



Historic England

CORPORATE PLAN

2023–26

INTRODUCTION

Our purpose at Historic England is to improve people's lives by championing and protecting the historic environment. Through our work, collaboration, creativity and expertise we want everyone to be able to connect with and learn from our heritage.

With a focus on six priority areas, our Corporate Plan provides a framework for our work as an organisation and helps maintain a collective approach to delivering on our long-term vision.

Supported by this Plan, we will achieve a step change in each of the priority areas over the next three years and take a big leap forward on the journey towards our vision of an historic environment that everyone can connect with and learn from, and that we are proud to pass on to future generations.

OUR PURPOSE

To improve people's lives by championing and protecting the historic environment.

OUR VISION

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

How we do things is as important as what we do and that's where our Values come in. They inform and influence how we go about every part of our work.

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's understandable, available and useful to everyone

RESPONSIBILITY

We are accountable to the public and we always act with integrity

OUR THREE AREAS OF FOCUS

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.

Connected Communities

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

Active Participation

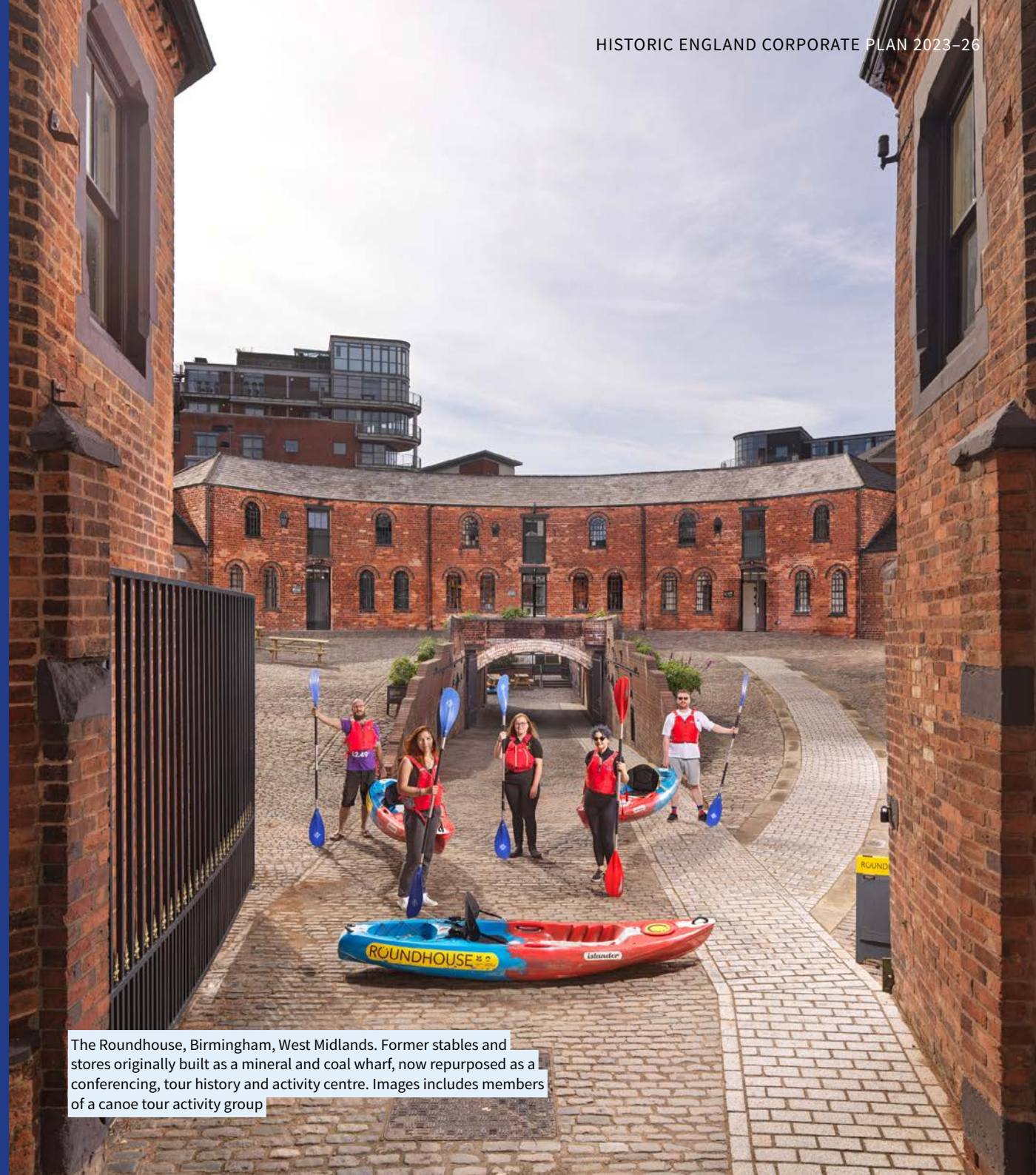
We will inspire and equip people to take action in support of the places they care about.



