

# 4 key recommendations

## Recommendation 1:

Capturing the impact of heritage science involves demonstrating the contribution that the application of science and technology to understanding heritage, the management of heritage and engagement with heritage makes to society, the economy and new knowledge.

Do NHSF members agree?

## Recommendation 2:

An impact toolkit should be developed by NHSF, in consultation with and for the benefit of the wider heritage science community, that adapts and re-uses existing methods of assessing impact as far as possible.

## Recommendation 3:

The following three methods could be adapted to form part of the heritage science impact toolkit

- ODI REF impact toolkit (for planning)
- Science Foundation Ireland matrix (to map activity/projects to a range of values (societal challenges))
- DCMS Culture and Heritage Capital Framework (emerging methodology for economic assessment)

## Recommendation 4:

NHSF convenes a series of workshops or roundtables to consult the heritage science community, key stakeholders and end users, on the development of an impact framework (identification of indicators and metrics) to form part of the toolkit.

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- Guidance and resources to help organisations assess and communicate impact

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**An impact toolkit should be developed by NHSF, in consultation with and for the benefit of the wider heritage science community, that adapts and re-uses existing methods of assessing impact as far as possible.**

- A heritage science community that is broader than the heritage sector
- Benefits to users of the toolkit
- Beneficial collectively if one outcome is an evidence hub

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- Easier for people to do
- Easier to communicate to others

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Science Foundation Ireland  
<https://www.sfi.ie/funding/award-management/research-impact/>

- SFI defines impact as the “demonstrable contribution that excellent research makes to society and the economy” SFI classifies the impacts of scientific research according to 8 pillars which are underpinned by 3 thematic areas
- SFI defined this framework as part of the Small Advanced Economies Initiative [“Broadening the Scope of Impact”](#). Impact matrices.
- Most closely aligned to UN Sustainable Development goals.



## **Recommendation 4:**

**NHSF convenes a series of workshops or roundtables to consult the heritage science community, key stakeholders and end users, on the development of an impact framework (identification of indicators and metrics) to form part of the toolkit.**

- Common language
- Common evidence?
- Common indicators and metrics?

**For discussion:**

- **Thoughts on the recommendations**
- **What can we do ourselves/ where do we need help?**
- **Where might help come from/ what are budget or fundraising needs?**
- **Who are our potential partners/ groups to involve in the development process?**