



NI HERITAGE STATISTICS

AS RECORDED ON
31 MARCH 2019.

THE NI HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT STAKEHOLDER GROUP

Cover Image:

Oak purchased for the new roof of Carrickfergus Castle being seasoned, February 2019.
17.2 cubic metres were used to provide 1,048 linear metres of timber structural elements. The oak was over 100 years old and felled by Storm Ophelia. DfC will be planting replacements.

This document is produced by the Department for Communities, Northern Ireland, on behalf of an alliance of heritage organisations. June 2020.

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INTRODUCTION

AT A GLANCE



SECTION 1.

**WHAT HERITAGE DO WE HAVE AND WHAT
DO WE KNOW ABOUT ITS CONDITION?**



SECTION 2.

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**WHAT IS BEING DONE TO REALISE THE POTENTIAL
OF NORTHERN IRELAND'S HERITAGE?**

MINISTERIAL FOREWORD

Our heritage is our authentic voice and distinctive character. It is the basis for our confidence, our prosperity, and our health. It binds us together, attracts investment and improves our quality of life.

Since 2016, the historic environment sector has been working together to ensure that the full potential of our rich historic environment can be realised. In the context of a focus on outcomes, it is important to demonstrate the contribution that heritage makes to our social and economic wellbeing. I am glad that this work has been led by my Department.

In 2018, the Historic Environment Stakeholder Group produced an advocacy document – Heritage Delivers – which explained, through case studies, the extent of this wider impact and of its potential to ‘support our prosperity; strengthen our society and shape our character’.

This second document sets down the facts, as currently understood, about the extent of our heritage, how we look after it and how it contributes to many of the Executive’s outcomes. It is an important gathering of knowledge in one place that gives a clear overview of our historic environment and of its potential.

The region reflected in these pages has a wide and varied heritage which ranges from small cottages to large castles to

extended landscapes. They are all a product of a rich and complex history that has made our towns, cities and rural areas unique and special. The features they contain are not just relics of the past, but assets that can deliver important benefits to our economy, society and the environment.

But the resource is finite. So it is important that we work together to care for our heritage and ensure that it is well maintained. That requires partnership and creativity, working across boundaries, organisations, groups and communities for the common good. I hope that this document, developed by a rich, vibrant and diverse partnership of organisations and individuals, will inspire you to think about how you might contribute – in citizen engagement and co-design as encouraged in the New Decade New Approach agreement – to this task and help ensure that this important resource is fully valued and its potential fully achieved.



CARÁL NÍ CHUILÍN

Carál Ní Chuilín MLA
Minister for Communities

INTRODUCTION

In 2018 'Heritage Delivers' was published by the Department for Communities (DfC) on behalf of an alliance of heritage organisations. The document outlined the benefit that heritage brings to Northern Ireland's economy and society. How it delivers 'prosperity, progress and personality'. You can find out more at www.niheritagedelivers.org.

This publication, has been produced by the same group, and provides facts, as currently understood, on Northern Ireland's Historic Environment.¹ Information relating to the 2018/19 financial year has been gathered from partners across the heritage sector.

The information predates COVID19 but also shows how much our heritage is dependent upon areas affected by the pandemic. The sector is currently working with government and others to seek to mitigate these impacts.



THE STATISTICS ARE ARRANGED TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

1. WHAT DO WE HAVE AND WHAT STATE IS IT IN?
2. HOW ARE WE MANAGING CHANGE TO THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT?
3. WHAT ARE WE DOING TO REALISE ITS POTENTIAL FOR NORTHERN IRELAND?

¹ The Historic Environment is that part of our environment which has been affected by the action of humanity. It includes all surviving physical remains of past human activity, whether visible, buried or submerged, and landscaped and planted or managed flora.

AT A GLANCE. ON 31 MARCH 2019:

16,875 Sites and Monuments (SMR)
Including **2,008** Scheduled Historic Monuments
And **190** Monuments in State Care

60 Conservation Areas

177 Areas of Townscape Character

547 Local Landscape Policy Areas

15,843 historic buildings worthy of record

Including **8,976** Listed Buildings

16,601 sites on Industrial
Heritage Record (IHR)

51,783

HERITAGE ASSETS HAD
BEEN RECORDED IN
NORTHERN IRELAND

12,270

(24%) PROTECTED BY
FORMAL DESIGNATION

738 Defence Heritage sites
and **324** battle sites

663 Historic Parks and Gardens

Including **300** Historic Parks and
Gardens of Special Historic Interest

832 Maritime heritage sites
(Inc in SMR tot)

and **340** known wreck sites
including **2** protected wrecks

399 Historic Nucleated
Settlements

10 Areas of Significant
Archaeological Interest

Condition

SECTION 1

527 Assets **inc 5.4%** of listed buildings (**482**) on Heritage at Risk register



Change

SECTION 2

3,290 statutory planning consultations to DfC in 18/19 a **14% increase**



85 Scheduled Monument Consent Applications to DfC a **52% increase** in 2018/19



THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT

3% of Scheduled Historic Monuments (**60**) considered to be in poor condition



6 of the top 10 visitor attractions are NI heritage sites



Reuse and Recycle: 16% of new social housing units (244) delivered in existing buildings



Economy

SECTION 3.1

10.5 million recorded heritage attraction visits in 2018 **up 30%** since 2017



Environment

SECTION 3.2

Society

SECTION 3.3 & 3.4

55% of NI adults visited at least one place of historic interest



Significant positive life satisfaction difference (0.3) for visiting a heritage site



At least 95,000 members of a heritage organisation and **3,732 volunteers**



SECTION 1.

WHAT HERITAGE DO WE HAVE AND WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT ITS CONDITION?

Work has been carried out from the late nineteenth century to record the region's historic monuments and from the late twentieth century to record its historic buildings, places and landscapes. Data is retained on this work

in the Department for Communities' Historic Environment Record of Northern Ireland (HERoNI)². Much of this can also be accessed at www.communities-ni.gov.uk/topics/historic-environment.











Listed St Malachy's Church in Hillsborough with the graveyard, scheduled Hillsborough Fort and Hillsborough lake beyond

² HERoNI is housed in the Klondyke Building, Cromac Avenue, Gasworks Business Park, Malone Lower, BELFAST, BT7 2JA.

1.1

NORTHERN IRELAND'S HERITAGE ASSETS

The known heritage assets in Northern Ireland at 31 March 2019 were as follows.

| Recorded heritage assets | | |
|---|---|---------------------|
|  | Number of entries on the Sites and Monuments Record This includes 832 Maritime Heritage Record sites | 16,875 |
|  | Number of recorded historic buildings | 15,843 |
|  | Industrial Heritage Record (sites associated with industry) | 16,601 |
|  | Defence Heritage Record (sites associated with defence) | 738 |
|  | Battlefield sites | 324 |
|  | Historic Parks and Gardens Record (recorded historic gardens) | 663 |
|  | Historic Wrecks (identified sites - 2,748 marine losses) | 340 |
|  | Number of Historic Nucleated Urban Settlements (Including those with identified areas of archaeological potential): | 399 |
| TOTAL NUMBER OF RECORDED HERITAGE ASSETS | | 51,783 ³ |

Heritage assets of special interest have been protected as: Monuments in State Care; scheduled historic monuments; and listed buildings; and historic places of special interest have been protected as Conservation Areas. Some places have also been identified on Local Development Plans⁴ as Historic Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest or for their townscape or

village character or for the archaeological potential they are thought to contain. Some areas of particularly distinctive historic landscape character have been designated as Areas of Significant Archaeological Interest and some small rural landscapes have been identified for protection as Local Landscape Policy Areas.⁵

³ Industrial and Defence sites designated as scheduled monuments and some battle sites are included in the SMR so there is a small amount of double counting in this figure. Some unlisted buildings may also have been lost since the date of recording.

⁴ In 2015 responsibility for Local Development Plans was transferred from the former Department of the Environment to district councils, and these are currently being reviewed across Northern Ireland.

⁵ Local Landscape Policy Areas. These are designated on Local Development Plans and consist of those features and areas within and adjoining settlements considered to be of greatest amenity value and will often be focused on historic landscapes buildings and monuments. However, they may also include natural heritage features such as riverbanks.

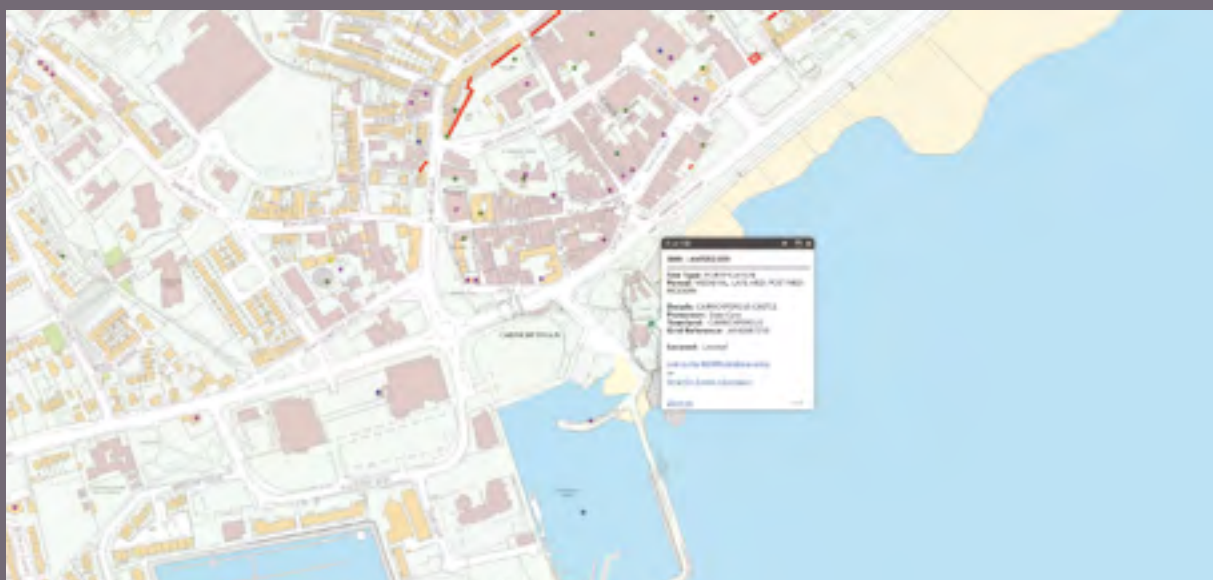
Designated heritage assets⁶

| | | |
|---|---|---------------------------|
|  | Number of Monuments in State Care | 190 |
|  | Number of Scheduled Historic Monuments | 2,008 |
|  | Number of protected wrecks | 2 |
|  | Number of listed buildings | 8,976 ⁷ |
|  | Number of Historic Parks and Gardens of Special Historic Interest | 300 |
|  | Number of Conservation Areas | 60 |
|  | Number of Areas of Significant Archaeological Interest | 10 |
|  | Number of Areas of Townscape/Village Character | 177 |
|  | Number of Local Landscape Policy Areas | 547 |
| TOTAL NUMBER OF DESIGNATED HERITAGE ASSETS | | 12,270⁸ |

Case Study

Heritage at a Glance

The Historic Environment Map Viewer



The Historic Environment Map Viewer provides information on all of the heritage assets recorded by Historic Environment Division. New in 2018/19 were layers on recorded but unlisted historic

buildings, maritime heritage and heritage at risk. Clicking on each point or polygon links to further information held by the Division.

⁶ The recognition of the particular heritage value(s) of a heritage asset by giving it formal status under law or policy which is intended to sustain those values.

⁷ Some listed building designations may include more than one building for example a house and its stables or a terrace.

⁸ Some State Care Monuments are also scheduled monuments so the actual figure is a little lower.

1.2 THE STATE THEY ARE IN

1.2.1 CONDITION OF HISTORIC MONUMENTS:

Between 2003 and 2005, with updates in 2007, a condition and management survey of the archaeological resource was carried out. This was published as the CAMSAR Report⁹ in 2009. This considered 1,500 protected and unprotected archaeological sites, approximately 10% of the Sites and Monuments Record at that time.

This found that:

Only 7% of archaeological sites and monuments in the sample were complete

or substantially complete (complete/substantially complete 6.9%, substantial 19.3%, some features 17%, traces 12.5%, no visible remains 44.3%). See Chart 1.

Over half the sample was assessed as in fair excellent or good condition. 2% was in poor condition and 44% had no upstanding visible remains (excellent 1.6%, good 1.5%, fair 50.6%, poor 2% no visible remains 44.3%). See Chart 2.



Legananny Dolmen, Slieve Croob, County Down

⁹ **CAMSAR:** A Condition and Management Survey of the Archaeological Resource for Northern Ireland, NIEA, Belfast, 2009.

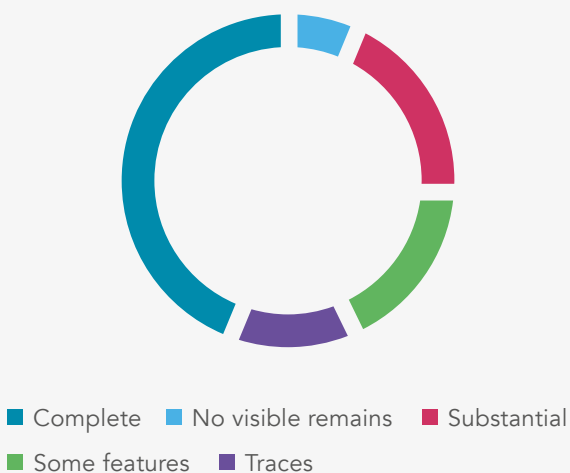
Sites and monuments located on arable improved grassland and within urban areas had the worst rates of survival. Uncontrolled and uncontrolled new development and certain agricultural activities, particularly heavy grazing and the practice of improving grassland, were the most destructive factors affecting the archaeological resource.

Over 90% of protected sites^[1] had survived well.

Of the protected sites 7.5% were considered to be in excellent condition, 3.8% in good condition, 81.2% in fair condition, 2.2% in poor condition and 5.3% had no visible above ground remains. See Chart 3.

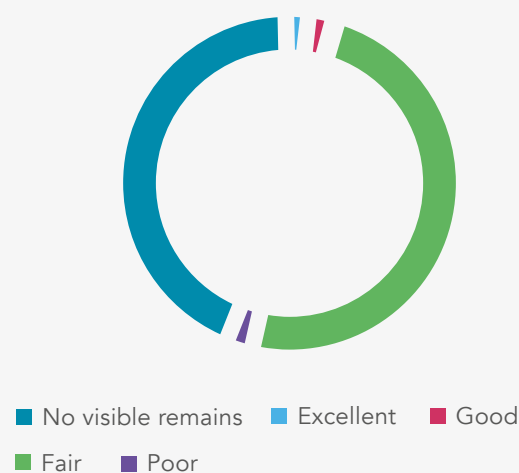
Survival of Historic Monuments 2007

Chart 1



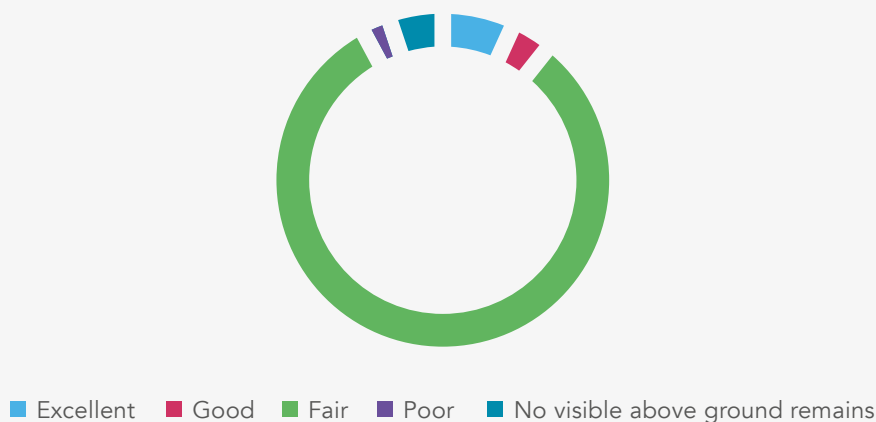
Historic Monument Condition 2007

Chart 2



Condition of Protected Monument Sites 2007^[1]

Chart 3



^[1] In addition to formally designated Monuments in State Care and Scheduled Historic Monuments, monuments managed via an Agri-Environment Scheme agreement with an owner were included in this category. 319 of the 1,500 recorded monuments in the sample were regarded as 'protected'.

