

State of the  
Historic  
Environment  
Report

**ANNEX: NATIONAL  
REGIONAL AND LOCAL  
GOVERNMENT  
ADMINISTRATION  
RESOURCING AND  
EMPLOYMENT**



## Annex: National Regional and Local Government administration, resourcing and employment

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- A1 NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT
- A2 PUBLIC SECTOR FINANCIAL RESOURCES
- A3 EMPLOYMENT IN THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

# A1

## NATIONAL, REGIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The following section makes reference to the key events of government activity. It is not a comprehensive overview, as this is available elsewhere, but a reference to the most relevant publications and initiatives.

### NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

The key event for the historic environment sector was the publication of *The Historic Environment: A Force for our Future* in December 2001 by the Department for Culture Media and Sport. This is the government's statement on the historic environment and a response to the sector's *Power of Place*. It provides all those involved with the historic environment with a challenge to rise to and a focus for action. The document sets out the main themes that the sector and the government need to address: providing leadership, realising economic potential, including and involving people, protecting and sustaining and optimising economic potential. Each of these themes has a number of action points that define actions that the sector needs to address. SHER is identified in several parts of the document as having a significant part to play in understanding the condition of the sector and the contribution the sector makes to the social and economic well-being of the country.

The publication of the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister's Planning Green Paper *Sustainable Communities – Delivering through Planning*, when followed through into legislation, is likely to have a very significant impact on the way in which the historic environment is managed. Changes to the statutory plans and appeals systems, the replacement of PPGs 15 and 16 and various changes to the administration of the planning system have all been announced.

The only directly relevant piece of legislation to come into force during the reporting period was the National Heritage Act 2002 which amended some administrative arrangements and gave additional powers and duties to English Heritage, most notably relating to underwater archaeology.

There are no clear ways of reporting on the national government changes that affect the historic environment and further work is needed to consider if it is possible or useful to do so. One method would be to record parliamentary activity. The Council for British Archaeology analyses references to archaeology, the historic environment and heritage in the UK parliament at Westminster<sup>1</sup>. During the period 21/6/01 to 25/03/02 there were: 2 Command Papers, 2 Commons and Lords Bills (National Heritage and Museums), 9 Early Day Motions (including National Architecture Week, Council of Europe Maritime Heritage, UNESCO Underwater Heritage and Colchester's Jumbo Water Tower), 16 House of Commons Papers, 62 Lords Questions (around half were on historic environment issues of direct relevance to this report, the remainder were mainly on museums and galleries), 15 Oral Questions (around a third were on historic environment issues) and 296 Written Questions (around a half of these were on issues of direct relevance to the historic environment).

### TAXATION; VAT AND CAPITAL TAXES EXEMPTION

The issue of taxation is high on the historic environment agenda at the current time. The Joint Committee of National Amenity Societies<sup>2</sup> recently commissioned research into the effect of **Value Added Tax (VAT)** on the repair of listed buildings and found that:

- The total value of building repair work carried out on listed properties during 1998 is approximately £5,900 million.
- VAT on this work is estimated to have cost a further £195 million.
- There is a statistically significant relationship between the size of a project and the rate of VAT; the smaller the project, the higher the effective net rate of VAT paid.
- The cost of VAT is largely borne by individuals and small (frequently charitable) organisations for whom it represents a sizeable financial burden.
- Large cathedrals, which can reclaim VAT, pay on average 8.7% on repairs. Churches, chapels and other places of worship that attract few non-worshippers, and are therefore unable to register for VAT, pay at an average rate of 14.7%.
- Similarly, owners of large private houses open to the public are likely to be registered for VAT, whereas owners of smaller listed buildings which are not open to the public are unlikely to be registered. The survey indicates that the former pay VAT at an average net rate of 1.5% on repair work, while the latter pay an average rate of 11.9%.

<sup>1</sup> Information originally from PARLIANET analysed by the British and Irish Archaeological Bibliography Volume 6(1) April 2002 for the Council for British Archaeology.

<sup>2</sup> Extract from [www.spab.org.uk](http://www.spab.org.uk) based on 'VAT and the Built Heritage – The impact of VAT on repairs and alterations to listed properties' A survey and report commissioned by the Tax Group of the Joint Committee of National Amenity Societies.

<sup>3</sup> www.cto.eds.co.uk

A single harmonised rate of VAT at 5% would result in an estimated net loss to the Exchequer of £92 million per annum. This should be seen in the context of the current UK budget deficit of approximately £40 billion. Small churches and private owners of properties that are not open to the public and are not able to register for VAT would benefit most from harmonisation.

