National Heritage Science Forum

Research Working Group

Member Council Meeting Update

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11/10/2021

Research Working Group (15 members)

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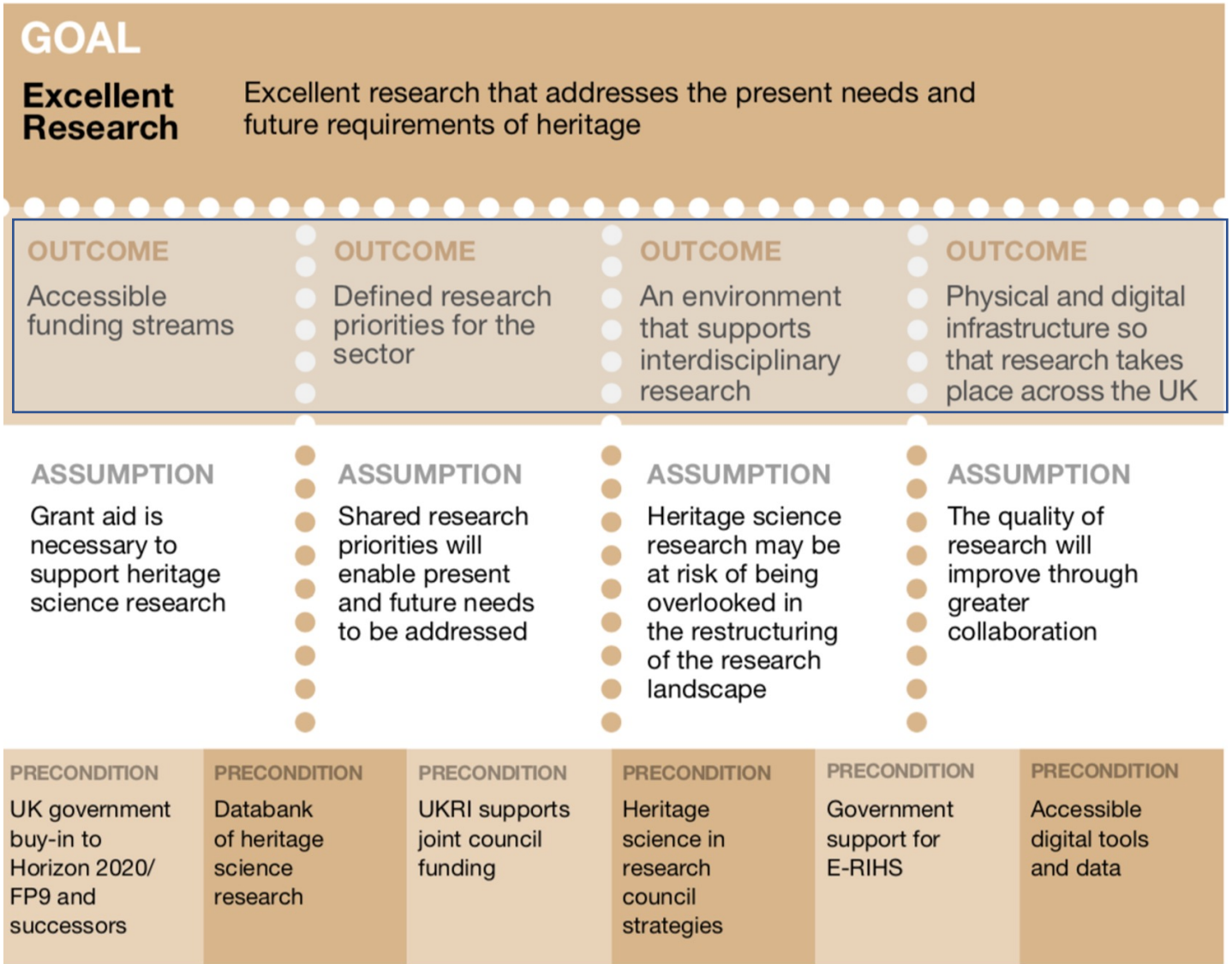

1. Accessible funding streams

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What	How
Promote and engage with funding streams including Horizon Europe, JPI-CH, CapCo.	publicise calls and deadlines through newsletter and social media - encourage and facilitate collaboration amongst members; e.g. to enhance research within organisations, build awareness of research across the community, help identification of collaborations, help career development. - enquire about successor to JPI-CH and UK input to it (AHRC).