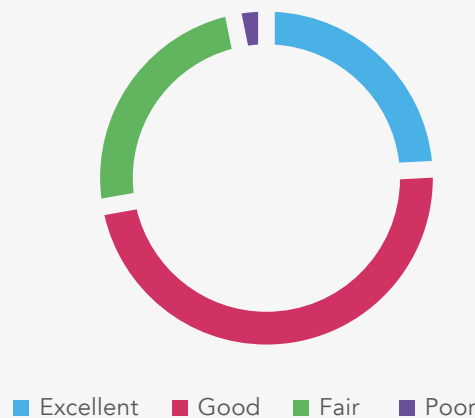
Condition of Scheduled Historic Monuments

The 2,008 scheduled historic monuments in Northern Ireland are inspected on a rolling programme every five years by the Historic Environment Division's Field Monument Wardens (higher risk monuments are visited more frequently). These are given a score based upon a consideration of their condition and the risk faced by the site. This is between 1 and 25 with a higher score indicating higher risk.

In 2018/19, 24% were scored between 1 & 3 equating to excellent condition, 48% scored between 4 & 6 equating to good condition, 25% scored between 9 & 12 equating to fair condition, and 3% scored between 16 & 25 equating to poor condition. The risks to sites with no visible above ground remains were considered as part of this assessment.

Scheduled Historic Monuments Condition March 2019

Chart 4



Condition of State Care Monuments

The 190 Monuments in State Care in

Northern Ireland are due to have their condition reviewed over the next two years.

1.2.2 CONDITION OF LISTED BUILDINGS

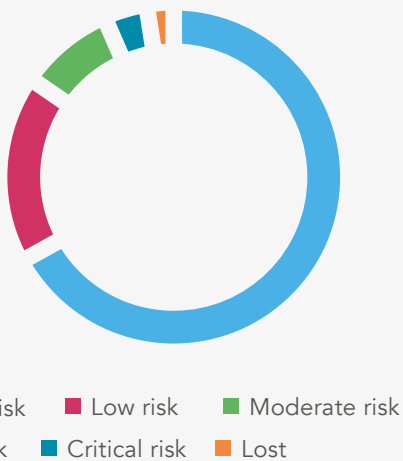


In 2013/14, a baseline statistical survey of listed building condition was commissioned by the Department. This recorded that, the majority (66.9%) of buildings were 'Not at Risk' and 17.8% of buildings were of 'Low' risk. 4.2%

of buildings were classed as 'Critical', 0.3% of buildings were classed as 'High' risk and 8.5% were classed as 'Moderate' risk. This means that 30.8% of Northern Ireland's listed buildings were considered at some form of risk.

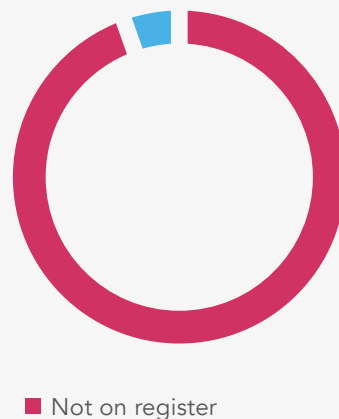
Condition of Listed Buildings 2014

Chart 5



Listed Buildings on Heritage at Risk Register 2019

Chart 6



Heritage at Risk

Ulster Architectural Heritage has been funded to work in partnership with the Department since 1993 to maintain a heritage at risk register for Northern Ireland (HARNI).¹⁰ This records listed and unlisted buildings and monuments, but over the years it has focused predominantly upon listed buildings. It is not a systematic survey and is based upon structures that Ulster Architectural Heritage or the Department is aware of.

In March 2019 there were 527 entries on the Heritage at Risk register. Of these 482 or 91% were listed buildings, 30 were scheduled historic monuments and 15 were unlisted historic buildings.¹¹

Percentage of the total number of listed buildings on the Heritage at Risk Register is 5.3%

| | |
|--|----|
| Number of HAR entries brought back into use in 2018/19 | 16 |
|--|----|

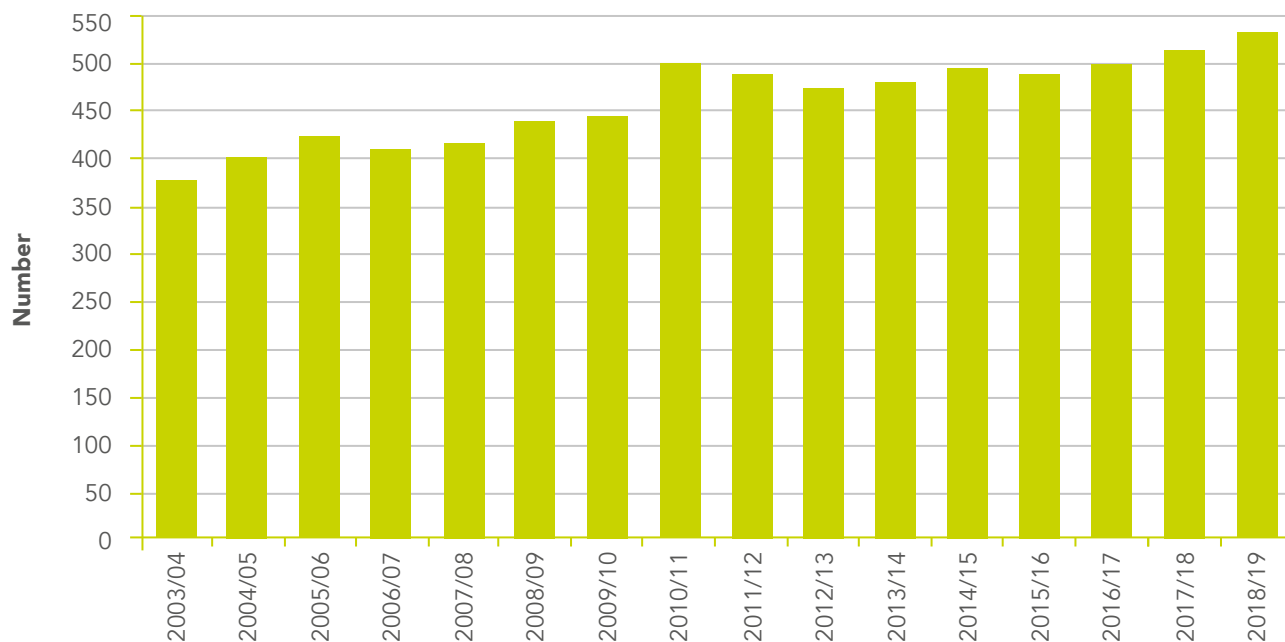
| | |
|--|---|
| Number of HAR entries demolished or destroyed in 2018/19 | 1 |
|--|---|



The Gocean, Killyleagh. A pre-1834 two storey Regency style house with basement within the Killyleagh Conservation Area. Unfortunately, the building suffered extensive fire damage in November 2017 which led to its inclusion on the Heritage at risk register in 2018

Number of buildings and monuments at risk, 2003/04 – 2018/19¹²

Chart 7



¹⁰ Historic Environment responsibilities were part of the Department of the Environment to 2016 and became part of the responsibilities of the new Department for Communities in 2016.

¹¹ Structures are added to the list based upon set criteria which are not the same as those used in the 2013/14 condition survey. Comparison does not, therefore, indicate that the HARNI list is unrepresentative.

¹² Data has been published as part of the NI environmental statistics report since 2003.

Case Study

Working to reuse Heritage at Risk

The Waterside Train Station

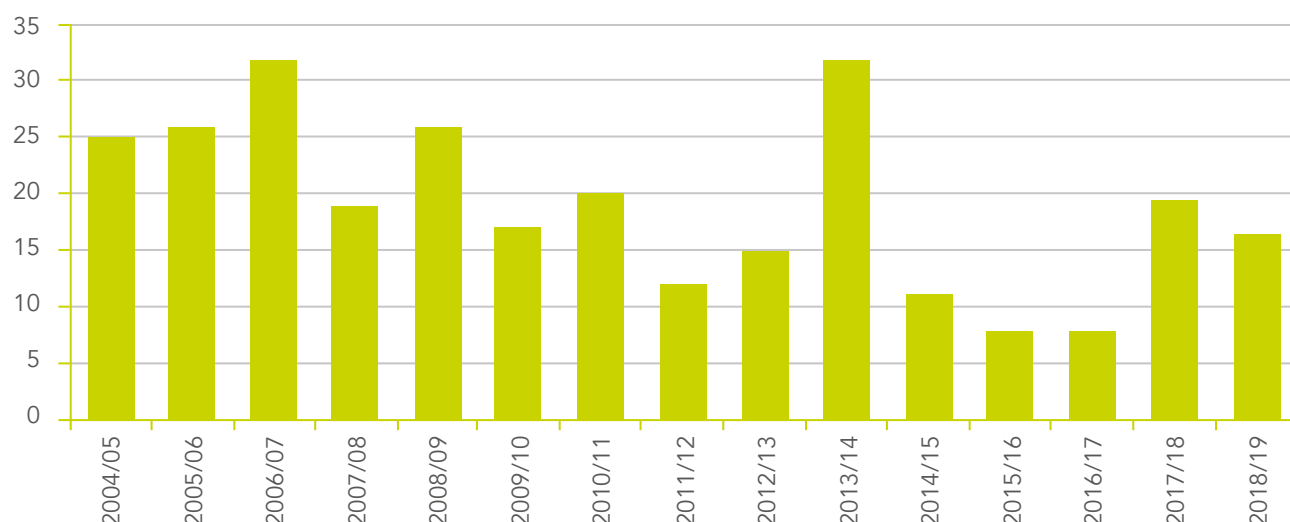
Northern Ireland Railways moved out of the former Belfast and Northern Counties Railway Company terminus in Derry~Londonderry following two bomb attacks in the 1970s. The second destroyed the central section of the building and it lay derelict for a number of years. In the 1980s the central section was encased in glass and was used to house a radio station. The former engine shed was converted into a carpet showroom. Both uses had ceased by 2011 when the building was put up for sale. In the same year lead was stolen from its roof and, in poor condition, the structure was added to the Heritage at Risk register. At the same time Translink launched a public consultation on options for a new railway station. Purchase and reuse of the old station was by far the most

popular. Following, a strong local campaign, and with financial support from DfC North West Development Office, Derry City and Strabane District Council and with European funding via INTERREG, a scheme was developed to convert the building into 'an integrated transport hub,' with the 1980's construction on the bomb damaged section replaced. The detail of the conversion was not without controversy because it did not bring trains back into the former rail shed. However, the project reinvigorated the building, reconnecting it to its former use and providing a sustainable future where this once looked very uncertain. Importantly, rail travellers can, once again, arrive into this historic city through its historic railway station.



Buildings removed from at risk register because conserved and reused 2005 – 2019

Chart 8



Heritage assets which are at risk commonly face particular issues. They may have lost a sustainable use, resulting in a lack of essential maintenance. Ownership may have changed leading to vacancy while a new use is sought, or a property land banked. Location, size and type of building are important factors. Whilst new build is zero rated for VAT purposes, all work to heritage and other buildings carries VAT at varying rates. Use of legislative powers or the threat of these, can also encourage action.¹³ Whatever the original cause, if structures are left vacant and not maintained, the cost of conserving them will increase over time.

The graph above shows that success in conserving and reusing such buildings can be seen to reflect to the economic cycle (the high rate of removal before the 2008 downturn and the increase in 2018). The spike in removals in 2014 may be partly explained by a NI Executive decision in November 2012 to increase historic building grant aid to stimulate the construction industry. This allowed support to be raised from 35% to 45% of repairs until 2014. However, the proportion of removed buildings grant aided remained the same at about 1/3 of the total, so other factors must also have had an impact.¹⁴

Long term issues

72% (380) structures on the HARNI register have been there more than 10 years. Cairndhu was used as a private house until 1949, when it was gifted to the people of Northern Ireland for use as a convalescent home. That function ceased in 1986 and the building was sold, first to the local council, and subsequently to a series of private developers. The building was not used while plans were drawn up, and it suffered vandalism. Issue of an Urgent Works Notice in 2003 improved security. However proposals for conversion to a hotel, or for housing within the site, have not yet delivered a sustainable use that could also maintain the heritage value of this listed building.



¹³ See discussion on pages 25-35 of the Heritage at Risk in NI Review, UAH, January 2019

www.ulsterarchitecturalheritage.org.uk/shop/heritage-at-risk-in-northern-ireland-review-and-recommendations

¹⁴ See discussion on page 14 of DOE Listed Building Grant Scheme Performance Measurement Framework, March 2016.

<https://www.communities-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/consultations/doe/built-report-listed-building-grant-evaluation-march-2016.pdf>

1.3

WORK UNDER WAY TO IDENTIFY RECORD AND EVALUATE ASSETS

The work to identify and record Northern Ireland's heritage assets continues; this may be with a view to identifying assets previously unknown or to improve the level of protection or information we have on individual assets.

- Archaeological Excavation reporting: **123** completed archaeological excavation reports were deposited in the Historic Environment Record of Northern Ireland (HERoNI) in 2018/19 (These are a requirement of the licensing of archaeological excavations by DfC)
- Scheduled monument designation work: **15** new scheduled monuments designated during 2018/19
- Second Survey and listing programme: records for **351** structures added to the Northern Ireland Buildings database including **59** new listings. Surveys were carried out in south Belfast and to the south of Lough Neagh
- Heritage at Risk records are being comprehensively reviewed and updated during 2019/20 in advance of a programme to concentrate on district council areas
- Local Development Plan work including local listing and landscape characterisation. Work has been underway across all **11** of NI's District councils to review local development plan designations
- Heritage Audits. Audits commissioned from Northern Ireland Environment Link by DfC were carried out of **4** areas within Northern Ireland during 2018/19. These seek to highlight the heritage assets and potential of a small area of similar size to a District Electoral Area. The surveys carried out were of: Carrickfergus, Upper Ards; Bellaghy; Hillsborough. This brings the total number of areas surveyed in this way to **9**
- Prosperity agreements/ MOUs with organisations to develop and encourage action beyond mere regulatory compliance continued. There were **4** of these in 2018/19: DfI Roads; Construction Industry and the Quarry Products Association; NIE Networks; & Londonderry Inner City Trust. One was also in development with NI Water
- Historic Environment Division also considers the potential designation of sites and buildings identified through research and fieldwork and by the general public

Case Study

New Knowledge from Excavations

Neolithic House near Dungiven

Due to their large scale, infrastructural projects like road improvement schemes are among the most significant in terms of new archaeological discoveries. Years of archaeological research may have taken place before site investigations begin.

This rectangular Neolithic house was identified at Turmeel townland, Co. Londonderry during the archaeological investigation of the A6 near Dungiven. It measured approximately 14m long and 7m wide and contained almost 1400 sherds of Neolithic pottery. The post holes which would

have supported the walls of the building can be clearly seen on this photograph. A detailed post excavation report must be submitted to HED as a condition of the archaeological licence issued for the work. This will then be available for public inspection in HERoNI. In addition, DfI Roads have agreed to produce a popular publication on the new knowledge gained from investigations along the road. HED has also reported on the project in its publication 'Unearthed' which summarises archaeological discoveries across Northern Ireland.



Image courtesy of Andrew Gault

1.4

WHAT FURTHER RESEARCH IS REQUIRED?

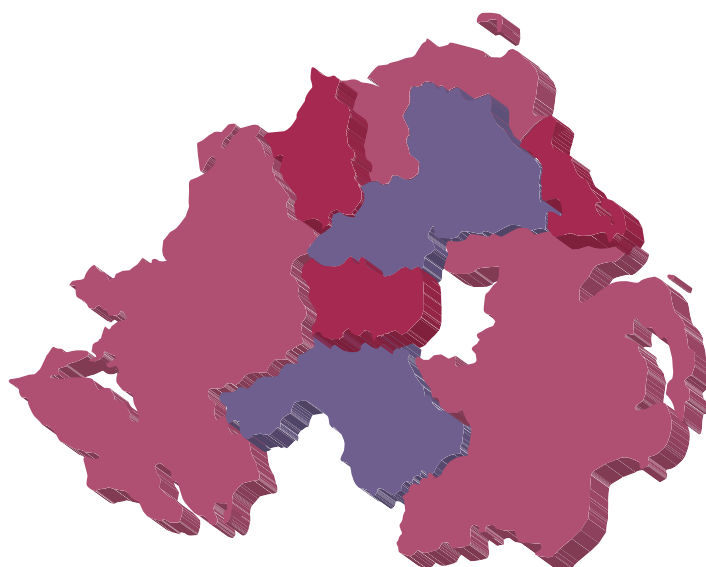
68% of NI¹⁵ has been resurveyed since 1997 with a view to providing assurance on the extent of the list of buildings of special architectural and historic interest (listed buildings) and providing enhanced detail on why each is important. This leaves **32%** without such data (see map below). While such data is unavailable, some listworthy buildings in these areas are not protected and detailed information is not available on already listed buildings.

Work is being commissioned in 2020/21 to increase data held by the Department on Industrial Archaeology and Defence Heritage, two areas where records are considered in need of supplementing.

In recent years Heritage Audits have proved a useful way of considering the overall collection of heritage assets in a local area and the organisational assets available to help them reach their potential. This has helped to enable a discussion about particular issues faced and the solutions which might be found to help them realise this potential.