Harmonisation at 5% would not only release existing moneys from tax into repairs, it could also result in additional new expenditure on repairs, thus benefiting old buildings and generating new VAT for the Exchequer.

The HHA estimates a backlog of repairs of some £130 million for its members over the next decade. This maintenance shortfall for private owners has been exacerbated by the removal by the Government of the **One Estate Election**, the principal taxation relief to assist the maintenance of historic properties. Moreover, the owners of private heritage property in England are unable to apply for HLF assistance for repairs or maintenance to these properties; nor are they able to apply for assistance from European funding, unless they enjoy charitable status.

The Taxation Group operating on behalf of Power of Place Joint Committee and Heritage Link has submitted a proposal to the Chancellor of the Exchequer for relief against income tax for the maintenance of historic properties which are open to the public known as **Historic Properties Maintenance Relief (HPMR)**.

The **Capital Tax Office**<sup>3</sup> publishes lists of land, buildings and collections of historic chattels exempted from capital taxes. Exemption is granted in return for undertakings to maintain and preserve the site's character as well as provide public access. There are 170 exempt sites on the website although this does not currently include all cases. The Countryside Agency currently reports on 259 cases and English Heritage is the lead on 122 cases.

## REGIONAL GOVERNMENT

Planning at the regional level in England has seen significant expansion recently as a result of the expansion in activities of Regional Assemblies. In some regions, new Regional Planning Guidance (RPG) has been adopted, while in the remainder the process of adoption is well advanced. The new RPG guidance is more detailed than previous advice and the historic environment issues are covered in a more satisfactory way. Welcome developments include greater emphasis on the economic and social importance of the historic environment in maintaining and enhancing the vitality of Regions, as well as increased emphasis on the need to ensure that issues of sustainability are considered when determining development priorities. However, the emphasis given to environmental matters varies between the RPGs and there remain issues still to be satisfactorily resolved. The current preparation of Regional Environment Strategies should help to raise the profile of historic environment issues.

At the same time **Regional Development Agencies (RDAs)** have been active in revising Regional Economic Strategies. The way in which RDAs implement their Sustainable Development Frameworks will have an important impact on the historic environment. Much RDA investment is focused in areas of historic interest such as inner cities and former industrial areas. The developing relations between local authorities, statutory agencies and the RDAs are helping to ensure that developments are sustainable in environmental and social terms and not solely economic. A number of RDAs are actively working on environmental policy to guide their work, for example the funding by Yorkshire Forward of the Yorkshire State of the Historic Environment pilot study and the publication by Advantage West Midlands of 'The Environmental Economy of the West Midlands'.

The DCMS-supported **Regional Cultural Consortia** have all produced regional cultural strategies with the aim of championing cultural and creative interests, improving partnership working and improving the quality of life of the residents of a region. More recently **Regional Historic Environment Fora** have been set in all nine English Regions to promote the importance of the historic environment at the regional level and encourage greater co-operation between interests in the historic environment. In future it is anticipated that they will play a much greater role in the regional dimension of SHER.

## LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Most public sector day-to-day management of the historic environment is carried out by local authorities. There are more than 350 local planning authorities (Unitary, Metropolitan, District, London Boroughs and National Parks) and these are responsible for most administrative functions relating to the historic environment, including the administration of most planning applications, listed building consents and the preparation of Local, Unitary Development or National Park Plans. There are an additional 34 County Councils: these have more limited planning powers. They produce Structure Plans and other strategic documents such as Minerals and Waste Plans which contain historic environment policies. But their planning decision-making powers are limited to areas such as minerals development which impinge on the historic environment.

The Community Strategies currently being prepared will be an important focus for future local government priorities. Indications are that the historic environment often does not feature as strongly as it might. Where two-tier local government still exists, County Councils tend to hold the archaeological expertise (including the Sites and Monuments Records) and in a diminishing number of cases, historic building expertise.

The continuing development of the 'Best Value' process of assessing the performance of local authorities is another notable activity. In devising historic environment indicators for this publication, the needs of the Best Value process will clearly be a significant consideration.

## A2 PUBLIC SECTOR FINANCIAL RESOURCES

There are not at present any figures for the estimated size of the historic environment sector as a whole, including public and private expenditure. This will be a priority for SHER 03 and although there will clearly be difficulties in defining the parameters, a figure would allow comparisons to be made between the historic environment sectors and other areas of economic activity. It is recognised that the information presented here represents only a small part of the overall picture of public sector activity. At present it is not possible to collate the figures from the charitable and voluntary sectors, as well as relevant elements of the work of other government agencies and other organisations.

