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COMPLETE

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Page 3: Your responses

Q1 Do you agree to your response being made available to the public? **Yes**

Page 4: Your responses - about you

Q2 Are you answering this consultation on behalf of yourself as an individual or in another capacity? **On behalf of an organisation, public body or charity**

Page 5: Your responses - your permissions

Q3 Do you agree to the name of your organisation, company or local authority being made available to the public alongside your response? **Yes (please provide the name of the organisation, company or local authority): RTPI Scotland**

Page 6: Your responses - your permissions

Q4 Do you agree to the name of your community group being made available to the public alongside your response? **Respondent skipped this question**

Page 7: Your responses - your permissions

Q5 Do you agree to your name being made available to the public alongside your response? **Respondent skipped this question**

Page 8: Purpose and status

Q6 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements?

The purpose of the Historic Environment Policy is clear **Agree**
 The status of the Historic Environment Policy is clear **Agree**
 I understand what the policy is trying to achieve **Agree**

Historic Environment Policy Consultation

Q7 Which of the following functions do you think the draft Historic Environment Policy performs? Please select all that apply.

Encourages a consistent and integrated approach to decision making in support of positive outcomes for the people of Scotland

,

Promotes people's participation in decisions concerning the historic environment

,

Supports the vision and aims of Our Place in Time, Scotland's strategy for the historic environment

,

Provides guidance for decision making affecting the historic environment

Q8 The proposed name for the policy is the Historic Environment Policy (HEP). To what extent do you feel this name is a suitable title, reflecting the policy's content and status?

4

Q9 Do you have any alternative suggestions for the title of the finalised policy?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 9: Challenges and Opportunities

Q10 A holistic approach to the environment Today's rural and urban landscapes are the result of human interaction with the environment. A holistic approach recognises that every part of a landscape has relationships with every other part. We have to look at each part of a landscape with reference to the whole, and recognise that natural and cultural benefits and outcomes are often interdependent.

5

Q11 Comments:

Respondent skipped this question

Q12 Climate change Our approach to decision-making affecting the historic environment must recognise and respond to ongoing climate change and support reductions in carbon emissions and waste.

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Q13 Comments:

As well as supporting reductions in carbon emissions and waste, decision-making that affects the historic environment will also need to account for mitigating the impacts of climate change.

Q14 Community participation and empowerment The more people engage with and participate in decision-making affecting the historic environment, the more sound the decisions we make will be. Decisions about the historic environment don't just have an impact on the conservation of the historic environment – they also have an impact on people. Decision-makers need to weigh up potentially conflicting needs in an open and transparent way, so that everyone can understand how the decision was made.

5

Q15 Comments:

Respondent skipped this question

Q16 Diversity and equality Our historic environment should be accessible and provide a source of inspiration, enjoyment and learning for everyone. It should reflect the whole of our society. We need to think and talk about the past in a way that includes everyone, and that celebrates and recognises the diversity of our heritage.

5

Q17 Comments:

Respondent skipped this question

Q18 Economic change A strong economy supports effective management of the historic environment. The historic environment also contributes to inclusive and sustainable economic growth. We should always aim to maximise this, and make sure that people are aware of it. We need to be sure that our systems are flexible enough to handle changes in the economy.

5

Q19 Comments:

Respondent skipped this question

Q20 Funding Not all elements of the historic environment can make enough money to cover the costs of maintaining them. The future of some sites will rely on external funding. There are difficult choices to be made about where to spend the available money, and not all sites and projects will receive funding. We have to be able to prioritise and think creatively about approaches to funding.

5

Q21 Comments:

Respondent skipped this question

Q22 Intangible heritage Established ways of managing the historic environment are based around physical, tangible things. These might be buildings, monuments, sites, places, areas or landscapes. Intangible heritage includes things that do not have a physical presence – things like stories, skills, or traditions. We need to improve our understanding of this intangible heritage. We need to celebrate and recognise it properly so that it can inform our understanding of the past and the decisions we take. **5**

Q23 Comments:

Respondent skipped this question

Q24 Land management Agricultural and land use practices and policies have an impact on our historic environment. They change constantly, so we must make sure that systems and principles for the management of the historic environment can accommodate and address these changes. **4**

Q25 Comments:

Suggest that systems and principles for the management of the historic environment should also be well integrated with land use policy and practice, so that the latter takes into account the challenges and opportunities offered by the historic environment.

Q26 Creating and maintaining places The places where we live, work and play are central to our wellbeing. The historic environment needs to be central to decisions about how we create, maintain and enhance our places. Ensuring places are sustainable, viable, vibrant and attractive is an ongoing challenge, and is central to the successful management of their character. **5**

Q27 Comments:

Respondent skipped this question

Q28 Regulatory change When regulations change, it can alter how decisions are made. This might include changes to planning law or environmental assessment law. When changes like this happen, we will need to take them into account. To make this possible, our processes have to be flexible, responsive and led by an agreed set of principles. **5**

Q29 Comments:

Respondent skipped this question

Q30 Roles and responsibilities Taking care of the historic environment is a shared responsibility. Sometimes the interests of different groups and individuals overlap, and this can cause confusion and tension about roles and responsibilities. We need to make sure that everyone understands how and why key decisions that affect the historic environment are made. **5**