9 Areas have been surveyed since 2017. The approach has taken inspiration from the Royal College of Art's Heritage Index assessment of NI heritage assets¹⁶ and their use at a Council Level. A number of District Councils are known to be considering extending this work.

Second Survey Coverage March 2019



■ Complete ■ Mostly resurveyed but remaining records to process ■ Not resurveyed

¹⁵ Figure derived from the proportion of [1973] electoral wards surveyed (355) from the total of 526 in NI. The size of wards can vary extensively and so this should be regarded as an approximation of the actual area covered. As wards are based upon population, however, it can be considered to be a reasonably accurate indication of the proportion of buildings covered.

¹⁶ www.thersa.org/action-and-research/rsa-projects/public-services-and-communities-folder/heritage-and-place/northern-ireland

SECTION 2.

HOW IS NORTHERN IRELAND MANAGING CHANGE TO ITS HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT?

2.1 MAINTENANCE

The best way best way to keep heritage assets is to maintain them. Regular maintenance can prevent costly renovations in the future and increase the lifespan of historic materials; it is both sustainable and cost effective. The data provided above on condition shows that in most cases the owners of heritage assets recognise this fact and carry out good work. In 2018, the Department for Communities supported the Historic Buildings Council to create an extra award category in the annual Heritage Angels Awards (this event is lead funded by the Andrew Lloyd Webber Foundation, with further support from DfC and local authorities between 2017-19. It is organised in NI by the UAH¹⁷). This award seeks to highlight this important work which can often be overlooked.

Historic Environment Division, the UAH and others in the sector also seek to promote



March 2019: Thatching course at the Ulster American Folk Park

maintenance through the provision of technical guidance which is available on their websites.

In 2019/20 DfC ran and supported, a number of initiatives to increase public awareness of the value of maintenance under the strapline:

#MaintenanceMatters

¹⁷ **The Heritage Angel Awards** 'aim to celebrate unsung angels of local heritage - individuals or groups, who have rescued an historic building or site, worked as craftspeople or apprentices, or recorded and interpreted a historic place'. See: www.ulsterarchitecturalheritage.org.uk/heritageangelawards/

Case Study

Best Maintenance of a Private Building 2018

The Lough House Greyabbey

The Lough House started life as a Coaching Inn en-route from Donaghadee to Dublin. Later additions made it the house which stands today. Its grounds include a stable yard and a walled garden. The present owners bought it in 1964 and installed a wood workshop in the stables. This enabled them to maintain and repair doors, windows, shutters and copy original mouldings with pitch pine and teak salvaged from architectural recovery yards. After 50 years, some roofs were slipping due to

rusty nails, and there was some water ingress. Upon receiving a grant, extensive works were carried out. These included roofing, using copper clout nails for the slates and bronze for the battening, lead work, chimneys, sash windows, new shutters, and insulation. One wall was finished in traditional lime render and any concrete window sills and chimney courses were replaced with sandstone. The project received a Heritage Angel Award in November 2018.



2.2 PLANNED CHANGE

2.2.1 INVESTMENT IN HERITAGE ASSETS

Assets may need more significant repairs from time to time. For buildings, these often occur when there is a change of use or a proposal to extend or alter a building. For monuments, their often partially ruinous nature can mean that there comes a time when major repairs are required. Wider surrounding development may also mean change to settings.

The historic environment sector makes a significant annual investment in repair works, but the vast majority of the investment comes from private owners and charitable/philanthropic funders. Sectoral funding, however, often helps to encourage owners to take the decision to make the investment required.

In 2008 Historic Environment Division¹⁸ reviewed historic listed building grant applications. This found that the vast majority carried out works beyond grant eligible repairs. It calculated that for every **£1** invested by the Department¹⁹, **£7.65** was invested by others¹⁹ - a significant catalytic

effect. The Division also calculated that the cost of repairing listed buildings to the published standard required of grant aided work²⁰ (maintaining natural slate roofs and sash windows for example) was on average **35%²¹** higher than the standard renovation specification of the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (such as using man made slates, pvc guttering and casement windows).

The Heritage Deficit is where the existing value of a heritage asset plus the cost of bringing it back into use is greater than the value of the asset after development has been completed. In Northern Ireland property prices are not as high as in other parts of the UK, but construction prices are not significantly different. This means that there is a higher risk of such circumstances occurring and it is therefore even more important in Northern Ireland that owners take timely action to maintain and repair these important assets.

¹⁸ The Division was then part of the Environment and Heritage Service of the Department of the Environment. It became part of DfC in 2016.

¹⁹ This figure was based on a defined year and considered over a hundred and fifty schemes. Total scheme costs were added and divided by total grant offered. Very large schemes were excluded so as not to produce a misleading ratio. 20% support for eligible repairs was offered for most projects at that time.

²⁰ Published by DfC as 'Advisory Standards for Repair and Guidance for Works to Listed Buildings.'

²¹ This figure was based on a comparison by the Department's Quantity Surveyors between the costs of work to standard at listed buildings for a range of items and the equivalent costs for work to the standard required by the Northern Ireland Housing Executive.

Investment in heritage assets by the NI Heritage Sector:

In 2018/19 DfC support of **£347k** was invested in supporting owners to repair **20** assets. DfC also invested **£382k** in **8** in State Care Monuments (Carrickfergus Castle, Dundrum Castle, Dunluce Castle, Grey Point Fort, Tullaghoge Fort, Magheramore Rath, Greencastle, & Ballycopeland Windmill).

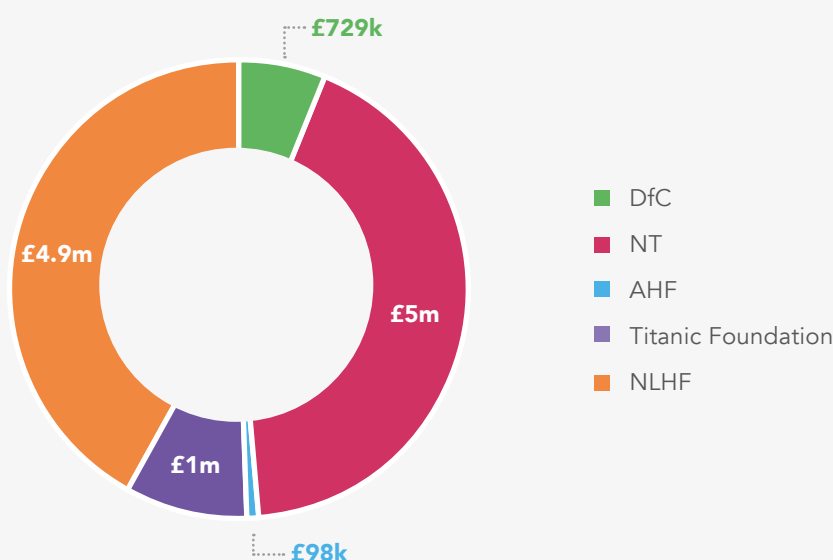
The National Trust invested over **£5m** in major projects in 2018/19. The Architectural Heritage Fund invested **£98k** of seed funding to secure

sustainable uses for **17** assets through Project Viability and Development Grants in 2018/19.

The Titanic Foundation invested **£1m** in the Great Light (one of the largest and most rare light house optics in the world was restored and put on public display on Belfast's waterfront. This was completed in March 2018). The National Lottery Heritage Fund provided support of **£4.9m** in 2018/19. That is a total recorded sectoral investment of **£11.7m** in 2018/19.

Recorded sectoral investment in heritage assets during 2018/19

Chart 9



National Lottery Investment over its first 25 years.

The National Lottery Heritage Fund provided support of c. **£244m** to over **1,400** NI projects from its inception 1994/95 to

March 2019. **£118m** of this was to over **500** projects in the 10 years from 2009/10 to 2018/19. **£67m** of this was invested in **173** heritage assets including **13** projects in conservation areas.

Case Study

Best Regeneration of a Major Building or Place

The Titanic Hotel

Following decades of under use, the former drawing offices of Harland and Wolff was successfully converted into a hotel in September 2017. Financially supported by the NLHF Heritage Enterprise Grant (£5 million), and by the Titanic Foundation through profit from the nearby Titanic visitor attraction, the £28 million project introduced sensitive changes that provided a sustainable new use for the building and an additional tourist attraction for Belfast. The project retained original features and developed historically

important rooms such as the Drawing Offices into spaces for public use.

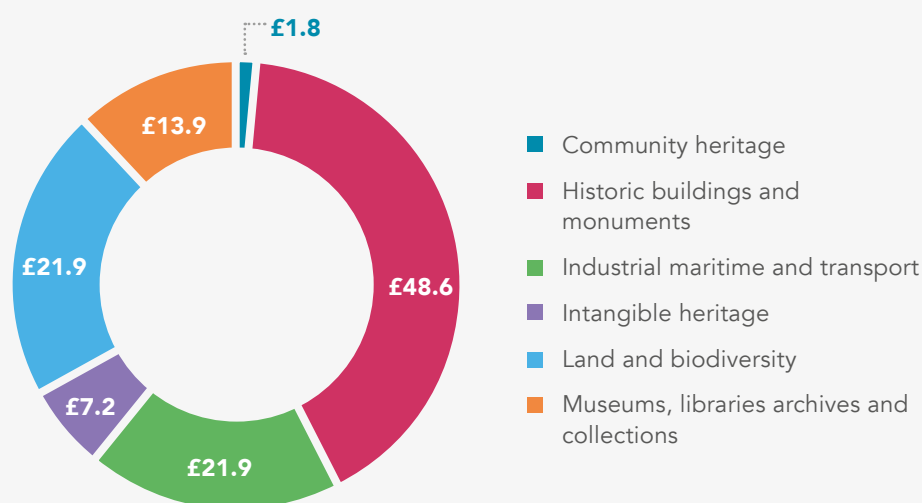
As a boutique hotel, visitors can stay in rooms which were once technical drawing offices. Through an agreed access strategy with the hotel operator, Titanic Foundation also ensures the heritage rooms are open to the public through guided tours and events; securing the building's place as a part of the local community and as a visitor attraction. The project was shortlisted for a Heritage Angel Award in November 2018.



Image courtesy of Titanic Foundation

NLHF investment in NI between 1994 and 2019

Chart 10

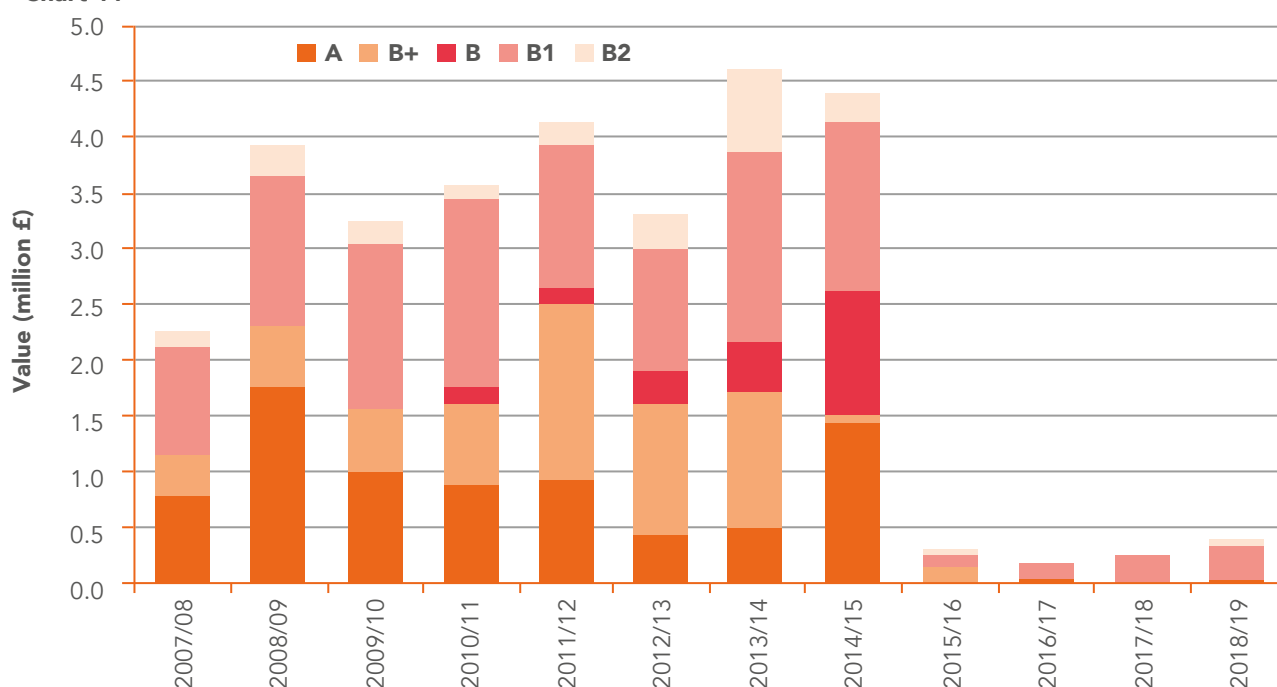


Grant awarded by NLHF programme 2009/10FY to 2018/19FY (£m)

| Programme | Grant awarded (£m) |
|--|--------------------|
| All Our Stories | £0.1 |
| Catalyst Umbrella Grants | £0.3 |
| Catalyst: Endowments | £1.0 |
| Catalyst: Small Grants | £0.0 |
| Collecting Cultures | £0.4 |
| First World War | £0.6 |
| Grants for Places of Worship | £3.1 |
| Heritage Endowments | £1.1 |
| Heritage Enterprise | £13.7 |
| Heritage Grants | £56.1 |
| Kick the Dust | £0.9 |
| Landscape Partnership | £15.0 |
| Our/ Your Heritage | £7.4 |
| Parks for People and Parks Initiatives | £2.8 |
| Repair Grants for Places of Worship | £1.4 |
| Resilient Heritage Over10k | £0.8 |
| Resilient Heritage Under10k | £0.0 |
| Sharing Heritage | £0.7 |
| Skills for the Future | £2.5 |
| Start Up Grants | £0.1 |
| Townscape Heritage/ THI | £9.4 |
| Transition Funding | £0.2 |
| Young Roots | £0.6 |

Listed building repair Grant from 2007/08 to 2018/19

Chart 11



Government investment in listed building repairs over ten years.

£28.4m was invested by government²² in listed building repairs in the ten years between 2008/09 and 2018/19.

European Union Support for NI's Historic Environment over ten years.

In February 2017 a research report into EU funding, undertaken for Historic England by the consultancy firm Euclid International, was published. The report, entitled 'Assessing the European Union's contribution to England's historic environment'²³, outlines a **£450m** range of EU funding gained for heritage focused or related activity in England across 10 years.

Using the same search criteria as the Euclid report an analysis of the amount of drawdown in Northern Ireland in relation to EU funded heritage focused or related projects 2007-2016 has been carried out. This estimates total drawdown in the those 10 years in Northern Ireland to be **£37m**²⁴ i.e an average of £3.7 million per year

EU funding can be split into two main **categories**:

- **The European Structural & Investment Funds (ESIF)**, which are mostly devolved back to the member states and then distributed separately to devolved regions. The ESIF figures also include funding under the PEACE programme which has been designed by the European Union to support peace and reconciliation

²² Listed building grants were managed by the Historic Environment Division of the Department of the Environment until 2016 when the Division became part of the Department for Communities. Budget reductions were enacted across all NI government departments in 2014 but existing grant commitments were honoured. Repair Grants were included within the DfC Historic Environment Fund from 2016.

²³ 'European Union Funding for the Historic Environment in Northern Ireland 2007-2016'

Report to HED based upon a review of a detailed analysis commissioned by DAERA.

²⁴ <https://historicengland.org.uk/content/docs/research/assessing-eu-contribution-to-englands-historic-environment-pdf/>

- The **trans-national funds**, which are programmes designed to stimulate collaborative working between partners from several eligible countries, or which support visits and exchanges between countries. This includes the **INTERREG** programme which funds projects on the basis of trans-national partnerships and which distributes funds via a number of geographically focused strands and sub-strands (England is eligible to participate in 8 of these sub-strands and Northern Ireland in 5)

If monies drawn down under the INTERREG 2014-2020 programme are not included (they were not included in the English estimate) this figure reduces to an estimated **£27m**. However, that figure is still double the **£13.5m** which would be expected if a Northern Ireland representative 3% slice was taken of the **£450m** drawn down by England. This demonstrates that EU funding has had a significant influence on the Northern Ireland historic environment, well above that expected per head of population when compared to England.

The figures given here are estimates and should be treated as such; Euclid believe that the English figures are likely to be an underestimate and that possibility must exist for NI as well.