Most funding for the historic environment has always come from private sources and this will continue to be the situation. Most historic environment assets are in private ownership and their maintenance and management continues with no public assistance. The annual figure for refurbishment, repair and maintenance spent on all buildings, not just historic ones, was £47,105 million in 2000. The Joint Committee's report on VAT (see above) estimated that about an eighth of this sum was spent on the repair of historic buildings.

In the financial year 2000/01 the Department of Culture, Media and Sport spent £173m and local authorities allocated £43m to the historic environment part of the planning service. By way of comparison, these sums are equivalent to only 2.5% of the total spent by the public on DIY during 2000.

## CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

The Department of Culture, Media and Sport Annual Report<sup>4</sup> identified an estimated expenditure for 2001-02 on historical buildings, monuments and sites of £140m compared to an outturn of £139m in 2000-01. The Royal Parks Resource budget over the same period was £26m in each year. The plans for 2002-03 and 2003-04 all show an increase.

The Capital Budget for the Architecture and Historic Environment Division was an estimated outturn of £9m against an actual outturn in 2000-01 of £14m. This figure is set to rise to £38m in 2002-03 before falling to £8m in 2003-04. For the Royal Parks the estimated outturn for 2001-02 was £4m. The administrative costs for the Historical Buildings, Monuments and Sites Division was an estimated outturn of £4m in 2001-02 against an actual 2000-01 figure of £4m. For The Royal Parks, the figures were £9m and £8m respectively.

<sup>4</sup> [www.culture.gov.uk/PDF/annual\\_report\\_chapter\\_two.pdf](http://www.culture.gov.uk/PDF/annual_report_chapter_two.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> *English Heritage Annual Report and Accounts – 2001/02*, September 2002.

<sup>6</sup> *Heritage Under Pressure – A rapid study of resources in English local authorities* commissioned by English Heritage from Historic Environment Conservation (David Baker) and Hawkshead Archaeology and Conservation (Gill Chitty), 2002 available at [www.english-heritage.org.uk/heritage-underpressure](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/heritage-underpressure)

<sup>7</sup> *Planning and Development statistics 2000*, CIPFA, Statistical Information Service Annual Report 2001.

<sup>8</sup> CIPFA 2000.

## ENGLISH HERITAGE

In 2001/2 English Heritage expenditure was £144,510,000, a fall of £405,000 on the previous year<sup>5</sup>. The two largest sums within this were £65,246,000 on Conservation and £54,751,000 on managing English Heritage properties. Conservation includes grants offered (which are covered below), advising on planning and listed building casework, listing, scheduling and other designation and the administration to support these activities. Expenditure on Conservation fell by 3.3% in 2001/2 from £67,449,000 in 2000/01 but expenditure rose by 2.0% on managing English Heritage properties over the same period. Expenditure in 1997/8 included £59,600,000 on Conservation and £39,900,000 on Properties. The Heritage Under Pressure report identified a fall in English Heritage grant funding in real terms of 23% over the five years to 2000. Adjusting the figures to a 2000/01 base using the mean Retail Price Index, the report identified grants paid falling from £48,118,000 in 1995, to £44,782,000 in 1996 (6.9% fall), £44,243,000 in 1997 (1.3% fall), £38,178,000 in 1998 (13.7 fall), £36,507,000 in 1999 (4.4% fall) and £35,053,000 in 2000 (4.0% fall).

## HERITAGE LOTTERY FUND

The National Lottery is currently the largest single source of funding for heritage projects, awarding approximately £300m per year through the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) to a wide range of heritage projects across the whole of the UK. To date (since 1994), England has benefited from some £1.7bn of this funding. HLF takes an integrated approach to funding, so it is not possible to disaggregate fully awards to the historic environment – for example the Main Grant Programme figures above include capital works to museums and galleries housed in historic buildings, and landscape partnership schemes that include a range of countryside improvements, including the repair of historic structures. Capital and revenue funding for time-limited projects is available. Grants range in size from £500 for a local community heritage project to multi-million pound schemes, for example £25m for repair and access improvements to the Kennet and Avon Canal. All awards must demonstrate strong public benefits, including access and learning opportunities. The Heathland schemes mentioned in table 3 bring indirect benefits to the historic environment, such as the protection of archaeology.

