



Building a new lead body for the historic environment

The Historic Environment Scotland Bill (2014)

- The Historic Environment Scotland Bill was introduced to the Scottish Parliament by Fiona Hyslop, Cabinet Secretary for Culture and External Affairs, on 3 March 2014
- It provides for the creation of a new lead body for Scotland's Historic Environment, formed by bringing together Historic Scotland and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland (RCAHMS)

Key Bill Milestones

March 2014

- Oral and written evidence to Education & Culture Committee begins

June 2014

- Stage 1 debate at Scottish Parliament

Mid-August 2014

- Stage 2 commences

Early November 2014

- Stage 3 commences

January 2015

- Royal Assent granted

April 2015

- Secondary legislation. Quorate Board in place. New body comes into legal existence

October 2015

- The new body takes on full responsibility

New lead body for the historic environment

- The new lead body for the historic environment - known as Historic Environment Scotland (HES) for the purposes of the Bill - is to be created by bringing together Historic Scotland and the Royal Commission on the Ancient and Historical Monuments of Scotland
- The preferred model for the new organisation is a Non Departmental Public Body (NDPB) which is expected to apply for charitable status
- HES will start work in April 2015 and will be expected to play a leading role in delivering the Historic Environment Strategy – *Our Place in Time*
- In terms of governance, the new body will have a Chairman and a Board. The Board will be responsible for ensuring the delivery of the organisation's functions and will be accountable to Ministers and Parliament
- An NDPB rather than a direct Government agency is believed to be the best way to deliver the range of duties and responsibilities of the new body
- The creation of a new lead body for Scotland's historic environment is intended to provide a sustainable way to safeguard the skills, knowledge, expertise and experience that exist in both organisations
- All of the current functions of RCAHMS and Historic Scotland will transfer into the new body
- The move to HES presents a real opportunity to raise the profile and impact of the sector in which we work

The new body will start work in April 2015 and will play a leading role in delivering the Historic Environment Strategy - Our Place in Time.



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Transition to the new lead body

- Colleagues across Historic Scotland, RCAHMS and the Scottish Government are working together to create a new public body (HES) that can take a leading role in the historic environment
- As part of this, a shared vision and purpose for HES is being developed that embraces the broad range of skills, knowledge, functions and responsibilities that exists in Historic Scotland and RCAHMS
- Our people are essential to the success of the current transition programme and staff across both organisations are receiving regular updates as well as being actively encouraged to contribute to the creation of HES
- Consultation with stakeholders and partners is also on-going to ensure HES can deliver for the historic environment and the Scottish Government

Historic Environment Strategy

- Published in March 2014, *Our Place in Time* – The Historic Environment Strategy for Scotland - is available on the Scottish Government website: www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2014/03/8522
- This is a first for Scotland and demonstrates the Scottish Government's commitment to the historic environment and the contribution it makes to Scotland's culture, society and economy
- This is Scotland's strategy. It has been developed collaboratively and is being published as the basis for further engagement through the consultation process
- Delivering the strategy will require the commitment and enthusiasm of all in the historic environment sector – from academics and professionals with specialist knowledge and skills, through all aspects of local and national government to individuals and communities taking an interest in their local historic environment
- This is a significant opportunity to raise the profile of the historic environment and place it at the heart of Scotland's social and economic development for generations to come
- The historic environment is a major contributor to the economy, employing around 41,000 people and generating £2.3 billion annually

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