Future Investment

Investment in the heritage sector by Government dropped as a result of significant NI budget reductions in 2014. NLHF budgets also dropped in 2018/19. It is not yet clear how EU support for the sector will be covered following BREXIT or what the impact on heritage budgets of the COVID19 pandemic will be, but is unlikely that the funding sources considered in this section will significantly increase in the short term. Therefore non-traditional ways of support are required if the heritage deficit faced by many buildings is to be addressed and owners are to be encouraged to undertake early cost effective interventions. The Heritage Sector is working together to seek ways to tackle this issue and a subcommittee of the stakeholder group was set up for this purpose in 2019. Partners are currently exploring its recommendations.



2.2.2

LEADING BY EXAMPLE: MANAGING CHANGE IN THE GOVERNMENT HISTORIC ESTATE

In 2011 the Northern Ireland Executive approved the introduction of a new protocol for the care of the Government Historic Estate²⁵. This commits government departments to 'lead by example' in the management of heritage assets in their care and sets out a twelve point approach which will be followed across government. Every two years, reports are sent to Historic Environment Division who then compile a summary report to the Assembly's Communities Committee. Reports were published in 2013, 2015 and 2018. In December 2018 there were:

- 1,340 NI heritage assets cared for by Government Departments
- 642 of these were listed buildings
- 283 were scheduled monuments
- 363 were on the Sites and Monuments Register
- 3 were defence heritage sites
- 17 were unlisted buildings of historic importance²⁶

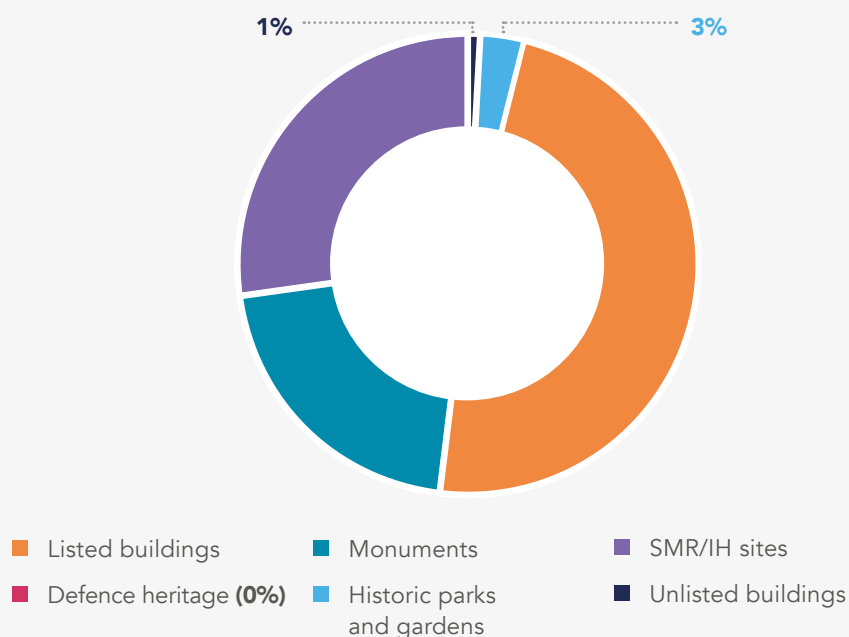


²⁵ www.communities-ni.gov.uk/publications/protocol-care-government-historic-estates

²⁶ Statistics are as reported to HED by individual departments. They are not independently verified.

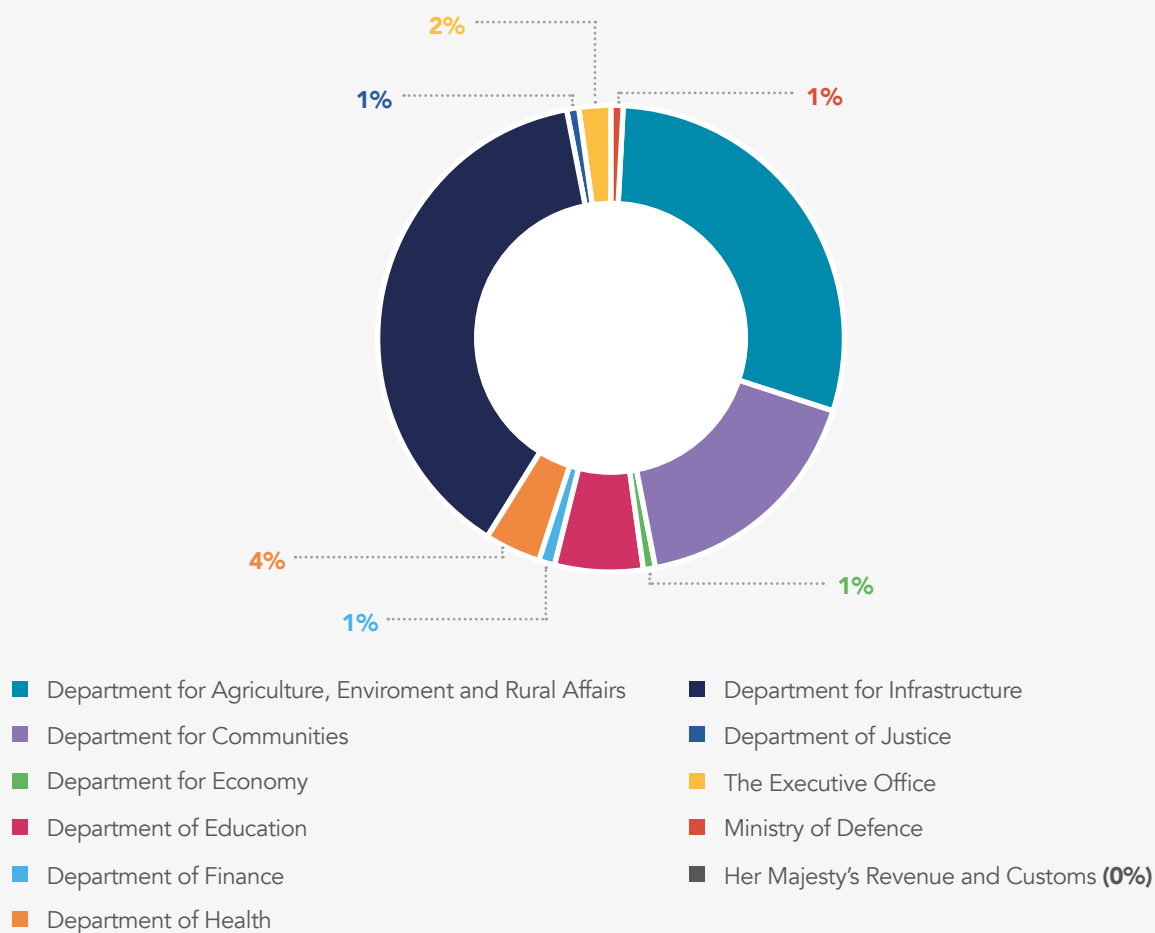
Government heritage assets by type

Chart 12



Responsibility for ownership

Chart 13



2.2.3

FAITH HERITAGE

In 2018, the Department commissioned the National Churches Trust to establish the needs and to increase awareness of solutions to issues faced by faith heritage buildings. A steering group was set up and a Places of Worship Forum established to: share information; improve communication; and assist in help and support for those facing such issues. Research was carried out which sought to identify common needs across traditions.

Data was gathered from an on-line survey²⁷ and two workshops to ensure information was retrieved from those caring for individual places of worship as well as from faith and heritage organisations. Responses were received from all of the four main church traditions in Northern Ireland: Presbyterian; Church of Ireland; Roman Catholic; and Methodist. Based upon 68 responses, **84%** of the respondents had a project for which they were seeking funding and of these **84%** were for fabric repair and **50%** for maintenance. **37%** of respondents with projects were seeking to cover costs of under £50K and **24%** were for projects over £200K.

In summary, funding was perceived as a major issue for congregations with an identified need for maintenance and small repairs funding. On the potential for faith tourism and welcoming visitors, there were clear capacity issues and there was significant need for skills around promotion and interpretation for visitors. On volunteering, **57%** of respondents felt that learning more



Conlig Presbyterian Church, Co. Down. In 2018/19 the National Churches Trust completed the third year of a pilot to use drone surveys to carry out condition assessments. This was in partnership with: the Ulster Historic Churches Trust, the Pilgrim Trust and DfC

about volunteering, managing and recruiting volunteers would be helpful.

On maintenance and fabric inspection, **71%** of respondents had an annual maintenance plan and **15%** reported that they did not have a regular inspection. Lack of funding was identified as being the key issue that hindered maintenance tasks from being carried out (**72%** of respondents), with **67%** noting concerns about access to high places and lack of skills among volunteers or staff (**41%**).

DfC continues to fund capacity building initiatives, with the NCT providing regular workshops and Places of Worship Forums which have been well received by attendees.

²⁷ 'Bringing greater support to places of worship in Northern Ireland' (NCT March 2018).

2.2.4 CONSENT REGIMES

Consent regimes allow the heritage interest of assets to be taken into account when change is proposed. Different designations allow the development of policies that reflect the needs of each category of asset. For example, for scheduled monuments there is a presumption that the asset will remain largely unchanged over time (preservation) whereas for listed buildings and conservation areas, there is a presumption that structures will be adapted and change over time to accommodate new uses, but that this change will seek to retain the historic character of the building or place (conservation). The vast majority of applications for change submitted to either the Department for Communities, Department for Infrastructure, or to district councils, are approved. However, in some cases, there may be significant discussion required before a proposal is considered compliant with policy.

Planning and Listed Building Consent

In 2018/19 there were **3290** statutory planning consultations by Planning Authorities of

The Department for Communities (DfC). This was a **14%** increase on the **2885** consultations received in 2017/18.

834 non statutory consultations were also dealt with by DfC. This was an increase of **5%** on the previous year.

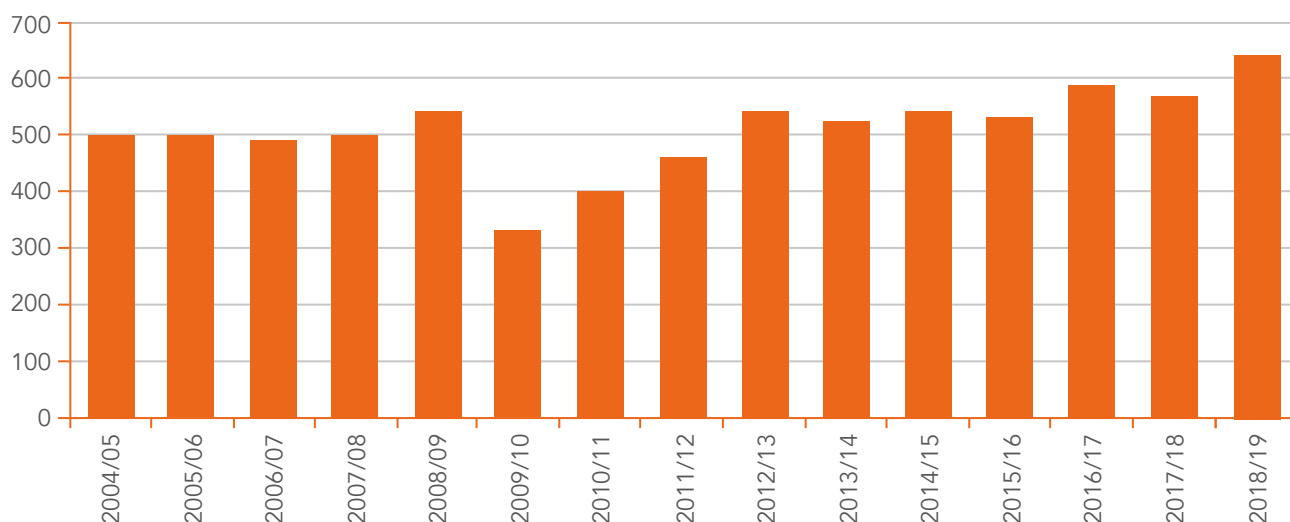
649 of the consultations were in regard to Listed Building Consent

149 of the consultations were in regard to Environmental Impact Reports.

Planning authorities do not have to inform the Department for Communities of their final decision. They must, however, notify the Department for Infrastructure if they disagree with DfC's view on Listed Building Consent. In 2018/19, **6** (valid) notifications of this were made to DfI by district councils, out of a total of **519** consultations received by DfC from councils over this reporting period. This equates to just over **1%** of consultations.

DfC Listed Building Consent Consultations 2004-2019

Chart 14



Case Study

Listed Building Consent

Killeavy Castle

Killeavy Castle, is a Grade A listed building set within picturesque historic parkland at the foot of Slieve Gullion in Co Armagh. Its stable block, mill building and gate lodge are also listed. However by 2014 the Victorian castle had been derelict for over a decade and was included on the Heritage at Risk Register. In April 2019 following a £12 million investment, it opened as an hotel, health spa/conference and hospitality facility. The walled garden was also restored.

Putting such a use into a highly protected building and estate demands great care and sensitivity. The solution was to leave the castle as it was, refurbishing its rooms to bring back historic character and putting the main accommodation and function of the hotel complex into the stable block and mill building.

An underground tunnel once used as a servants' passageway links the castle to the hotel. This followed the historic approach of putting ancillary accommodation below the main house with minimal impact upon the landscape. The works to the stable block are significant but efforts have been taken to retain its historic character while accommodating the new use. Listed Building Consent and Planning Permission was issued for all of the work. New work is clearly of its time yet seeks to complement the existing buildings. Overall, the complex uses the history of a unique place to bring an important part of the heritage of South Armagh into public use. It has also brought in excess of 95 new jobs and 90 local craftsmen were employed as part of the project.

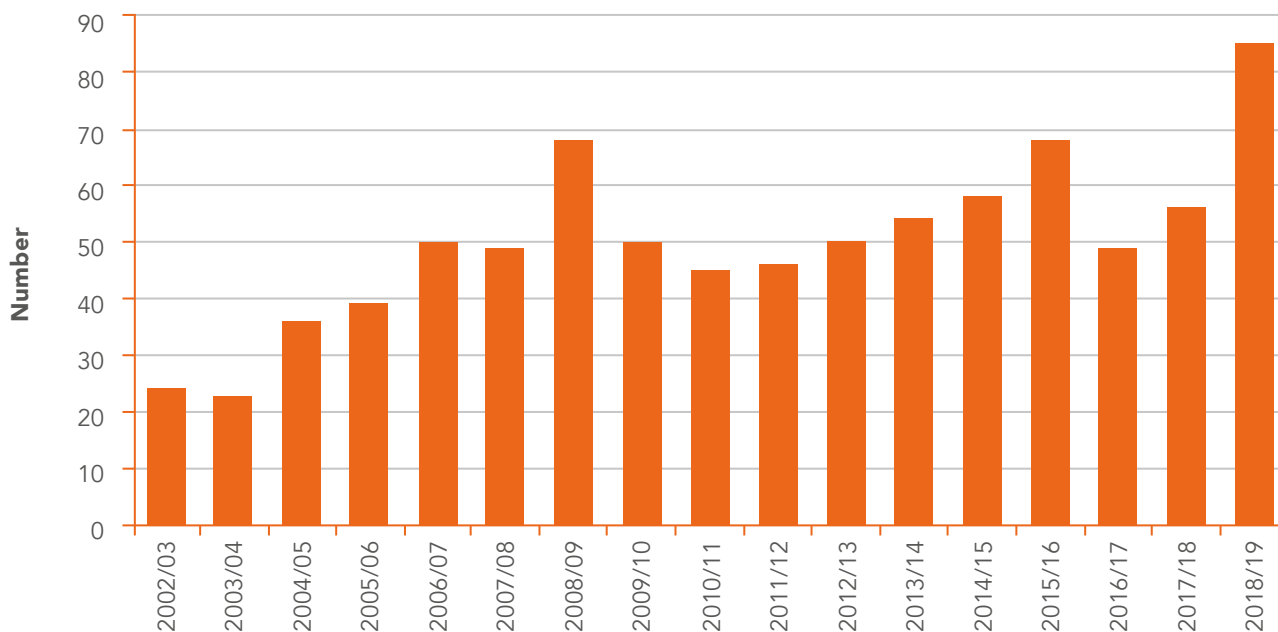
Image courtesy of O'Hagan Architects

Scheduled Monument Consent

85 applications were also considered by DfC in regard to Scheduled Monument

Consent. This was a **52%** increase on the **56** applications received in the previous year (2017/18).