## LOCAL AUTHORITIES

The *Heritage Under Pressure* Report commissioned by English Heritage<sup>6</sup> analysed the CIPFA statistics for local authority expenditure on conservation aspects of planning work and found that there had been a real reduction in resources of 8% from 1996 to 2000. At 1999/00 figures the 1996/7 spend was £46,156,000, falling an average of £888,000 per annum to £42,604,000 in 1999/00. For staffing expenditure the figure had fallen by 10%. These declines were at a time of significantly increasing conservation-related casework.

The CIPFA 'grossed up' data<sup>7</sup> indicate that on average 9% of total net planning expenditure went on conservation of the historic environment (based on cost per 1000 population). The proportion of conservation expenditure was twice the average in Metropolitan Districts (18%) and lowest in Non-metropolitan Districts (8%). Greater London authorities matched the national average while Unitaries at 10% and Counties at 12% had slightly above-average expenditure.

CIPFA Annual Report 2001<sup>8</sup> (which includes the Planning and Development Statistics for 2000) calculates the net expenditure including staffing but excluding capital charges for 1999-00 as:

## 1 DCMS-funded work

DCMS-FUNDED WORK	00-01 Spend in £ 000s	01-02 Estimated Spend in £ 000s
ROYAL HOUSEHOLD	16,091	16,617
PUBLIC BUILDINGS INCLUDING RNC GREENWICH AND SOMERSET HOUSE	5,454	3,015
ENGLISH HERITAGE	119,000	110,397
UNDERWATER ARCHAEOLOGY	257	340
CHURCHES CONSERVATION TRUST	2,829	3,000
NATIONAL HERITAGE MEMORIAL FUND	3,500	5,000
CHATHAM HISTORIC DOCKYARD TRUST	300	300
COMMISSION FOR ARCHITECTURE AND THE BUILT ENVIRONMENT	1,848	1,591
ICOMOS GRANT	38	38
WORLD CULTURAL CONVENTION SUBSCRIPTION	138	130
WORLD HERITAGE COMMITTEE	15	15
OTHER HERITAGE SUPPORT	30	-
HISTORIC ROYAL PALACES PENSIONS	203	345
THE ROYAL PARKS	22,988	25,160
<b>TOTAL FOR HISTORIC BUILDINGS, MONUMENTS AND SITES AND THE ROYAL PARKS</b>	<b>172,691</b>	<b>165,948</b>

Source: DCMS Annual Report 2002

## 2 Grants offered by English Heritage Regions at 31/03/02 and 31/03/01 in £'000s

REGION	Secular Grants <sup>10</sup> 2000/1	Secular Grants <sup>11</sup> 2001/2	Church Grants 2000/1	Church Grants 2001/2	Area Grant Schemes <sup>12</sup> 2000/1	Area Grant Schemes <sup>13</sup> 2001/2	Regional Totals 2000/1	Regional Totals 2001/2
EAST MIDLANDS	1,268	1,125	1,304	167	845	1,163	3,417	2,455
EAST OF ENGLAND	956	744	3,598	663	988	1,255	5,542	2,662
LONDON	1,384	1,518	670	196	825	1,402	2,879	3,116
NORTH EAST	738	466	165	54	455	775	1,358	1,295
NORTH WEST	1,569	700	1,437	175	1,792	1,529	4,798	2,404
SOUTH EAST	2,040	2,456	2,001	724	375	935	4,416	4,115
SOUTH WEST	2,451	1,924	1,103	141	618	941	4,172	3,006
WEST MIDLANDS	1,388	831	2,260	391	776	1,123	4,424	2,345
YORKSHIRE	999	1,994	1,209	658	909	736	3,117	3,388
NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL SCHEME <sup>14</sup>					21	46	21	46
CATHEDRAL GRANTS <sup>15</sup>			2,924	2,517			2,924	2,517
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,793</b>	<b>11,758</b>	<b>16,671</b>	<b>5,686</b>	<b>7,604</b>	<b>9,905</b>	<b>37,068</b>	<b>27,268</b>

Source: Conservation Support Unit, English Heritage

<sup>6</sup> [www.culture.gov.uk/PDF/annual\\_report\\_chapter\\_two.pdf](http://www.culture.gov.uk/PDF/annual_report_chapter_two.pdf)

<sup>7</sup> Includes mainstream large grants and grants to the National Trust (£38k in NW, £167k in WM, £405 in EM, £16k in SW, £537 in SE) and Conservation Officer posts in London (£682k).