Cleveland Pools, Bath, Somerset. Believed to be the oldest surviving public outdoor swimming pools in England. Image includes members of Almost Synchro, synchronised swimming team

2023-26 PRIORITIES

1. Better Places
2. Inclusive Opportunities
3. Planning, Listing, Conservation Advice and Investment
4. Climate Action
5. Stewardship of the National Collections
6. Developing Historic England



The Roundhouse, Birmingham, West Midlands. Former stables and stores originally built as a mineral and coal wharf, now repurposed as a conferencing, tour history and activity centre. Images includes members of a canoe tour activity group

BETTER PLACES

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

- A.** Economically and socially disadvantaged places become safer and more prosperous due to investment in their heritage, and in the skills required to sustain it.
- B.** People's pride in their local place has improved due to our work.
- C.** Our work has a positive impact on the wellbeing of people and communities.

INCLUSIVE OPPORTUNITIES

Everyone can connect with, enjoy, and benefit from the historic environment.

- A.** We are more inclusive and role model greater diversity in our people and practices.
- B.** A greater diversity of people engage with the historic environment through the work that we do and the programmes and organisations we fund.
- C.** The heritage sector is more inclusive and benefits from greater diversity.

PLANNING, LISTING, CONSERVATION ADVICE AND INVESTMENT

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

- A.** Heritage assets and historic places are adapted and changed in sustainable ways that respect their significance.
- B.** More people discover, help to save and protect the historic places they care about.
- C.** Our partners, including local authorities, have the skills and knowledge they need to effect positive change.

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CLIMATE ACTION

Our leadership ensures that heritage plays an important role in the fight to limit climate change impacts.

- A.** Our own carbon emissions continue to reduce and remain on target to achieve net zero by 2040.
- B.** More organisations in the heritage sector are committed to achieving net zero by 2050 or earlier.
- C.** Approaches to adaptation are continuously improved and shared, including the handling of unavoidable losses.
- D.** People are better equipped to make historic buildings and places more resilient to our changing climate.
- E.** More buildings and places have been adapted for resilience and carbon saving.
- F.** Climate change policy across local and national government better reflects the positive role of heritage.

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STEWARDSHIP OF THE NATIONAL COLLECTIONS

The effective management of the National Collections mean they have a sustainable future.

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- A.** 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.
- B.** More people are using and engaging with our Archive services and collections.

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DEVELOPING HISTORIC ENGLAND

We are a valued, adaptable organisation, equipped to deliver on our strategy.

- A.** Our people have the skills, knowledge, and resilience to perform well where they are most needed, and get things done easily.
- B.** We have transformed our systems and data capability, improved access to our expertise and make better use of the information we hold.
- C.** We have a cost-effective office estate that adapts to the evolving workplace needs of our people.
- D.** Strengthened and diversified income streams mean we consistently deliver for heritage in an uncertain economic environment.

WORKING TOGETHER

Work with us to champion heritage and improve lives.

Together, we can create an even better future for our heritage so we can all keep enjoying the history on our doorstep.

Get involved at [historicengland.org.uk](https://www.historicengland.org.uk)



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St Mungo's volunteer gardening group at work at St Peter's Church, Castle Park, Bristol