Chart 15



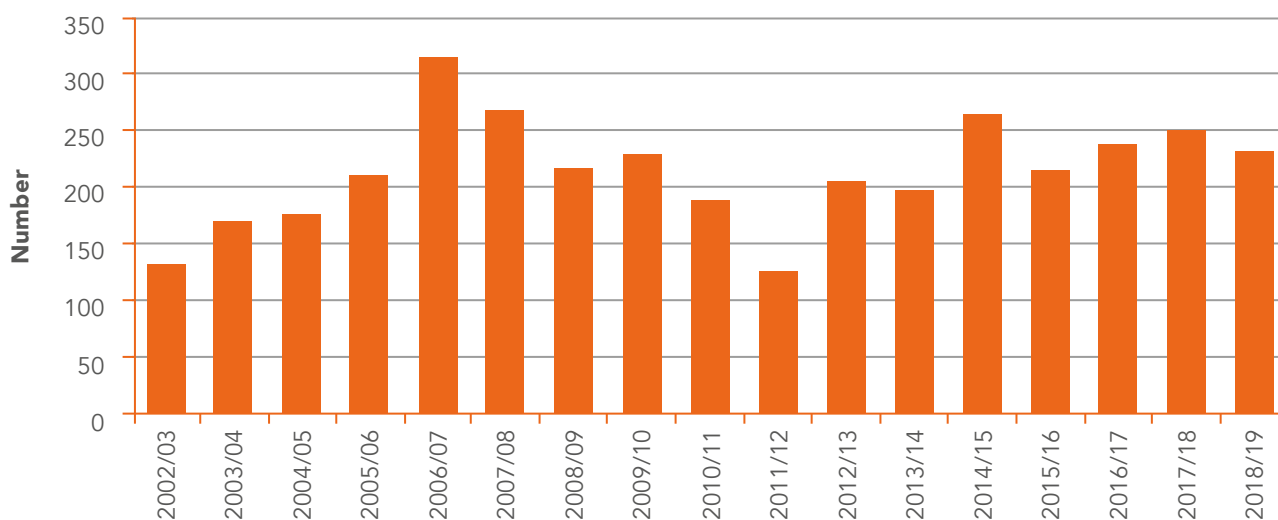
Archaeological Licences

In Northern Ireland all excavations to look for archaeological material require a licence. This work is often associated with archaeological conditions attached to planning consents.

231 Licence applications to carry out archaeological excavations were processed by DfC during the year. This is a **9%** reduction on the **253** applications in the previous year.

Number of Archaeological Licence Applications

Chart 16



2.3

POLICY CHANGE

Local Development Plans

During 2018/19, each district council in Northern Ireland was engaged in the development of new policies for the management of the historic environment, as part of a suite of new Local Development Plans. The policies within these plans must comply with the Strategic Planning Policy Statement for Northern Ireland²⁸ which was published in March 2015. DfC and other heritage stakeholders provide comments on all draft policies consulted upon during the period.

3 Preferred Options Papers were published for public consultation during the year. This took to 10 the number of such papers issued since 2016/17.

Community Planning

All District Councils in Northern Ireland were required to publish a first community plan for their area by March 2018. The documents published varied widely in their detail and the heritage sector provided comments on each. It has subsequently been actively involved in



many subgroups looking to realise heritage potential via this process.

2.4

UNPLANNED CHANGE

Not all change to designated heritage assets is managed through the consent process. Works may be carried out without seeking

consent, or structures may be damaged by accident or natural forces.

²⁸ www.planningni.gov.uk/spps

2.4.1

UNAUTHORISED WORKS:

State Care Monuments

34 incidents of graffiti and damage were recorded at State Care Sites during 2018/19. This ranged from minor damage to signs and light fittings to graffiti and nearby gorse fires. 5 cases were considered serious enough to be reported to the Police.

Scheduled Historic Monuments

2 cases of unauthorised work at scheduled monuments were identified during the year

and are currently within an enforcement process managed by HED.

Listed Buildings

DfC is aware of 48 buildings where the investigation of potential enforcement action is ongoing. District councils have primary responsibility for listed building enforcement and they do not have to report this activity to DfC, so there may be other cases that DfC is unaware of.

2.4.2

FIRES

DfC is aware of 5 fires which occurred at listed buildings during 2018/19. There is no requirement that such data is reported to the Department so this information may not be fully accurate.

2.4.3

CLIMATE CHANGE

Damage attributable to climate change is hard to quantify as it may have many subtle impacts- such as increased wetting and drying of fabric increasing long term decay mechanisms. One listed building in Northern Ireland was arguably



On 28 August 2018, a fire started on the roof of the listed Primark store in Belfast as it came towards the end of a major redevelopment.

lost to climate change in 2017, however, this was the Ballynameen Bridge on the outskirts of Claudy. A devastating flood in August 2017 destroyed much of its fabric and it had to be replaced.

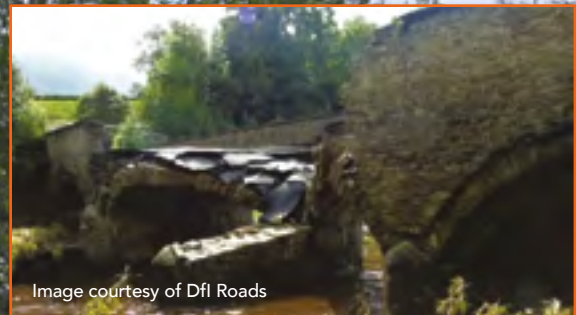
Case Study

Major Flood Event August 2017

Ballynameen Bridge

On 22 August 2017 the north west of Northern Ireland was hit by heavy rainfall. It was reported from MET Office sources that 63% of the average August rainfall fell in the affected areas within an 8-9 hours period. Lough Fea in Cookstown, County Tyrone, recorded 55.2 mm of rain in 24 hours on 22 August, with most of it falling in a 4 hour period. Two historic bridges were destroyed by the flooding; one near Carrickmore, County Tyrone, the second in Claudy, County Londonderry. As many as 30

roads were damaged, cars were swept away and several buildings damaged or destroyed. Ballynameen Bridge near Claudy was almost completely washed away. Its loss severely affected access to the village until replaced with a new construction in 2018. Though clad in stone and with much effort taken to reproduce the form of its predecessor, the new concrete bridge does not quite have the presence of the original construction, and of course, was an unforeseen cost to the roads agency.



SECTION 3.

WHAT IS BEING DONE TO REALISE THE POTENTIAL OF NORTHERN IRELAND'S HERITAGE?

The Draft NI Programme for Government was published for consultation in 2016 and in 2018/19 an Outcomes Delivery Plan was published with 12 intended outcomes. The

following consideration of potential, takes this plan as its reference point and considers relevant statistics relating to the heritage sector:

3.1 THE ECONOMY

In 2012 a report on the Economic Impact of Heritage in NI was commissioned. This reported that:²⁹

The historic environment generates circa £532 million of output per year, sustains a total of circa 10,000 FTE jobs and generates circa £250 million of GVA each year.

In NI, the historic environment = three jobs per thousand but the figure is 8.1 in the Republic of Ireland and 11.8 in Scotland.

If NI sector could perform at an equivalent rate to Scotland, it would be generating £1.5 billion annually and supporting 20,000 jobs i.e. three times its 2012 output and twice as many jobs.

²⁹ www.communities-ni.gov.uk/publications/study-economic-value-northern-irelands-historic-environment



Over 45,000 people attended the Awakening the Walls event in Derry~Londonderry during Halloween 2018

In addition to bringing economic benefit, Northern Ireland's heritage is distributed across the region and investment in this can also make an important contribution to achieving regional balance.

Economic impact from heritage is not just a result of tourism. It also helps to deliver places where people want to live and businesses want to locate, it can provide an environment that helps to nurture business growth and attract new business and create jobs.³⁰

However, there are further statistics easily available on tourism which help to illustrate that some of the potential indicated in 2012 has been realised in the intervening period.

In 2017, Tourism NI published 'A Prospectus for Change: A strategic framework to unlock the potential of heritage-led tourism in Northern Ireland.' This noted that in 2016 there were:

- **7.3** million heritage attraction visits³¹
- **4.5** million trips to Northern Ireland
- with **£851** spend on average per trip

It also highlighted potential: 'representing 40% of the visitor market, cultural tourism is taken increasingly seriously by cities and regions the world over. It delivers rich and memorable experiences. It triggers the imagination. It connects visitors with landscape and the heritage, art, and ideas

³⁰ See pages 4-11 of Heritage Delivers (published by DfC in 2018 on behalf of an alliance of heritage organisations).

³¹ Heritage Attractions defined in report as: 'historic properties; museums/ art galleries; visitor / heritage centres; work places; places of worship; other relevant locations' NISRA acknowledged as the source of the information.

of a host community. It builds up a story of a place, where it has come from and where it is going. It creates compelling destinations, known for what they stand for as well as what they offer.'

The NI Visitor Attraction Survey published by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA) provided the basis for this information and is reviewed annually. The information in the 2018 report indicates that this number has increased over the intervening years: 'Looking at the full picture sources point to a general upward trend since 2013 of the number of visitors to attractions based upon those who

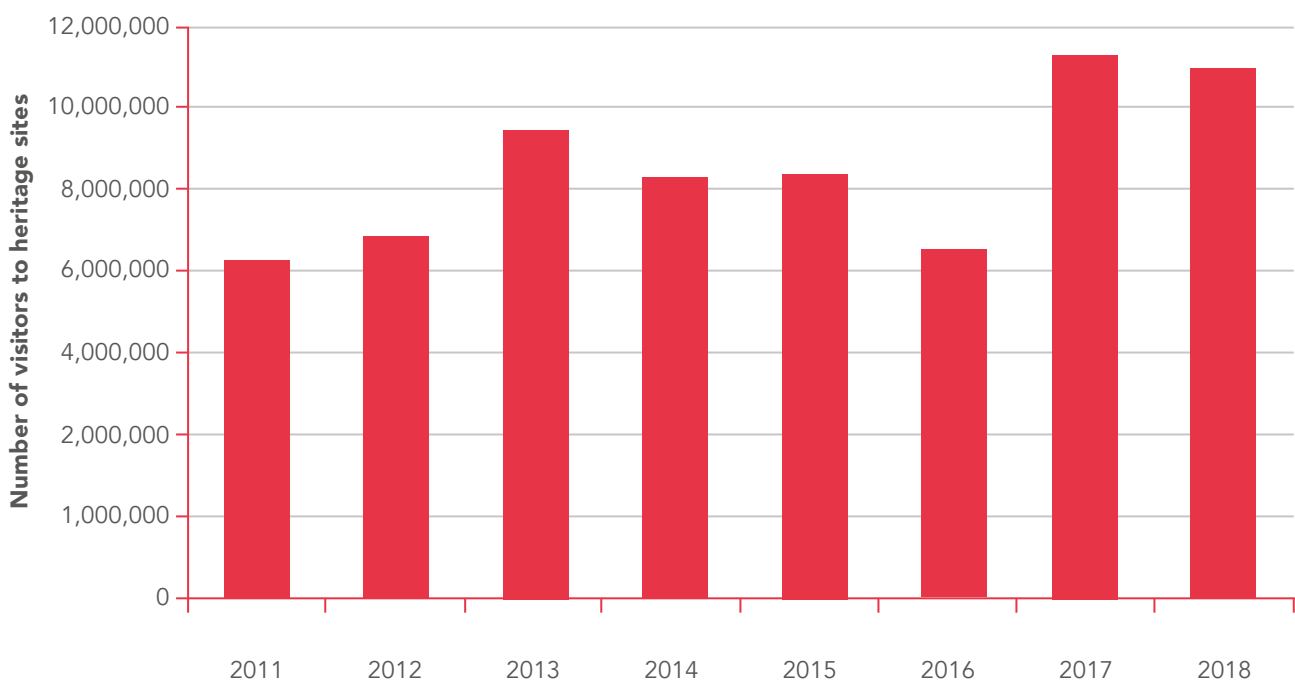
participated in the survey.'³² Using the same categorisation as the 2016 report in regard to 'heritage attractions' there were:

- **10.5m** heritage attraction visits recorded in 2018
- **50%** of total visits to visitor attractions were to heritage attractions
- **6** of the top **10** attractions in the region were heritage attractions

It is clear from these indicators that the contribution that heritage is making to the NI tourism economy has increased significantly over the last seven years.

Visits to Heritage Sites 2011 - 2018³³

Chart 17



^{32 & 33} Data taken from 2018 NI Visitor Attraction Survey

One example is the success of Titanic Belfast. Though a purpose built visitor facility, it is focused upon celebrating the heritage of its surrounding area. An economic impact study to the 31st March 2019 covering the first 7 years of operating³⁴ found that the project had generated an additional **£319m** of income for the local economy and that this has grown year on year. In 2018/19 the annual additional economic impact was assessed at **£60m**. During these 7 years, income from the attraction contributed to an additional investment in heritage assets in Titanic Quarter of **£60m**.

So what are we doing to make the most of this potential?

Advocacy

- In 2018 the Historic environment sector produced NI Heritage Delivers³⁵ which sets out why our heritage should be considered important and analyses the contribution it makes
- Community Plan engagement- the sector has provided detailed comment on all **11** community plans published by NI's district councils and is directly engaged on a number of related implementation groups
- Council engagement - DfC has engaged directly with **10** councils on the development of their Monuments in State Care
- City Deal engagement- the sector has engaged in the development of City Deal proposals for the Belfast City Region and Derry~Londonderry
- Government engagement – DfC has engaged in government sponsored discussions on urban regeneration and place making

Investment

- The sector has been investing directly in key heritage attractions. In 2018/19 the National Trust invested over **£5m** in major projects, Examples include the complete restoration of Frizzell's Cottage, Ardress, Co. Armagh, bringing this once derelict 18th century cottage back into use, the completion of a Conservation Management Plan for Mount Stewart Garden and Demesne, and the restoration of historic paths and rides, significantly increasing access and ongoing restoration work at the Kitchen Garden at Florence Court, Co Fermanagh. Historic Royal Palaces completed a **£22.5m** investment in Hillsborough Castle and opened it as a new heritage attraction, DfC invested **£382k** in maintaining and improving the presentation of **8** State Care Monuments and commenced major roof works, costing just over **£1m** at Carrickfergus Castle. NLHF Heritage Enterprise scheme spent **£5.2m** supporting the development of the heritage themed Titanic Hotel in the former Harland and Wolff drawing offices. (The NLHF has also invested **£15.9m** in **9** Landscape Partnerships over the last ten years. All of these are investing in the development of the natural and heritage assets of important landscapes)

Encouragement to be innovative

- NLHF, DfC, and TourismNI developed a small grant scheme as part of the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 to encourage arts and heritage organisations to develop innovative ways to explore and present heritage assets. **£500k** was dispersed to **16** projects

³⁴ Source: Titanic Foundation.

³⁵ See www.niheritagedelivers.org

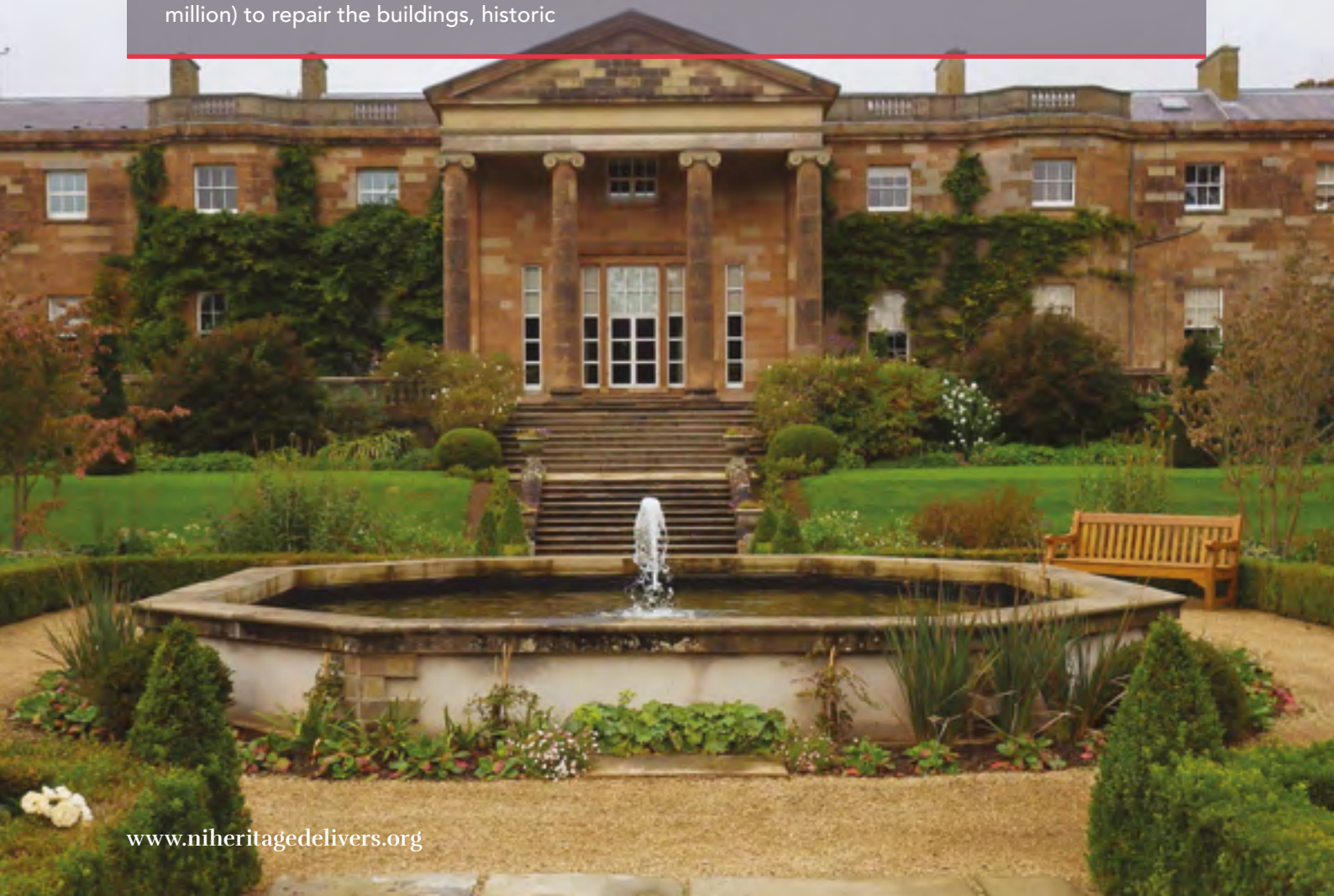
Case Study

Realising Heritage Potential for the Economy

Historic Royal Palaces at Hillsborough

Hillsborough Castle is the official residence of the Monarch in Northern Ireland. It is also the residence of the Secretary of State. The Grade A listed building is located behind ornamental gates at the top of the main street of Hillsborough and within its Conservation Area. The castle, and its extensive gardens, have been the location for many investitures and garden parties over the years as well as providing a private and secure space for the Secretary of State during the Troubles. In 2014, however, a decision was taken to open the site to the public and to share this hidden gem. This resulted in a transfer of responsibility from the Northern Ireland Office to Historic Royal Palaces, a charity independent of government which manages public access and marketing of other Royal Palaces. Significant investment (c. £22.5 million) to repair the buildings, historic

gardens, provide visitor facilities and parking followed. The project employed over 700 people from over 70 local construction companies. The work was completed in early 2019 with the site open in time for the summer season. The site has now become an important new heritage attraction for Northern Ireland, welcoming 115,000 people in its first season. But, this is just the start. To complement the project, DfC has enabled the transfer of leases of two nearby State Care Monuments – Hillsborough Court House and Hillsborough Fort, to the charity. These structures will be the focus of repair and presentation work over the coming years. This further investment will help ensure that the village, and not just the castle, will benefit from the heritage visitors attracted by the overall scheme.