<sup>8</sup> Includes mainstream large grants and grants to the National Trust (£471k in EM, £60k in WM, £832k in SE), and Conservation Officer posts in London (£611k).

<sup>9</sup> Comprises two rounds of Heritage Economic Regeneration Scheme allocations and one round of Conservation Area Partnership.

<sup>10</sup> comprises three rounds Heritage Economic Regeneration Scheme allocations to local authorities.

<sup>11</sup> The National War Memorial Scheme is administered from English Heritage's London Regional Office.

<sup>12</sup> English Heritage Cathedral Grants for the whole of England are administered from English Heritage's East of England Regional Office.

<sup>16</sup> *The Funding of Professional Archaeological Practice in England*. Aitchison, K., 2001 In *Cultural Trends* 39.

<sup>17</sup> LACP 89% response rate covering 349 local authorities.

Based on the CIPFA statistics for related areas of spending, compared to expenditure on the conservation of the historic environment, total expenditure by local authorities on urban parks and open spaces is more than eleven times higher, art galleries and museums nearly three times higher, and the promotion of tourism is nearly twice as high. Local authorities spend nearly 50% more on grants to arts organisations than they do on support for the conservation of the historic environment.

Aitchison<sup>16</sup> found that although spending on archaeology (excluding museums) in local authorities had increased from £5.5m in 1990/1 (not adjusted for inflation) to £19.8m in 1998, the proportion of local authority spending as a total of all spending on archaeology had fallen from 17.5% to around 12%.

#### **Building Conservation Grants**

51% of authorities responding to the LACP survey<sup>17</sup> had their own historic building grant schemes that were funded under Section 57 of the 1990 Act. The average grant budget was just under £20,000, with regional figures ranging from over £32,000 in the south east to £5,250 in the north east. Nearly half of these reported no change over three years. There were twice as many reporting a decrease in budget as reporting an increase. Overall, therefore the national situation appears to be getting worse, but at a slow rate.

The situation with partnership funding is a little better in that 18% of respondents reported an increase over the three years. Of these, in almost half the cases the partner was English Heritage through the Heritage Economic Regeneration Scheme and in 12% of cases it was the Heritage Lottery Fund through Townscape Heritage Initiatives. Overall the LACP survey found that spending on grant assistance in real terms was overall fairly flat over the last four to five years, which (when inflation was taken into account) represented a decrease.

#### **OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING**

There are a wide variety of funds that are available for the historic environment, some of which cater exclusively for the sector. Examples of two of these have been included. But there are other sources where there are greater difficulties in extracting the historic environment elements in wider schemes (some of them Agri-environment schemes such as Countryside Stewardship or Leader Plus, or many of the regeneration fund sources). Work will continue towards defining the financial resources of the sector for future publication.

**The Architectural Heritage Fund (AHF)** is a national conservation fund (established for more than 25 years) which exists to give access to local, non-profit-making building preservation trusts to working capital at favourable rates of interest. It currently has £6.7m on loan to a wide variety of projects. Between April 1990 and March 2001 the AHF gave more than 200 feasibility study grants to trusts. There are currently more than 150 projects under development with AHF funds.

**The Aggregates Levy Sustainability Fund (ALSF)** was set up in 2002 to provide funds to help tackle a wide range of problems in areas affected by the extraction of aggregates. DEFRA has made nearly £10m available to English Heritage (with equal amounts to English Nature and the Countryside Agency) over a two-year pilot period. The money will be spent on projects that are linked to historic landscapes, sites and buildings affected by the extraction of aggregates.

The rural landscape we see today is shaped by current farming policies overlaid on past farming practices. **Agri-environment schemes** such as Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA) agreements and Countryside Stewardship schemes are essential tools in delivering landscape conservation objectives; by making payments to farmers who adopt land management practices that protect biodiversity, landscape and historical features. Both Countryside Agency and English Heritage are represented on the Defra Group reviewing the current agri-environmental schemes in England (ESAs and Countryside Stewardship Scheme) and developing the proposed entry level ('broad and shallow') scheme. Agri-environment schemes are likely to become more important following implementation of the Curry report and proposed CAP reform which is likely to result in a single integrated agri-environment package. The importance of addressing the needs of the historic environment is fully recognised in this work.

