



Conservators at The Natural History Museum carrying out the biannual condition assessment of the blue whale skeleton (Hope) in the Hintze Hall.
Image by Arianna Bernucci, © Trustees of The Natural History Museum

Prospectus 2019–20

The National Heritage Science Forum (NHSF) brings together the leading organisations that create and use heritage science research. Members work together to build the community of heritage science in the UK and demonstrate its public benefit.

The Forum achieves this by:

- Sharing knowledge, ideas and innovations amongst its members
- Promoting interdisciplinary collaboration
- Strengthening the infrastructure to support future research and access to it.



In 2019 and 2020, the Forum's priorities are:

- To engage the heritage sector with the new strategic framework for heritage science and coordinate its delivery.
- To undertake policy and advocacy work that will generate an environment that is supportive of heritage science research.
- To work in partnership with E-RIHS UK on strengthening the research and innovation infrastructure (physical and digital) for cultural heritage.
- To grow the Forum's membership so that it better represents the range of organisations that produce and use heritage science.

Delivery of the strategic framework for heritage science

The strategic framework for heritage science in the UK, 2018-2023 has three strands, each with an associated working group: a skilled and diverse heritage science community; excellent heritage science research; and demonstrating the social and economic impact of heritage science.

Through our working groups Forum members will deliver the key parts of the framework. In 2019-20 we will also strengthen our network of external partnerships and encourage wider engagement with the strategic framework. We will monitor progress and champion delivery of the outcomes across the heritage science community.

www.heritagescienceforum.org.uk/what-we-do/strategic-framework

Policy and advocacy

We will coordinate policy responses and advocacy work to represent the collective views of our members. The post-Brexit landscape for heritage science continues to be an important focus. Priority areas are the international movement of labour, access to skills and infrastructure, maintaining international research collaboration opportunities, and securing access to funding programmes.

In addition, we will work to ensure that the interests of the heritage science community are represented in ever wider heritage and academic debates.

Infrastructure

Building on our work during 2018-19, we will continue to engage with UK Research and Innovation's development of the first national research and innovation infrastructure roadmap for the UK. We will work with our strategic partner E-RIHS.UK (the European Research Infrastructure for Heritage Science UK, <https://e-rihs.ac.uk/>) towards the establishment of a UK heritage science infrastructure, access to that infrastructure by users, and links to the European distributed research infrastructure.

Membership development

Our new membership and operational structure will make membership of the Forum more accessible to smaller organisations. In 2019-20 we will work to build the Forum's membership and further unite the sector to maximise the benefits of cooperation and collaboration.

Join the Forum

NHSF members benefit from playing an active role in the community of heritage and academic organisations that engage with heritage science research. The Forum provides a platform for sharing information and collaborating to shape the heritage science research landscape. It supports efficiencies by facilitating access to shared resources and it helps make better use of resources by sharing research priorities and developments. It uses the collective strengths of its members to influence policy and speak on behalf of the community.

Membership rates

We welcome applications from all organisations with an interest in heritage science. Annual membership rates are linked to turnover.

Turnover of < £1 million: £500 per annum

Turnover of £1-20 million: £1,000 per annum

Turnover of > £20 million: £2,500 per annum

The membership year runs from 1st May to 30th April each year though applications are welcome at any point in the year and fees are adjusted pro rata.

For information on membership benefits and how to apply please see:

www.heritagescienceforum.org.uk/members

Email

administrator@heritagescienceforum.org.uk

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