



*the*  
**NATIONAL  
COUNCIL ON  
ARCHIVES**

# The Heritage Lottery Fund and its priorities

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# Archives and the Heritage Lottery Fund

Presentation will 'set the scene':

Background on Lottery funding

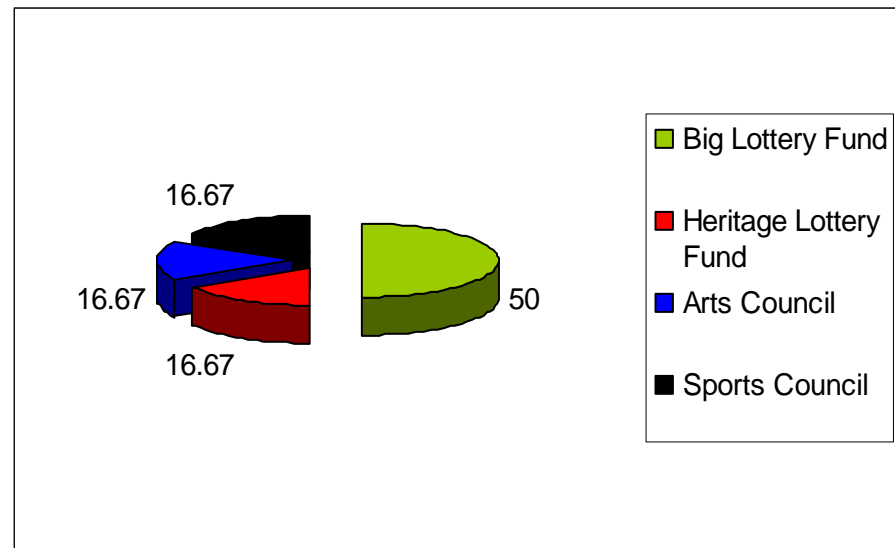
Heritage Lottery Fund and its priorities

Issues for the archive domain

# Lottery Funding

The National Lottery was set up in 1994

Main Distributors:



Distributed £16 billion to good causes in first ten years

4.66p from each ticket sales to heritage

# Lottery Distributors

**Heritage Lottery Fund** has been the main lottery source for heritage sector **but** no fixed 'pot' for archives. Archives can access grants via a number of schemes

**Big Lottery Fund** may be a future source of funding under programmes focusing on 'communities'

# Possible future impact on funding for archives

- DCMS consultation on share of lottery distributors
- Olympics
- Heritage Lottery Fund consultation on sector needs and priorities

# 'Broadening the Horizons of Heritage' Heritage Lottery Fund Strategic Plan 2002-2007 - Aims

1. Encouraging more people to be involved in and make decisions about their heritage
2. Conserving and enhancing the UK's diverse heritage
3. Ensuring that everyone can learn about, have access to and enjoy their heritage
4. Achieving a more equitable distribution of grants across the UK

# Heritage Lottery Fund Strategic Plan 2002-2007

Aims 1-3: translate into grant scheme priorities (**all** projects need to think about these)

Aim 4:

- Monitoring of distribution by local authority/ward
- Creation of regional development teams
- Allocate more funding to smaller grant schemes

# Common Issues for Archives

The 'Principle of Additionality'

How to deal with chronic underinvestment

Dealing with a generic approach to heritage

Lack of consistency in HLF assessment process

# The 'Principle of Additionality'

What is core work?

Varies between organisations

Impact of legislation such as FOI, DDA

# How to deal with chronic under-investment

Backlogs and wish lists

Lack of clarity over organisational  
aims for archives

Lack of understanding of archive  
issues at senior management level

# Dealing with a generic approach to heritage

Lack of definitions:

- what is 'heritage'

- what are 'communities'

- what is an 'archive'

Conflicts with traditional professional theory:

- unmediated access

- equality of access

# Lack of consistency in HLF assessment process

Push to deliver on all HLF aims in each project

Is cataloguing improving access or conservation?

Is online use an active learning tool?

When are standards/best practice appropriate?

**Good News!**

# Benefits of Heritage Lottery Funding to the Archive sector

'First Ten Years' – some examples

- More than £81 million to archives
- More than £42 million to 164 record office projects
- £10 million to build Devon, Surrey, Norfolk Record Offices
- £16.5 million to 17 sound/film archive projects
- Nearly £5 million to volunteer-led/community organisations
- Over £3 million to Access to Archives

# Benefits of Heritage Lottery Funding to the Archive sector

Flexibility of approach to project development -

*Will fund a whole range of activity and capital costs*

For example

Acquisition, cataloguing, digitisation, conservation work, preservation storage costs, education resources, events, publications, training, oral history, new buildings.

# Benefits of Heritage Lottery Funding to the Archive sector

Requirements for funders can  
strengthen applicants case for  
improved core funding and raise  
profile

For example:

Evidence of need/demand

Evaluation of projects

Closer community links

# Benefits of Heritage Lottery Funding to the Archive sector

Encourage partnership working

Enable organisations to bring in new  
skills

Heritage Lottery Fund as a 'partner' in  
lobbying for and supporting the  
sector

# Further information on HLF

- Celia Watson, HLF London Development Manager
- HLF website [www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk)
- HLF guidance publications (available from website)
- HLF Archives & Libraries fact sheet '10 years of Heritage Lottery Funding'