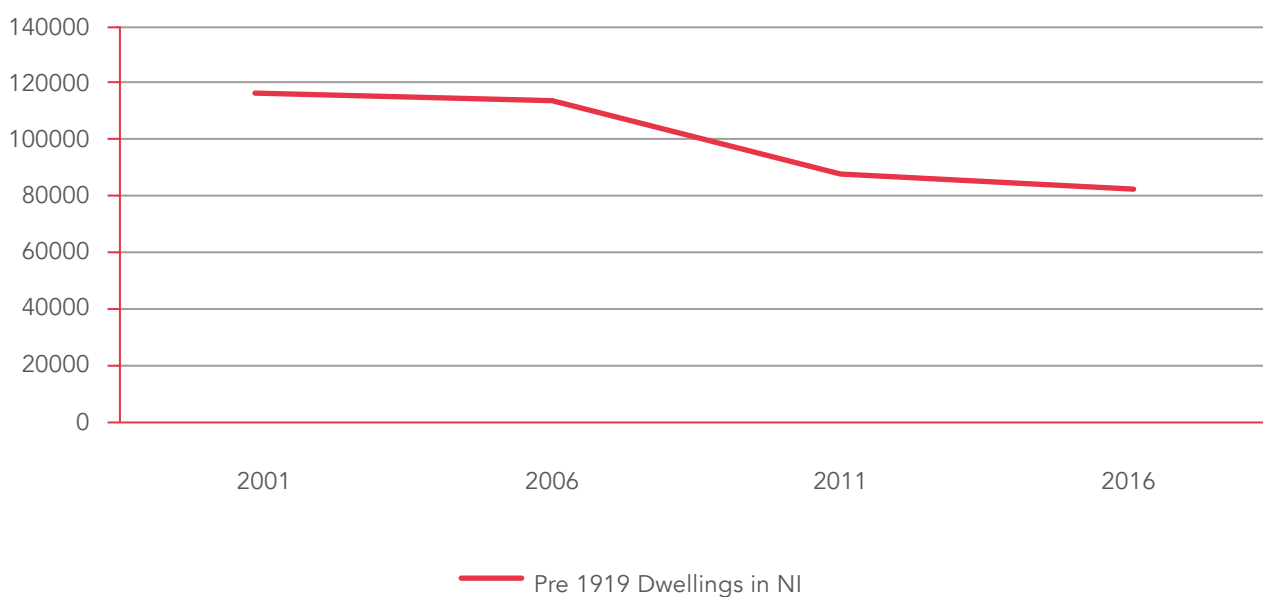
3.2 THE ENVIRONMENT

A key consideration in this area is around reusing buildings. Analysis of the lifetime carbon cost of different building types is still subject to development and confirmation, with a significant number of variables including the embodied energy of existing buildings, the likely life of different building types, and the energy efficiency that can be achieved. Recent analysis in England, for instance, found that when a Victorian Terrace is sympathetically refurbished and retrofitted, it will emit less carbon by 2050 than a new building, as long as whole life carbon is considered. In addition, there is increasing evidence that the level of energy efficiency of pre-1919 buildings is not as bad as once thought and that assumptions on poor energy efficiency

may not always be justified³⁶. The sector is engaging with the housing sector and academia to develop our understanding further.

The Northern Ireland Housing Executive publish annual statistics and occasional reviews of housing. Their data records that in 2001 there were 116,400 homes in NI that had been built before 1919. In 2011 only 87,700 were recorded. **That is a loss of around a quarter of pre 1919 homes in Northern Ireland in 10 years.**³⁷ The rate of loss was greatest between 2006 and 2011 and appears to have slowed in recent years, but the trend remains downwards.³⁸

Chart 18



³⁶ See Energy Efficiency and Historic Buildings, Historic England, 2018, page 2.

³⁷ Northern Ireland Housing Market Review and Perspectives 2015 -2018 (Belfast, 2018) n.b a 'home' is not always the same as a single building or house.

³⁸ Northern Ireland House Condition Surveys (2001, 2006, 2011 & 2016) NIHE.

NIHE also publish data on new social housing completions³⁹. This indicates the proportion of new social housing in the region which reuses existing buildings and the proportion in new build. Five categories of new dwelling completion are recorded:

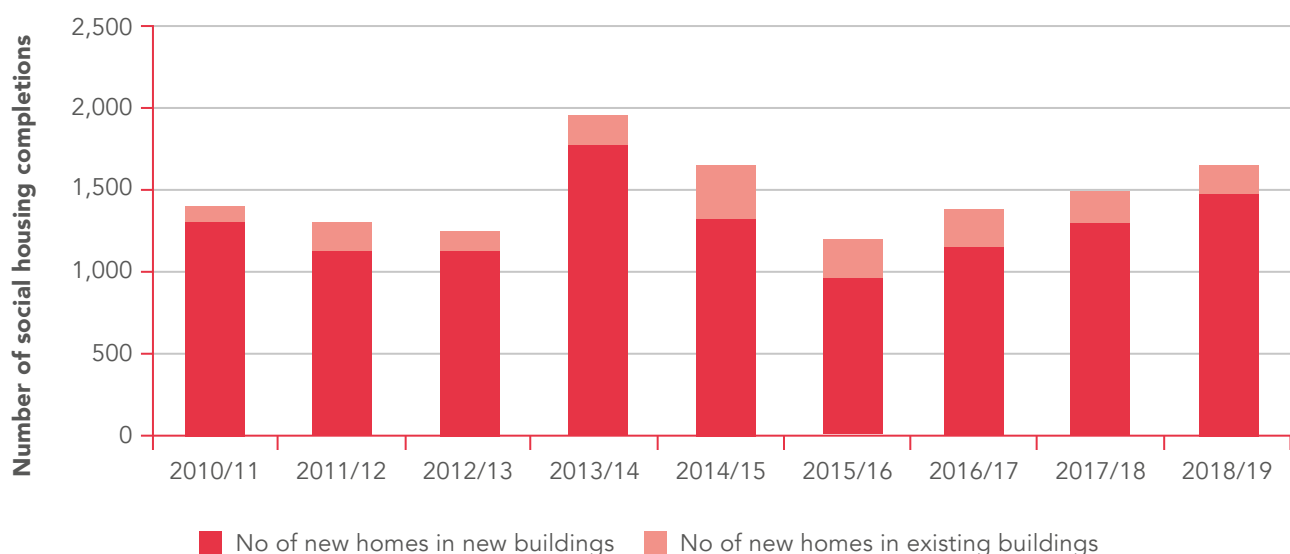
- New Build- New purpose built social housing
- Off the shelf – purchase of new houses from builders or developers
- Satisfactory Purchase – Existing dwellings which do not require upgrading

- Rehabilitation- Existing dwellings that require substantial repair or improvement (More than £10,000)
- Reimprovement- Using existing structures to 'provide something that was not there before' such as the conversion of a large building into a number of dwelling units

It can be seen that the first two categories relate to new build whereas the rest relate to reuse. From this the following information can be extracted. This data only relates to social housing and is for all buildings rather than solely historic buildings.

NI Social Housing Completions 2010 - 2018

Chart 19



From this information it can be calculated that:

- The number of new social housing units in existing buildings in 2018/19 = **198**
- The number of new build social housing units in 2018/19 = **1,484**
- Therefore, the percentage of total new social housing units delivered in existing buildings in 2018/19 = **12%**

Maintaining and reusing existing structures also contributes to reducing urban sprawl with knock on benefits to reducing transport and other forms of infrastructure. During 2018, the heritage sector worked with housing associations to find out how the proportion of reused buildings might be increased in the future.

³⁹ Table 1.9, Northern Ireland Housing Statistics 2018/19 www.communities-ni.gov.uk/publications/northern-ireland-housing-statistics-2018-19

Case Study

Realising the potential of heritage to be reused for housing

Abercorn Factory Derry~Londonderry

Located at a prominent location at the entrance to the west bank of Derry~Londonderry, the Abercorn factory is a visible reminder of the city's legacy as a world leader in the production of shirts from the nineteenth to late twentieth century. However, the building was underused from ceasing shirt production in the early 1980's and was vacant and increasingly derelict from the early 2000's. In 2018 a private developer converted the building into apartments,

repairing windows, repointing the façade and retaining its distinctive internal cast iron columns in the process. The building now houses a range of flats catering for a changed demographic of smaller house sizes and occupants who like to live close to the historic city with its wide range of amenities within walking distance. It also presents a bright and well conserved welcome to those crossing the river to enter the historic city.

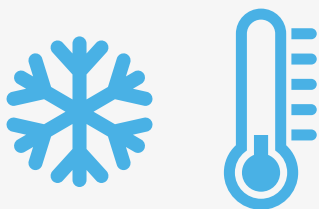


Climate Change

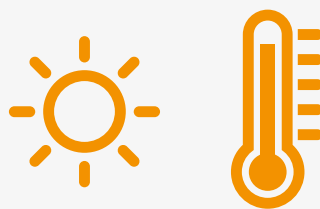
The environment is also facing a major challenge in the form of climate change.

The UKCP018⁴⁰ projections of future change

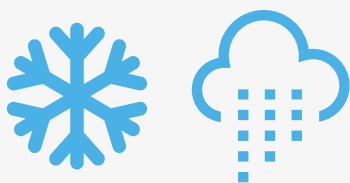
(measured relative to a 1981-2000 baseline for temperature and precipitation and a 1980-1999 baseline for sea-level rise) for Northern Ireland if high emissions continue are:



Increase in mean winter temperature very likely to be between 0.1-2.2 °C by 2060-2079



Increase in mean summer temperature very likely to be between 0.0-2.8 °C by 2060-2079



Change in winter mean precipitation very likely to be between -3% drier to 17% wetter by 2060-2079



Change in summer mean precipitation very likely to be between 28% drier to 6% wetter by 2060-2079



Sea level around the UK is predicted to rise under all emission pathways (Though this will be highest in the SE of England)

This is a major issue which will have significant implications for heritage assets over coming years, as it will speed up and exacerbate many decay mechanisms. Impacts are likely to include: structural damage to heritage assets; the undermining of structures; the exposure and erosion of archaeological sites; and the collapse of unstable masonry elements. Less

dramatically, it will also mean the loss of some historic landscape features; the decay of building fabric caused by increased saturation; microbiological growth in interiors and increased corrosion of metal elements. There will also be a risk posed by responses to the issue such as poor adaptation or inadvertent damage as agencies respond to this threat.⁴¹

⁴⁰ UK Climate Projection 18 www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/collaboration/ukcp

⁴¹ Predictions published for the island of Ireland by the Department for Culture Heritage and the Gaeltacht in September 2019 at: www.chg.gov.ie/app/uploads/2019/10/ccsap-built-archaeological-heritage-final-main-report-low-res.pdf

So what are we doing to respond to this issue?

- Local and Regional government has identified and protected through designation and policy, a wide range of heritage assets as outlined in Section 1 of this report. This helps to ensure that the 'historic environment' is protected and that its heritage interest is taken into account when considering change
- DfC has put resources into ensuring that advice is of high quality and that owners understand that buildings can be adapted. The Listed Building Owners Forum of January 2020 focused on this topic
- DfC has commissioned research into Climate Change and the Historic Environment of Northern Ireland, has contributed to the Northern Ireland Climate Change Adaption Programme 2019- 2024,⁴² and has increased its engagement with heritage agencies dealing with this issue across UK and Ireland
- The sector has engaged with District Councils through their Community Planning process to advise them of the potential of the Historic Environment and are working with a number as they produce plans to develop their heritage

⁴² www.daera-ni.gov.uk/publications/northern-ireland-climate-change-adaptation-programme-2019-2024

3.3

A MORE EQUAL SOCIETY

The economic potential of heritage assets and their wide distribution across Northern Ireland allows it to contribute to a regionally balanced economy.

Statistics to monitor this link are, however, difficult to isolate.

So what are we doing to make the most of this potential?

- Engaging with district councils and other parts of Government to ensure that they are aware of this potential
- Working with the Department for Agriculture, Environment and Rural Affairs to develop projects that help to tackle rural poverty and social isolation. In 2018/19 this included:
 - The development of a pilot project to bring beneficial community uses to important heritage buildings in villages (see case study)
 - Investment in paths and trails beside one State Care monument (Tully Castle Co. Fermanagh)

Case Study

Tackling Rural Poverty and Social Isolation

The DfC DAERA Village Catalyst Pilot

In 2018 the Department for Communities and the Department of Agriculture Environment and Rural Affairs developed a pilot project to support the repair and reuse of historic buildings at risk in villages with fewer than 5,000 people. To be eligible for support, projects had to demonstrate that they were providing a sustainable use that helped to tackle issues of rural poverty and social isolation. Projects were identified for the pilot by the Architectural Heritage Fund. They have been supported by DfC since 2017 to work with community groups to develop projects for heritage at risk. Four schemes were

identified in rural areas across Northern Ireland. In 2018/19 works commenced on the first project which is reusing the former Post Office in Gracehill Co Antrim. The building will house a café, small museum, and tourist accommodation and will be operated by the NOW Group. This is a social enterprise that supports people with learning difficulties and autism into 'jobs with a future'. So, in addition to providing a new social function for the area, those employed will also be trained to learn relevant skills. An arrangement has already been made with a local hotel to interview graduates.



3.4

HEALTH AND WELLBEING



Visitors to Holy Hill House, Strabane, Co. Tyrone, during the Ulster Architectural Heritage and Irish Georgian Society 'Conservation without Frontiers' summer school, June 2017

Enjoying long, healthy, active lives

Heritage contributes to quality of life, providing character and ambience to neighbourhoods, towns and regions across Northern Ireland and making them popular places to live, work in and visit. Such places are attractive to residents, tourists and workers alike.

In February 2020 data was published by DfC and NISRA based upon the Northern Ireland continuous household survey 2018/19.