### 3 Grants awarded in England by the Heritage Lottery Fund between 01/04/01 and 31/03/02 (excluding earmarked funds for stage one passes and approvals in principle)

REGION	No. of awards	Urban regeneration (Townscape Heritage Initiative and Urban Parks Programme)	Community and Local Heritage (Awards for All, Local Heritage Initiative, Your Heritage Programme)	Heritage Main Grant Programme	Places of Worship	Tomorrow's Heathland Heritage	Regional Totals
<b>NUMBER OF AWARDS</b>	<b>1,725</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>1138</b>	<b>353</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>3</b>	
EAST MIDLANDS	186	£10,861,198	£615,173	£16,993,800	£658,800		£29,128,971
EAST OF ENGLAND	238	£3,866,600	£1,001,745	£23,252,700	£194,300		£28,315,345
LONDON	208	£6,257,020	£916,151	£30,334,716	£3,412,000		£40,919,887
NORTH EAST	74	£6,256,800	£332,196	£11,570,750	£612,200		£18,771,946
NORTH WEST	159	£4,287,000	£750,653	£9,402,844	£4,389,280		£18,829,777
SOUTH EAST	215	£1,772,500	£1,033,475	£26,367,200	£636,150	£631,000	£30,440,325
SOUTH WEST	235	£1,821,450	£1,057,696	£21,459,577	£506,300		£24,845,023
WEST MIDLANDS	198	£4,185,000	£967,392	£7,313,305	£2,524,700		£14,990,397
YORKSHIRE & HUMBER	212	£13,996,100	£1,069,435	£11,308,478	£4,523,920	£15,100	£30,913,033
<b>TOTAL GRANTS AWARDED</b>	<b>1,725</b>	<b>£53,303,668</b>	<b>£7,743,916</b>	<b>£158,003,370</b>	<b>£17,457,650</b>	<b>£646,100</b>	<b>£237,154,704</b>

### 4 Net expenditure on the conservation of the historic environment

AUTHORITY TYPE	Net expenditure on the conservation of the historic environment in £000s in 99-00	Net expenditure on conservation of the historic environment. £s per 1,000 population in 99-00	Net expenditure on environment (including enhancement of the built environment and nature conservation but not conservation of historic environment) £s per 1,000 population
GREATER LONDON	3,805	814	641
METROPOLITAN DISTRICTS	7,009	973	319
UNITARY AUTHORITIES	6,473	779	1,063
COUNTIES	7,369	320	486
ENGLISH NON-METROPOLITAN DISTRICTS	17,948	780	761
<b>ENGLAND TOTAL</b>	<b>42,604</b>	<b>858</b>	<b>1,038</b>

Source: CIPFA

<sup>18</sup> Information from Stewart Bryant, ALGAO. Based on a 99% response rate.

<sup>19</sup> *Archaeology after PPG16: archaeological investigations in England 1990 to 1999*, Darvill, T. and Russell, B., Bournemouth University School of Conservation Studies Research Report 10, published in association with English Heritage, 2002.

<sup>20</sup> *Profiling the Profession*, Aitchison, K. and Dennison, S. (ed), 1999, Commissioned by English Heritage, Institute of Field Archaeology and the Council for British Archaeology.

<sup>21</sup> LACP. Based on a 100% response rate.

<sup>22</sup> *Heritage Under Pressure* 2002.

## A3 EMPLOYMENT IN THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

It is not possible in this first SHER to provide a fully accurate picture of total employment in the historic environment sector and there will always be grey areas (eg administrative support staff for historic environment professionals or academic staff). Public sector employment is easier to collate than employment in the private sector but research needs to be initiated that seeks to measure the scale of employment in such areas as craft skills, professional consultancy, the academic sector and so on. The intention is to develop this data in future years.

### LOCAL AUTHORITY STAFFING FOR ARCHAEOLOGY

The Association of Local Government Archaeologists (ALGAO) carried out a survey of staff employed in local authorities carrying out archaeological curatorial work in England in 2000<sup>18</sup>. It identified 277 full time equivalent posts. The Bournemouth University Study *Archaeology after PPG16*<sup>19</sup> found that the number of local authorities that employ archaeologists has increased significantly during the 1990s from 74 in 1990 to at least 90 in 1999. However, this was more to do with the fragmentation of shire and metropolitan councils than with changes in staffing numbers.

The change did, however, result in an increasing diversity in the size and working arrangements of local authority services. The 1999 report *Profiling the Profession*<sup>20</sup> identified around 600 UK archaeology posts with a further 190 other posts in local government, a total of 18% of the estimated archaeological workforce of over 4,400 people. It also found that 29% of respondents employed fewer staff than in 1993, while 33% employed more. More authorities were expecting to employ more rather than fewer staff in future.

