

[www.gov.uk/bis](http://www.gov.uk/bis)

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Dear Alastair,

Thank you for your letter of 17 December, about proposals for capital investment in heritage science. I apologise for the delay in replying.

You mentioned the potential capital investment in heritage science which was outlined in the consultation on long-term capital investment in science and research published in April 2014. The Government announced a number of projects following this consultation which included projects described in the consultation document as well as a number suggested by respondents. Those selected for investment were detailed in the capital roadmap published as part of the Government response to the consultation in December 2014:

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/383439/14-1248-science-capital-consultation-response.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/383439/14-1248-science-capital-consultation-response.pdf)

All projects identified in the original consultation document and the 36 detailed projects proposed by stakeholders through the capital consultation exercise were assessed against the published criteria of: affordability (including revenue costs), excellence, impact, skills development, and efficiency and leverage of other funding sources.

Additionally the projects identified were judged to be suitable for funding in the short term and to support the then Government's wider priorities: the eight great technologies; the industrial strategy; and developing collaboration across disciplines and boundaries.

Budgetary constraints and the competition between projects for investment meant that unfortunately not all proposals could be taken forward.

I hope that you find this information useful.

Yours sincerely,

JO JOHNSON MP