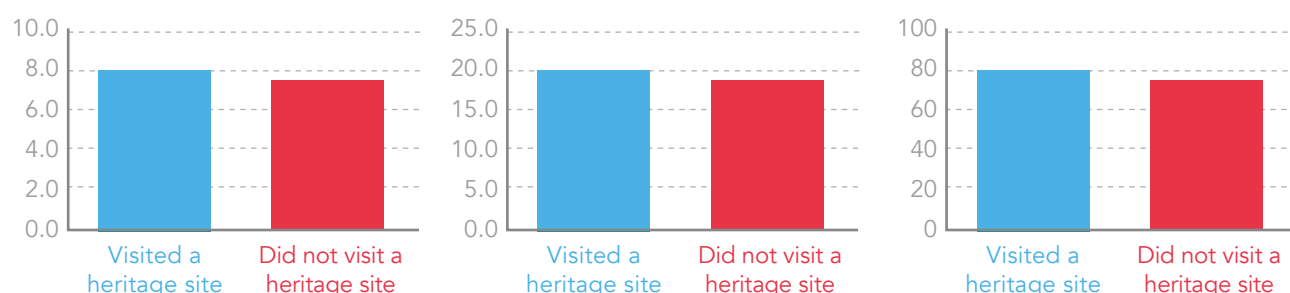
This found that there was a significant positive difference in wellbeing indicators for people who had visited a heritage site when compared with those who have not:

Life Satisfaction

Self-efficacy

General Health

Chart 20



Source: Wellbeing and Engagement in Culture Arts and Sport by adults in Northern Ireland 2018/19 DfC & NISRA

This correlates with data gathered elsewhere. In 2014 in England, for example, 'Heritage Counts' commissioned a study on the impact of visiting heritage on subjective well-being⁴³. The research looked at the relationship between heritage visits and well-being, using data from the Understanding society survey, which is a large representative sample of the UK population.

The research assessed the impact on "life satisfaction" of visiting eight different types of heritage during the previous year. Regression analysis was used and controlled for a range of factors known to be associated with

individual well-being: household income; health status (including diet); marital status; employment status; social relationships; gender; age; geographic region; religion and education. The research found that, once these variables are accounted for, visiting one or more heritage sites a year has a significant and independent positive relationship with life satisfaction. The impact of heritage visits on life satisfaction was found to be slightly higher than the impacts of participating in sport or the arts. Of the eight different types of heritage sites considered, visits to historic towns and historic buildings were found to have the greatest impact on well-being.

⁴³ historicengland.org.uk/content/heritage-counts/pub/2014/heritage-and-wellbeing-pdf

Volunteering

Volunteering has also been shown to have a significant positive impact upon wellbeing and health. In 2012 the Heritage Lottery Fund (now the National Lottery Heritage Fund) commissioned a three-year study to measure the impact of participating in heritage projects. They found that volunteers in HLF-funded projects reported higher levels

of mental health and well-being than the general population or general volunteering population. This was most marked in terms of their ability to 'play a useful part in things', an indicator that combines a measure of self-worth with social connectedness. One in three **(35%)** volunteers reported an increase in self-esteem and confidence in their abilities.

Volunteering in the historic environment is also expanding:

The National Trust reports that in 2018/19 the organisation had **3,000** volunteers in NI **contributing over 150,000 hours of their time.**

Historic Royal Palaces had **49** volunteers at Hillsborough Castle

Titanic Foundation had **12** 'TQ Heritage Helper' volunteers.

In 2018, nearly **720** people volunteered for European Heritage Open Days – a heritage festival organised on the second weekend of every September.

There were **16** building preservation Trusts in Northern Ireland each utilising volunteers to realise the potential of our heritage.

There were **2** friends organisations for heritage assets that also use volunteers to encourage activity at two State Care Monuments.

Case Study

Volunteering and Wellbeing

Evidence from England

In 2017 NLHF⁴⁴ supported 'Inspiring Futures: Volunteering for Wellbeing' to undertake a bespoke training programme at Imperial War Museum North, Manchester Museum and Museum of Science and Industry. This project recruited over 231 local people, who were long-term unemployed, socially isolated or had mental wellbeing challenges and gave participants the confidence to take on volunteer placements at some of the most prestigious heritage venues in the area, including the Whitworth Art Gallery and People's History Museum.

The project evaluation found that:

- Over 75% reported a significant increase in wellbeing after a year
- Almost 60% reported long term sustained wellbeing improvements over two to three years
- More than 30% of people gained employment or other new opportunities for getting into work

Participants also reported improvements in cognitive ability and an enhanced sense of belonging.



Museum of Science and Industry, Manchester (sketch, Manus Deery)

⁴⁴ www.heritagefund.org.uk/news/heritage-volunteering-boosts-wellbeing

So what are we doing to make the most of this potential?

- Seeking to increase access to our heritage
 - Many heritage buildings and places are in the public domain and can be visited, for free, all year round
 - DfC has been working to improve the accessibility of some of its State Care Monuments. A new access path, car parking and signage was installed at Tullahoge Fort in 2018/19
 - European Heritage Open Days has been encouraging owners to open privately owned heritage, or less visited parts of public buildings, to the public over the second weekend in September since 2008. In 2018 around **78,000** people visited **310** properties and events. This was a **13%** increase on the previous year
 - Other heritage places charge for entry– the number of charging heritage attractions in Northern Ireland on 31 March 2019 was: **66**⁴⁵
 - The accessibility of heritage resources can be increased as part of trails and routes. The number of such routes listed on the Discover NI website on 31 March 2019 was: **59**⁴⁶
 - Tour guides also provide a bespoke interpretation of heritage. Tourism NI published an audit in November 2018⁴⁷ which reported that there were **554** guides in Northern Ireland. Of these there were:
 - **161** Tourist Guides
 - **284** guides employed by attractions
 - **82** sole practitioner SME guides
 - **27** Student guides
 - Heritage membership organisations encourage access and participation with the historic environment. In 2018/19 membership of these organisations was increasing in Northern Ireland. There were:
 - **94,000** members of the National Trust in December 2018 and **100,000** by August 2019 up **6%** in six months
 - **898** members of the Ulster Architectural Heritage Society (they report that 'Overall new membership is rising')
 - **16** corporate members of the Heritage Trust Network
 - **42** full house members of Historic Houses in Northern Ireland
 - Data is not currently available on membership of the **96** local historical societies, Friends groups and Civic Trusts. A conservative estimate of **c.10** members each would add a further **960** people to the total.
That means that there were at least 95,916 members of heritage organisations in Northern Ireland on 31 March 2019.

⁴⁵ As listed on Discover NI. NB. a number of free venues are listed on this site as paid sites and while every effort has been taken to cross check accurately, this number has to be taken as approximate.

⁴⁶ As listed on Discover NI. Heritage trails defined, for the purpose of this report.as: trails clearly linking heritage locations, associated with historic people, or within clear historic parks and gardens.

⁴⁷ Review of the Northern Ireland Tour Guiding Industry November 2018- Report Findings, TEAM Consulting.

3.5 CREATIVITY

The economic and social potential outlined above provides plenty of space for innovation and creativity. As heritage related tourism increases the nature and variety of jobs in the heritage sector also appears to be increasing. We hope to have statistics on this in future publications.

So what are we doing to make the most of this potential?

- As described for Outcome 1 above, DfC, NLHF, and Tourism NI launched a joint grant scheme in 2018 to stimulate creative responses to heritage through the arts
- The groups cooperated to hold a conference in February 2019 and published a subsequent manifesto – room to muddle
- The Arts Council and Tourism NI developed an innovative fund worth c.£150,000 to embrace heritage sites and showcase them using the arts⁴⁸. Four projects were supported including Riverbox – an art installation commissioned in March 2019 and installed in September 2019 beside the Titanic Slipways. Titanic Foundation also contributed to the £80,000 cost of this
- DfC, Derry City and Strabane District Council and the Honourable the Irish Society worked together to launch a small grant scheme (£28k) to encourage innovative events associated with the 400th anniversary of the completion of the Derry Walls. The PEACE IV Tourism Programme also supported 'Walls Have



Cockle Row, Groomsport, Co Down

⁴⁸ tourismni.com/media-centre/News/tourism-ni-and-arts-council-ni-launch-embrace-the-place-arts-programme/

Ears' (£27k) a project of living history characters telling stories and legends about the Walls, providing 3 days a week of summer animation. This, and an associated call for venues to offer events resulted in a programme with over **300** activities

- DfC also licensed or hosted **105** events at its State Care Monuments in 2018/19 as well as **66** filming requests and **48** photography requests

- National Trust held over **200** events at its properties, including the third year of its innovative 'Conversations' event at Mount Stewart which draws upon the reputation of the house in the 1930's as a place where important issues of the day were discussed
- Ulster Architectural Heritage held or organised **21** events and report an attendance of **2,057** people at these: (EHOD events **444**, Bake A Building **700**, Heritage Angel Awards **410**, other including annual UAH events programme **503**).

Case Study

The Historic Environment providing a boost for creativity

The European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018 Innovation Fund- a Messy Manifesto

In 2017 NLHF, DfC and Tourism NI came together to consider the potential offered by the European Year of Cultural Heritage 2018. An exploratory business case was commissioned which recommended that the opportunity be taken to 'build energy, confidence and capacity through new partnerships and working practice' and to 'build capability through pilots that focus on next practice rather than best practice.' This resulted in the development of a joint grant scheme, administered by NLHF, that invited applications for projects that were: undertaken in 2018; involved collaboration within or across sectors; included tourism expertise; and actively addressed the diversity of people who can engage with Northern Ireland's heritage. 16 projects were supported to undertake a range of innovative heritage activities from the use of artificial intelligence to enhanced visitor experience of sites, to the delivery of artistic events in partnership with heritage venues that had not previously hosted such activities. A workshop was held in March 2018 to consider the lessons learned and chart a way to maintain momentum and



the partnerships made. This resulted in the 'Messy Manifesto' which argues that heritage creativity requires trial and error as well as innovation to keep it relevant and exciting.

3.6 EMPLOYMENT

The 2012 report on the Economic Impact of Heritage in NI⁴⁹ found that the historic environment generates sustained a total of circa **10,000** FTE jobs. As explained in the section on the economy, this is likely to have increased in the intervening period.

Heritage Construction Jobs

In June 2018 DfC published a report commissioned from the Construction Industry Training Board of Northern Ireland on heritage skills.⁵⁰ This found that:

- 'the general consensus seems to be that demand for conservation, restoration, repair and maintenance is increasing'
- 'In some trades there is an issue of supply'
- 'The impact of any skills shortages will mean poor workmanship and higher costs due to having to complete rework as well as delays to jobs if only a few contractors are available to do the work'

Therefore, there appears to be continued demand in Northern Ireland for workers trained in this area.

Heritage Tourism Jobs

The NI Visitor Attraction Survey 2019⁵¹ records that:

'A total of 142 attractions provided information on employment totalling 3,155 employees and volunteers in 2018. Around 26% of staff were employed on a full time permanent basis.' 32% were unpaid volunteers.

So what are we doing to make the most of this potential?

- Sectoral Group established on heritage skills
- DfC insists on Conservation Accredited agents on all repair schemes it supports through its Historic Environment Fund
- DfC and CITBNI supported the Chartered Institute of Builders to provide a taster seminar for builders on heritage skills in May 2019. This has been followed by three oversubscribed detailed courses provided by CIOB
- DfC is engaging with the Prince's Foundation and other education providers to develop skills training based at its Conservation Works Team HQ at Moira and at Hillsborough Castle

⁴⁹ www.communities-ni.gov.uk/publications/study-economic-value-northern-irelands-historic-environment

⁵⁰ www.communities-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/communities/heritage-skills-in-the-heritage-sector-in-ni.pdf

⁵¹ NI Visitor Attraction Survey 2019 published by the Northern Ireland Statistics and Research Agency (NISRA)

Case Study

Demand for Trained Construction Sector workers

In 2018, the National Trust completed a 5 year project to conserve Mount Stewart house on the Ards peninsula. The work was difficult and intricate and involved much specialist heritage expertise. In each of the three years covered by the Heritage Angels Awards in Northern Ireland (2017-2019) a local craft person or heritage professional associated with the project either received an award or was highly commended. This reflects the high skill level involved in and

demanded by this project. However, the Trust and its contractor struggled to find suitably skilled craftsmen to carry out all of the necessary work. The deficit was such that some crafts people had to be recruited from Scotland. This increased costs as accommodation had to be included and also meant that a valuable training opportunity was lost to local workers. It visibly highlights a need and an opportunity for specialists in Northern Ireland.



The Conversations festival, Mount Stewart, October 2018

3.7 PLACEMAKING

Places where people want to live, work, visit and invest.

The historic environment is often a key ingredient in the places that we love and value. It is also very important to their regeneration. It is what makes them distinctive, provides character and provides a physical reminder of their history. This can be exploited to improve attractiveness to both visitors and locals, which can help increase community pride and influence decisions on where to live and work.⁵²

Isolating statistics to illustrate this effect is difficult. The National Lottery Heritage Fund published UK data in 2013 as part of a ten year evaluation of its Townscape Heritage Initiative (THI) which sought to 'enable partnerships of local, regional and national interests to preserve and enhance the distinctive character of historic areas'.⁵³ This included data on Northern Ireland sites. It concluded in regard to the regenerative impact of the schemes that:

- 'In order to have the desired social as well as physical impact on a conservation district, the area targeted by THI type funding should be of a scale where a) the level of investment can be expected to have measurable influence and b) where the effort can be noticeable and understood by local people – i.e. it is concentrated and highly visible
- Conservation-led regeneration may be desirable for heritage reasons, but cannot be expected to overcome regional and national economic trends, but it can mitigate the effects'

Information on visits to heritage sites in Northern Ireland has also been obtained from questions asked as part of the NI Continuous Household Survey. Visits can reflect the attractiveness of a place as well as an interest in heritage. Key messages were as follows⁵⁴:

⁵² See also pages 10-11 and 19-23 of Heritage Delivers (published by DfC in 2018 on behalf of an alliance of heritage organisations).

⁵³ www.heritagefund.org.uk/sites/default/files/media/attachments/thi_2013_10-year_report.pdf

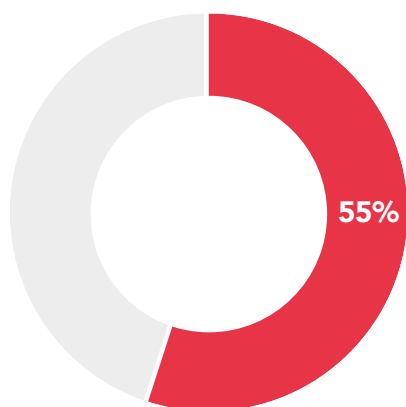
⁵⁴ This data was first published by DfC in December 2019 as Experience of heritage by adults in Northern Ireland, 2018/19.

Visted a place of historic interest

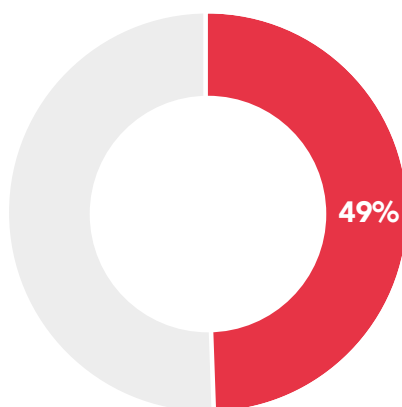
Frequency of Visits

Most popular sites visited

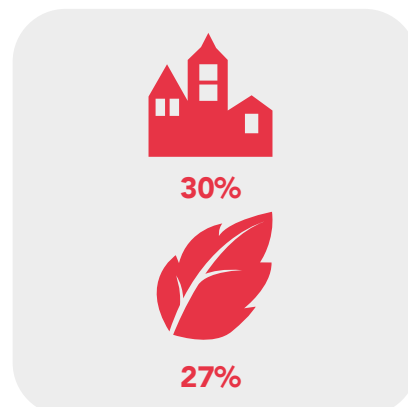
Chart 21



In 2018/19, **55%** of adults had visited a place of historic interest within the last 12 months, a similar figure to that of both 2017/18 (**54%**) and 2016/17 (**53%**)



Just under a half (**49%**) of adults who visited a place of historic interest visited at least 3 or 4 times a year



The most popular sites visited were a city or town with historic character (**30%**) and a historic park or garden open to the public (**27%**)

The text used for the questions is exactly the same as that used in England allowing comparison outside Northern Ireland. English data for 2018/19 was published in September 2019 as part of the DCMS Taking Part Survey⁵⁵. It reported that '**72.4%** of adults reported having visited a heritage site in the last 12 months, similar to 2017/18, and an increase from **69.9%** in 2005/06 for England.'

There therefore is a significant reported difference between what appears to be a reasonably static result in both jurisdictions with regard to the experience of heritage by adults – that NI residents are around 15-20 percentage points less likely to have visited a place of historic interest (or to have recognised

that they have done so). Does this suggest less value is placed upon historic places by the residents of NI or just that there are fewer such places clearly marketed in this way i.e as a historic town or location?

So what are we doing to make the most of this potential?

- Mid and East Antrim Borough Council and DfC have been working together to realise the heritage potential of the medieval walled town of Carrickfergus. Significant investment has already been invested in its castle and the overall project is to be included in the Belfast Region City Deal

⁵⁵ assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/832874/Taking_Part_Survey_Adult_Report_2018_19.pdf

Case Study

Regeneration of a Village

The Richhill Townscape Heritage Initiative Scheme

The centre of Richhill in Co Armagh is designated as a Conservation Area. Its central focus the Seventeenth Century castle at the top of a steep main street. By 2004, however, the once prosperous market town was in decline. Locals established a Building Preservation Trust and developed a strategic development plan in consultation with stakeholders. This led to a successful application to the National Lottery Heritage Fund for a Townscape Heritage Initiative scheme. Over subsequent years eleven

buildings, including the castle (which was on the Heritage at Risk Register), were conserved. Works included reinstating sash windows and cast iron rainwater goods, re-rendering and re-painting facades and making signage more in-keeping with a historic area. The scheme was complemented by a public realm scheme which introduced high quality paving and conserved street furniture. The result is that a number of new businesses have been established in the village and importantly, footfall is up. The village is thriving once again.