Q31 Comments:

Respondent skipped this question

Q32 Skills and capacity Good management relies on decision-makers having access to the right skills and expertise to make informed decisions. We need to make sure that there is time and support for decision-makers to do their jobs effectively. **5**

Q33 Comments:

Respondent skipped this question

Q34 Societal change Our population is ageing and shifting. It is better connected than ever before. Our communities are growing and our lifestyles are changing. All of these things should influence how we manage the historic environment. We need to make sure that we are recognising and anticipating these trends, and that our systems proactively respond to them. **5**

Q35 Comments:

Respondent skipped this question

Q36 Sustainable tourism Tourism brings huge benefits to the wider economy and specifically provides financial resources for looking after many historic sites and buildings. High visitor numbers can also affect the sites themselves, and create challenges for managing them. We need to make sure that we effectively balance these effects to secure long-term benefits. **4**

Q37 Comments:

Suggest using 'manage' instead of 'balance' in the final sentence. 'Manage' implies a more proactive and positive role for HES.

Q38 Are there any gaps in the challenges and opportunities listed above?

Yes:
The degradation of the natural environment as a whole - not just climate change - poses a significant challenge for Scotland's historic environment, and RTPI Scotland suggests that the final HEP should acknowledge this.

Historic Environment Policy Consultation

Q39 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following core principles for Understanding and Recognition?

A wide range of values can contribute to cultural significance	Strongly agree
Knowledge and information about the historic environment is critical to the understanding of our past, present and future. A place must be understood for its significance to be identified	Strongly agree
The historic environment evolves over time, and so does our understanding and appreciation of it	Strongly agree
We are all responsible for enhancing our knowledge and making it widely accessible	Strongly agree

Q40 Do you have any comments on these core principles for Understanding and Recognition?

Respondent skipped this question

Q41 Do you have any comments on the policy for Understanding and Recognition?

RTPI Scotland notes that the draft HEP does not provide any guidance or benchmarking for how 'cultural significance' should be measured. This could lead to uncertainty and confusion for decision makers. Given the importance that HEP1 lends to 'cultural significance' in adopting a holistic approach to the historic environment, the Institute suggests that some guidance should be issued on defining this.

Page 11: Principles and policies: Managing Change

Q42 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following core principles for Managing Change?

Change has to happen for places to thrive	Agree
Good decisions take a long-term view	Strongly agree
Good decisions are transparent, robust, consistent and proportionate	Strongly agree
Caring for our historic environment benefits everyone, now and in the future	Strongly agree
To manage the future of the historic environment in a sustainable way, its significance, and the significance of elements within it have to be understood	Strongly agree
Good decisions make sure that nothing is lost without considering its value first and exploring options for avoiding its loss	Strongly agree
Good decisions retain the cultural significance of the historic environment	Strongly agree

Q43 Do you have any comments on these core principles for Managing Change?

Please see comments above regarding defining 'cultural significance'.

Q44 Do you have any comments on the policies for Managing Change?

The consultation document preamble to HEP 2 and 3 states that 'There will be occasions where conflicting needs have to be balanced.' As elsewhere in this response RTPI Scotland suggests using the word 'manage' instead of 'balance'. This suggests a more proactive approach to change on the part of HES and other decision makers working in the historic environment.

Page 12: Principles and policies: Working Together

Q45 To what extent do you agree or disagree with the following core principles for Working Together?

Everyone has a stake in the historic environment and how it is looked after **Strongly agree**

Effective management is a collective effort **Strongly agree**

Effective management should be undertaken in balance with the surrounding environment **Strongly agree**

The best management involves empowering and involving communities **Strongly agree**

Early dialogue and close collaboration lead to better outcomes **Strongly agree**

Q46 Do you have any comments on these core principles for Working Together? **Respondent skipped this question**

Q47 Do you have any comments on the policies for Working Together?

The consultation document preamble to HEP 5 and 6 states that 'Changes to our society, climate and economy create significant challenges for the historic environment.' RTPI Scotland suggests that 'climate' should be replaced with 'natural environment'. For example, declines in biodiversity are likely to impact on the historic environment.

HEP 5 states that 'Everyone should have the opportunity to enjoy our historic environment, to contribute to our shared knowledge and to participate in decision-making.' The role of professional judgement in delivering sound decision making is not discussed here, though it is a crucial element of working together to make good choices.

Page 13: Managing Change Guidance

Q48 Are there any missing or any unnecessary? **Respondent skipped this question**

Page 14: Impact of the new draft policy

Q49 To what extent do you agree with the results of our environmental assessment? **4**

Q50 Do you have any comments on our environmental assessment? **Respondent skipped this question**

Q51 To what extent do you agree with the results of our equalities impact assessment? **3**

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Q52 Do you have any comments on our equalities impact assessment?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 15: Glossary

Q53 Do you agree with our key terms and definitions?

No - please explain which terms and definitions should be reviewed:
RTPI Scotland suggests that it would be beneficial to make reference to the 'public interest' imperative of the planning system under this definition.

Q54 Is the glossary of key terms and definitions useful? **Yes**

Q55 Are there any terms missing from the glossary?

Respondent skipped this question

Page 16: Any further comments

Q56 Do you have any further comments to add?

Respondent skipped this question