The employment survey is currently being updated and will be reported next year.

### LOCAL AUTHORITY STAFFING FOR BUILDING CONSERVATION

The Local Authority Conservation Provision Survey<sup>21</sup> found that the average number of established specialist conservation staff in local authorities in mid 2002 was 1.7 FTE (full time equivalent). In addition, there was an average additional 0.3 FTE conservation posts supported by external funding and 0.3 FTE dedicated administrative and/or technical support staff for the conservation service. 0.4 FTE other staff routinely spend time in delivering aspects of the conservation service.

(The figure compares to an average of 38.5 FTE staff in the planning service as a whole.) This gives an estimated total of a little over 900 FTE specialist conservation staff working for local authorities in both established posts and externally supported posts. There are a further 275 FTE support staff. Almost all authorities (94%) have some specialist in-house advice and those that did not relied upon the County Council or consultants in equal numbers or used their own more generalist planning staff. 2% had five or more specialists.

The *Heritage Under Pressure* study<sup>22</sup> using CIPFA statistics found that (when adjusted for inflation) local authority expenditure on staffing had fallen 10% from £30,236,000 in 1996/7 to £27,416,000 in 1999/00, although the latter was a £750,000 increase on the previous year. However the report notes that these totals may be over-estimates as work done by development control staff on conservation issues may be included in some local authorities' returns to CIPFA.

The LACP survey asked about change in conservation officers over the last three years. Whilst 36% of local authorities had seen an increase in staffing and only 26% had seen a decrease for the Planning service as a whole, the picture for the building conservation service was much more static. 17% of authorities experienced an increase in established specialist conservation staff and 19% a decrease.

## 5 Building Conservation Grants

<sup>23</sup> LACP 64% response rate covering 250 local authorities.

REGION	% of Local Authorities with historic building grant Programme	Average Grant Budget for HISTORIC BUILDINGS for Local Authorities <sup>23</sup>
EAST MIDLANDS	60%	£13,339
EAST OF ENGLAND	58%	£24,193
LONDON	25%	£7,891
NORTH EAST	22%	£5,250
NORTH WEST	46%	£8,756
SOUTH EAST	61%	£32,360
SOUTH WEST	61%	£24,937
WEST MIDLANDS	58%	£21,560
YORKSHIRE	43%	£16,040
<b>NATIONAL FIGURE</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>£19,779</b>

Source: Local Authority Conservation Provision survey

## 6 Local Authority staffing for Archaeology

	Estimated Total Numbers of Archaeologists	% of all Archaeologists
LOCAL GOVERNMENT CURATORS	605	14
LOCAL GOVERNMENT OTHERS	190	4
NATIONAL HERITAGE AGENCIES	680	15
NATIONAL MUSEUMS	156	4
UNIVERSITIES	644	15
CONSULTANTS	153	3
CONTRACTORS	1,341	30
SOCIETIES	25	1
OTHER COMMERCIAL ORGANISATIONS	170	4
OTHER ORGANISATIONS	461	10
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>4,425</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Profiling the Profession, 1999

<sup>24</sup> *Heritage Under Pressure* 2002.

<sup>25</sup> Report to Institute of Historic Building Conservation Council 28/3/02 on Local Planning Authority Conservation Officers Salaries by Bob Kindred.

<sup>26</sup> *ARB Annual Report* 2001/2.

<sup>27</sup> [www.ricsfirms.info](http://www.ricsfirms.info)

<sup>28</sup> [www.algao.org.uk](http://www.algao.org.uk)

<sup>29</sup> [www.archaeologists.net](http://www.archaeologists.net)

<sup>30</sup> Information from Gardens and Landscape Team, English Heritage.

For externally funded posts the increase was 19% and the decrease 2%, and for dedicated support the increase was 6% and decrease 9%. The average size of the Historic Building service is generally stable with some increase in externally-funded posts within a planning service that is expanding significantly in size. English Heritage is the largest funder of posts in such circumstances, having funded some 100 historic building posts since 1996<sup>24</sup>.

In addition to staffing levels, the status of historic environment staff within local authorities, the wider public service and society is also an issue. The LACP study identified that the lead conservation specialist tended to be at the fourth tier of responsibility within a local authority in almost 50% of cases with 20 to 25% being in the third or fifth tiers. Analysis done for the IHBC<sup>25</sup> on Conservation Officer salaries advertised in *Planning Journal* or via IHBC membership mailshots (the two main advertising media for conservation jobs) from 1998 onwards saw a 41% increase in the number of local authority jobs advertised per annum between 1998/9 and 2001/2. There are currently only 1.5 specialist historic landscape staff employed by local authorities in England.