2. Defined research priorities

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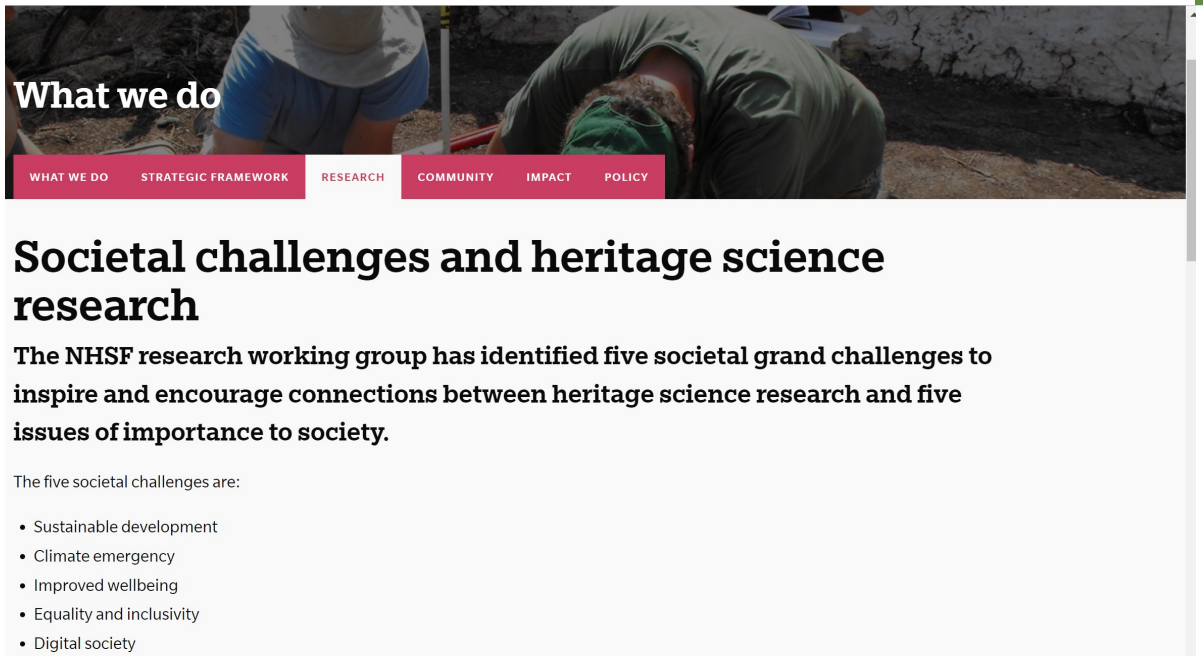

Action	
Use Societal Challenges blueprint for action to catalyse conversations about the role of heritage science research in addressing the five challenges.	Collect and publicise case studies on how heritage science research and practice contribute to addressing the 5 societal challenges. e.g. how member organisations are addressing the challenges, evidence might come from parallels in research strategies.

2. Defined research priorities

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Action	
Align NHSF's work to promote societal challenges to wider campaigns	e.g. sign up to Climate Heritage Network; List on Heritage Research Hub; feed into 2021 Heritage Statement.
Challenge professional research practice to address societal challenges or account for public value or consider impact on values of communities;	Could produce a template for research ethics statements. Investigate working with ICCROM on this.

3. An environment that supports interdisciplinary research

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Action	
Clear messaging on value of people. Look at how sector might be affected by cuts to funding or employment and impact of restrictions to international mobility (C-19; Brexit)	-approach Icon HSG and other membership bodies representing heritage scientists to investigate joint-messaging on value of people.

4. Physical and digital infrastructure so that research takes place across the UK

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Action	
Engagement with development of UK research infrastructure for heritage science and conservation research. - Participation in AHRC Heritage Science Scoping Group (infrastructure focus). - Engagement with AHRC (and other research councils as appropriate) on infrastructure development.	-Participation in AHRC HSSG March-July 2021 on infrastructure development. Liaison with infrastructure & engagement Fellows on development of infrastructure bid April-June 2021. Presentation on AHRC infrastructure policy and engagement Fellows' report to be given at Member Council on 11 October 2021.

Research Group proposed actions 2022-2023

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Societal Challenges Paper: tool to support the spectrum of societal challenges by identifying gaps in research and linking this with practice which also demonstrates impact and informs policy.

- A two year plan
- **2022-2023** – prioritise societal challenges and collate publications on each area to identify strengths and gaps
- **2023-2024** – use this information to make links of research with practice and identify areas where help is needed with the translation of these academic papers to a more approachable format for practitioners.

Research Group proposed actions 2022-2023

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Action	
Defined research priorities for the sector: Scope future research challenges by drawing on input to societal challenges mapping, possible collation of existing research above, sector consultation.	Could help to influence future funding programmes (e.g. testing RICHeS infrastructure; or emerging from and supporting goals of 2021 Heritage Statement; and/or next strategic framework for heritage science (beyond 2023).

Research Group proposed actions 2022-2023

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Action	
Databank of heritage science research – builds on Filling the Gaps work to understand which of the previous (2009) research priorities, what has not been addressed, and what new challenges have emerged. Would also demonstrate the multidisciplinary nature of research and help to highlight research and encourage its reuse.	Challenge = what could NHSF do that would be a high-profile enough resource? Who could we partner with to achieve a resource if one is desirable? Could also link to digital infrastructure to support HS research and OA work (1.4.3). Could look at what exists in terms of publication repositories and how to link to them.

Research Group proposed actions 2022-2023

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Action	
Introduce a secondment scheme between members to increase skills set and foster research collaborations	Fundraising towards supporting longer term secondments