Image courtesy of Armagh City
Banbridge and Craigavon
Borough Council.



- In 2018 the Inner City Trust, DCSDC, and DfC collaborated to deliver a major conference in Derry~Londonderry on 'heritage led prosperity'. This produced an action plan which contributed to City Deal for the Derry~Londonderry City Region discussions and was revisited at the HTN AGM in the city in November 2019 ⁵⁶
- The National Lottery Heritage Fund is supporting six Townscape Heritage Initiatives in Northern Ireland
- Its 'Great Places' project sought to 'encourage local areas to put heritage and culture at their heart'. **Four** projects are being supported : Coalisland and East Tyrone; The Arney River Heritage Corridor; North Belfast Old to New and Seaside Revival and Bangor-by-the-Sea
- The lottery is also supporting **9** Landscape Partnership projects. These are also encouraging place making initiatives in the rural area, particularly

the joining up of heritage sites through community action and interpretation

- DfC has commissioned **6** Site Evaluation Plans for its State Care Monuments
- DfC is also working with District Councils in Strabane, Armagh, and Lurgan to make the most of their historic towns
- Staff within district councils who can advocate for the historic environment is also very important in this regard. In 2018/19:
 - **11** district councils (**100%**) employed a conservation officer in their planning team
 - **3** district councils (**27%**) employed a Heritage Development Officer or similar in their regeneration or museum teams (DfC has supported a three year pilot at DCSDC to demonstrate the benefit of such posts)

⁵⁶ www.facebook.com/unlockingheritageledprosperityconference

3.8 EDUCATION

Giving our children and young people the best start in life.

The Historic Environment of Northern Ireland shows the marks of the long history of this place, from ancient tombs to Victorian industry. It is a unique resource for educators. It provides scope for all sorts of conversations and helps to illustrate that history is not as simple as often portrayed. Understanding Northern Ireland's complex history can also increase respect and understanding between differing groups.

The Department for Communities publishes general information for teachers and school groups to make the most of a visit to its State Care Monuments. It also publishes information and work books relating to four of its sites.⁵⁷ In 2018/19 it offered support to schools to help them visit its sites through its Historic Environment Fund.

The National Trust is also happy to accommodate school groups at a range of places and publishes educational information and work books e.g. for its Mount Stewart site.⁵⁸

Ulster Architectural Heritage also has educational information available on its website.⁵⁹

The National Lottery Heritage Fund requires that a wide range of people are actively involved in all of the projects it supports. This usually includes proposals for increasing knowledge and understanding of the heritage, increasing audiences that access the heritage and education work with people of all ages and abilities. Activities can include education and accredited training programmes working directly with schools, community organisations and heritage professionals.

DfC reports that there were **168** educational visits recorded to its sites in 2018, including **148** to Carrickfergus Castle (4,358 people) but as few of its **190** sites are staffed, it is likely that the number was higher.

The sector also organises a wide range of lectures and talks on the historic environment and responds to requests from schools and community groups.

⁵⁷ www.communities-ni.gov.uk/articles/school-visits

⁵⁸ www.nationaltrust.org.uk/mount-stewart/features/education-groups

⁵⁹ www.ulsterarchitecturalheritage.org.uk/other-projects/

Case Study

Education and the Historic Environment

Children of the Heartland Project

The Heartland project was undertaken by primary school pupils, resulting in the publication of 'Heartland' a collection of poems written by the children following visits to various heritage sites in Mid-Ulster. The project was led by two education officers from Mid-Ulster District Council, Roisin Convery and Peter Lant, who wished to encourage children to explore their heritage with the benefit of improving literacy. This project fitted into the Northern Ireland primary curriculum of 'The World Around Us' and 'Language and Literacy'. The children, across eight different schools, each visited a local heritage site, including Bellaghy Bawn, Knockmany Passage Tomb, Lissan House and Tirkane Sweathouse; and learned about the unique history of these places from experts. On each visit, Myra Zepf, Children's Writing Fellow for Northern Ireland, accompanied the children; and led poetry writing workshops following the visit to help the children express what they had learned on paper.

The Heartland book was launched in May 2019, and is a celebration of both language and built heritage, sharing the wonder and fascination that the children felt about the atmosphere and history of these exciting

historic places. The book is available free of charge in visitor information centres across the Mid-Ulster Council area, allowing the public to learn more about their local built heritage in a different way. The project received an award at the 2019 Heritage Angels event.



Image courtesy of Mid Ulster District Council.

A collection of poetry
written by local children and inspired
by the heritage of Mid Ulster

3.9

THE HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SECTOR IN N. IRELAND

In 2018/19 there were 135 heritage organisations identified in NI.

These can be characterised as:

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1. | 1 NI Government Department (DfC) |
| 2. | 2 Government Heritage advisory bodies (Historic Buildings Council & Historic Monuments Council) |
| 3. | 11 Regional Heritage NGO's (National Trust, National Lottery Heritage Fund, Architectural Heritage Fund, Heritage Trust Network, Ulster Architectural Heritage, Ulster Archaeological Society, Northern Ireland Environment Link, Historic Houses, National Churches Trust, Ulster Historic Churches Trust, Heritage Council of Ireland), |
| 4. | 7 professional institutes/ academies with specialist heritage divisions (Royal Society of Ulster Architects, Institute of Historic Building Conservation, Chartered Institute for Archaeologists, Institute of Archaeologists of Ireland, Royal Irish Academy, Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors, The Institution of Structural Engineers, Chartered Institute of Builders) |
| 5. | 2 Civic Trusts (Belfast, Foyle) |
| 6. | 16 Building Preservation Trusts ⁶⁰ |
| 7. | 1 Heritage Foundation (Titanic) |
| 8. | 92 Historical and Archaeological Societies ⁶¹ |
| 9. | 2 Friends organisations (Derry Walls, Grey Abbey) |

⁶⁰ Members of the Heritage Trust Network www.heritagetrustnetwork.org.uk/about-us/areas/northern-ireland/

⁶¹ Members of the Ulster Federation of Local Studies minus those groups already counted above www.fuls.org.uk/fulsmembers.html

In addition there were:

8 organisations with a key stakeholder interest (Tourism NI, Ulster University, Queen's University Belfast, Arts Council NI, NI Museums Council, National Museums of Northern Ireland, NI Tourism Alliance and Construction Industry Training Board of Northern Ireland)

11 District Councils with heritage responsibilities.

Since June 2016 key sectoral representatives have been meeting quarterly to consider the implications of the Programme for Government and to share knowledge.

Case Study

Joining the Sector

The Historic Environment Stakeholder Group

In June 2016 the Department for Communities convened a meeting of key heritage stakeholder groups to consider the recently published Draft Programme for Government. In its 120 pages, however, the words 'heritage' or 'historic environment' were not mentioned. Stakeholders were strongly of the view that the sector could contribute to many of the desired outcomes and discussed if the lack of mention reflected an oversight by government or a failure of the sector to communicate this worth? The discussion

led to the development and publication of NI Heritage Delivers a document and website which explains how Northern Ireland's heritage makes a wide contribution to the region's economy and society. The group also agreed actions it could offer in support of the plan. While the suspension of the NI Assembly meant that the PfG was not formally adopted, the group continued to meet quarterly exploring cross cutting issues and sharing knowledge. This statistical publication is the second clear output from this engagement.



Appendix 1. Data Sources

Please refer to the separately published quality assessment⁶² for more detail on the nature and reliability of the data sources used in this report. The following list, however, summarises where data was obtained.

Please note that where data provided by the Department for Communities has been separately published as an official statistic in the NI Environmental Statistics Report, the originating data source (rather than that report) has been listed.

⁶² See www.communities-ni.gov.uk/topics/culture-and-heritage-statistics

Section 1

1.1 Our heritage assets

| | |
|--|--|
| Number of entries on the sites and monuments record | DfC SMR database |
| Number of recorded historic buildings | DfC Buildings Database |
| Number of Monuments in State Care | DfC SMR database |
| Number of Scheduled Historic Monuments | DfC SMR database |
| Number of listed buildings | DfC Buildings Database |
| Number of protected wrecks | SMR database |
| Number of Historic Parks and Gardens of Special Interest | DfC SMR database |
| Number of Conservation Areas | DfI website |
| Number of Areas of Archaeological Interest | Compiled from DfC spatial datasets |
| Number of Areas of Townscape/ Village Character | Count from Local Development Plans ⁶³ |
| Number of Local Landscape Policy Areas | Count from Local Development Plans |
| Number of Historic Nucleated Urban Settlements | DfC Gazetteer of HNU's ⁶⁴ |

1.2 The state they are in

1.2.1 Historic Monuments

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| CAMSAR report | NIEA, Belfast, 2009 |
| Scheduled Monument Condition | DfC FMW reporting spreadsheet ⁶⁵ |

⁶³ Local Development Plans are published for all 26 of the pre 2015 district council areas in Northern Ireland. These plans are currently in the process of being reviewed and replaced by new plans for the current 11 district council areas in Northern Ireland.

⁶⁴ The Gazetteer was compiled by HED between 2014 and 2015 based upon defined criteria. In the subsequent years it has been refined with a view to publication.

⁶⁵ This data is compiled based upon standard advice to Field Monument Wardens and reviewed by archaeological staff.

1.2.2 Listed Building Condition

| | |
|---|--|
| Information from 2014 LB condition survey | www.communities-ni.gov.uk/publications/baseline-survey-condition-listed-buildings |
| Number of entries on the Heritage at Risk register | HARNI register (Maintained by UAH) |
| Number of HAR entries brought back into use/ in the process of being so | HARNI register (Maintained by UAH) |
| Number of HAR entries demolished or destroyed | HARNI register (Maintained by UAH) |

1.3 Work under way to identify record and evaluate assets.

| | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Archaeological Excavation reporting | DfC Licensing database |
| Second Survey and listing programme | DfC Buildings Database |
| Scheduled monument designation work | DfC SMR database |

Section 2

2.1 Maintenance

No statistics provided in report.

2.2 Planned Change

2.2.1 Investment

| | |
|---|---|
| Average Leverage for Listed Building Grant scheme | DfC Historic Environment Fund rec's |
| Average Cost to repair a listed building | DfC Historic Environment Fund rec's |
| HED Support for repairs in 2018/19 | DfC Historic Environment Fund |
| HED Investment in State Care Monuments 2018/19 | DfC HED18/19 Departmental reporting |
| NLHF Investment in heritage assets | National Lottery Heritage Fund NI |
| NT Investment in heritage assets | National Trust NI |
| AHF Investment in heritage assets | Architectural Heritage Fund |
| European Investment in Heritage Assets | Report to DfC 'EU Funding for the Historic Environment in Northern Ireland 2007-2016' |

2.2.2 Leading by Example

| | |
|--|--|
| Statistics provided to DfC by Government Departments | 2015-17 Biennial Report of December 2018 |
|--|--|

2.2.3 Faith Heritage

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Bringing greater support to places of worship in Northern Ireland | NCT March 2018 |
|---|----------------|

2.2.4 Consent Regimes

| | |
|---|-------------|
| Statutory Planning Consultations | DfC records |
| Non Statutory Planning Consultations | DfC records |
| Listed Building Consent Consultations | DfC records |
| EIA Consultations | DfC records |
| Notifications to DfI | DfC records |
| Scheduled Monument Consent Applications | DfC records |
| Archaeological Licences | DfC records |

2.3 Policy Change

| | |
|--------------------------|-------------|
| Preferred Options Papers | DfC records |
|--------------------------|-------------|

2.4 Unplanned Change

2.4.1 Unauthorised Change

| | |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| State Care Incidents | DfC records |
| Scheduled Historic Monuments | DfC records |
| Listed Buildings | DfC records |

2.4.2 Fires

| | |
|---------------------------|-------------|
| Fires at Listed Buildings | DfC records |
|---------------------------|-------------|

2.4.3 Climate Change

No statistics provided in report.

Section 3

3.1 The Economy

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| 2012 report | www.communities-ni.gov.uk/publications/study-economic-value-northern-irelands-historic-environment |
| Prospectus for Change | www.communities-ni.gov.uk/publications/prospectus-change-strategic-framework-unlock-potential-heritage-led-tourism-northern-ireland |
| Visitor Attraction Survey | www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/visitor-attraction-survey-publications |

Investment in key heritage attractions:

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| National Trust Investment | National Trust NI |
| Historic Royal Palaces | HRP |
| DfC Investment | DfC Departmental reporting |
| NLHF Enterprise Scheme | NLHF |
| NLHF Landscape Partnerships | NLHF |
| Titanic Foundation | Titanic Foundation |
| Heritage Innovation Fund | Tourism NI |

3.2 The Environment

| | |
|---|--|
| New Social Housing Dwelling Completions 2010/11 – 2018/19 table | www.communities-ni.gov.uk/publications/northern-ireland-housing-statistics-2018-19 |
| UK Climate Projection 18 | www.metoffice.gov.uk/research/approach/collaboration/ukcp/index |

3.3 A More Equal Society

No statistics provided

3.4 Health and Wellbeing

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--|
| Wellbeing of adults visiting heritage | NISRA 'Experience of heritage by adults in Northern Ireland 2017/18' |
| Heritage and wellbeing in England | www.historicengland.org.uk/content/heritage-counts/pub/2014/heritage-and-wellbeing-pdf/ |

Making the most of this potential?

| | |
|--|--|
| Numbers of EHOD visitors and events 2019 | DfC records |
| Charging Heritage Attractions 2019 | As advertised on Discover NI website 31 March 2018 |
| Heritage Trails and routes 2019 | As listed on Discover NI website 31 March 2019 (Heritage trails defined as: trails clearly linking heritage locations, associated with historic people, or within clear historic parks and gardens) |
| Tour Guides 2018/19 | Review of the Northern Ireland Tour Guiding Industry- Report Findings Nov 2018. www.tourismni.com/previous-events/tour-guide-seminar/ |
| National Trust Membership | National Trust records |
| Ulster Architectural Heritage Membership | UAH records |
| Heritage Trust Membership | HTN records |
| Historic Houses Membership | HH records |

Volunteering

| | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| National Trust volunteers 2019 | National Trust records |
| Historic Royal Palaces volunteers | Historic Royal Palaces records |
| Titanic Foundation volunteers | Foundation records |
| EHOD volunteers | DfC records |

3.5 Creativity

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Walled City 400 data | DCSDC records |
| Licensed events at State Care Monuments | DfC records |
| Events at National Trust properties | NT records |
| Ulster Architectural Heritage events | UAH records |

3.6 Employment

| | |
|--|--|
| 2012 jobs report | www.communities-ni.gov.uk/publications/study-economic-value-northern-irelands-historic-environment |
| CITBNI report on heritage skills in NI | www.communities-ni.gov.uk/sites/default/files/publications/communities/heritage-skills-in-the-heritage-sector-in-ni.pdf |
| NI Visitor Attraction Survey 2019 | www.nisra.gov.uk/publications/visitor-attraction-survey-publications |

3.7 Placemaking

| | |
|---|--|
| 10 year evaluation of the Townscape Heritage Initiative | www.heritagefund.org.uk/sites/default/files/media/attachments/thi_2013_10-year_report.pdf |
|---|--|

| | |
|--|--|
| Experience of heritage by adults in Northern Ireland, 2018/19 published by DfC | www.gov.uk/government/statistics/experience-of-heritage-by-adults-in-northern-ireland-2018-to-2019 |
| Number of THI schemes in Northern Ireland | NLHF records |
| Number of Great Place projects in NI | NLHF records |
| Number of Landscape Partnership Schemes | NLHF records |
| Conservation Officer statistics 2019 | Conservation Officer Forum members September 2019 |
| Heritage Officer statistics 2019 | As recorded at SOLACE 11 council group on the historic Environment, January 2019 |
| Site development plan statistics | HED records |

3.8 Education

| | |
|--|--------------|
| Data on information published by DfC | DfC website |
| Data on information published by NT | NT website |
| Data on information published by UAH | UAH website |
| Educational projects supported by NLHF | NLHF records |
| Educational visits to State Care Sites | DfC records |
| Educational visits to NT sites | NT records |

3.9 The Heritage Sector

| | |
|---|---|
| Members of sector | DfC records |
| Building Preservation Trusts | HTN members as published on website |
| Historical and Archaeological Societies | Members of Ulster Federation of Local Studies – excluding 4 groups that have been separately counted as regional heritage organisations |

NI HERITAGE STATISTICS

AS RECORDED ON
31 MARCH 2019.