#### ENGLISH HERITAGE AND THE DCMS

English Heritage employed an average of 1740 staff in 2001-02. Within a typical year the figure varies by around 200 because of the employment of seasonal custodians during the peak summer season. 758 of the 1740 staff were employed in the management of English Heritage properties. This compared with an average of 1355 in 1998, which included 628 managing English Heritage properties.

This was before English Heritage's merger with the Royal Commission on the Historic Monuments of England, which had 236 staff when it merged with English Heritage on April 1 1999.

In total the DCMS employed an estimated 423 staff during 2001-02 compared to 413 during 2000-01. There is no more detailed breakdown to allow an estimate for staffing in the historical buildings, monuments and sites' division to be made. The Royal Parks employed an estimated 236 people in 2001-02 compared to 241 in 2000-01. Historic Royal Palaces, now a non-Departmental Public Body, employs an average 484.

#### EMPLOYMENT IN PROFESSIONS

Although it has not been possible to create a comprehensive picture of employment, the following information from some of the key professional organisations gives some indication of the number of specialists in these bodies.

**Architects.** At 12/01 there were 22,538 architects included in the **Architects Registration Board** in England (UK 30,329). The **Royal Institute of British Architects** online service includes over 4000 architectural practices in the UK, of which 372 were classified under 'Domestic – Conservation' and 853 under 'Commercial/Community – Conservation'. The numbers of qualifying architects appears to be increasing slowly. The ARB added 1265 new admissions in 2001 compared to 980 in 2000, 864 the previous year and 765 in 1996<sup>26</sup>. In January 2002 there were 82 Architects Accredited in Building Conservation.

There are currently around 17,500 UK members of the **Royal Town Planning Institute**. There is no information on the numbers specialising in historic environment matters.

The **Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors** listing of firms identifies 135 specialising in historic building conservation in England<sup>27</sup>. The Building Surveyors Faculty has 25,000 members and the Building Control Forum 3,528 but there are no figures for historic environment specialists. The RICS Postgraduate Diploma in Building Conservation has had 295 graduates to date. **Conservators.** There are currently 1,165 registered professional conservators, who work on paintings, stonework and other detailed conservation work. There are around 650 practices and companies that carry out such work.

The **Institute of Historic Building Conservation**, which represents the interests of historic building specialists, has a UK membership of around 1,400.

Membership of the **Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers**<sup>28</sup> is by local authority rather than individual. Its 101 member authorities include all those in the UK that employ archaeologists. The **Institute of Field Archaeologists** has a UK membership of 1,600<sup>29</sup>. The **Landscape Institute**, the chartered professional institute for landscape architects, managers and scientists has 4,500 members and 520 registered practices and companies<sup>30</sup>. The **Institute of Leisure and Amenity Managers**, the professional body for managers of the UK's leisure resource, has 6,000 members.

## 7 Staffing for building conservation – average per local planning authority

REGION	No of conservation posts	No of sponsored posts	No of support posts	No of other staff	No of planning posts (for comparison)
+ INDICATES AN AVERAGE INCREASE OVER 3 YEARS, – INDICATES DECREASE, = NO CHANGE					
EAST MIDLANDS	1.3 +	0.2 +	0.04 –	0.4 +	20.0 +
EAST OF ENGLAND	1.6 +	0.2 +	0.4 =	0.1 =	32.2 +
LONDON	2.8 +	1.2 +	0.1 –	0.5 +	48.2 +
NORTH EAST	1.0 +	0.2 +	0.1 =	0.5 =	40.3 =
NORTH WEST	1.2 –	0.1 =	0.2 =	0.6 =	29.6 –
SOUTH EAST	1.5 –	0.1 =	0.3 –	0.5 +	41.4 +
SOUTH WEST	2.2 +	0.3 +	0.5 +	0.4 +	31.5 –
WEST MIDLANDS	1.9 =	0.3 +	0.4 –	0.3 +	31.4 +
YORKSHIRE	2.2 +	0.2 +	0.3 +	0.4 +	67.0 +
<b>NATIONAL FIGURE</b>	<b>1.7 +</b>	<b>0.3 +</b>	<b>0.3 –</b>	<b>0.4 +</b>	<b>35.6 +</b>

Source: Local Authority Conservation Provision survey

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[www.historicenvironment.org.uk](http://www.historicenvironment.org.uk)

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