National Lottery Grants for Heritage Brecks Wellbeing Festival

Heritagefund.org.uk

Heritage Fund

Who we are

We are the largest dedicated grant funder of the UK's heritage.

We are a non-departmental public body accountable to Parliament via the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).

Our decisions about individual applications and policies are entirely independent of the government.

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What we do

Since we were established in 1994, we have awarded £9 billion of National Lottery and other funding to more than 52,000 projects across the UK.

We fund projects that connect people and communities to the national, regional, and local heritage of the UK.

Credit: The Wildlife Trust Birmingham & Black Country/Kevin Fern Photography Ltd

Our new strategy

Heritage Fund

Heritage 2033

Heritage Fund

Our Vision and Priorities

Heritage Fund

Title

Heritage 2033

Vision

As the largest funder for the UK's heritage, our vision is for heritage to be valued, cared for and sustained for everyone, now and in the future.

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By 2033…

16 ambitions set out what we want to achieve by 2033.

Four ambitions under each investment principle will shape our measures of success.

Delivered through our open programme, strategic funding initiatives and partnerships.

Credit: Kayleigh Wright/Derbyshire Wildlife Trust

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Our Approach…

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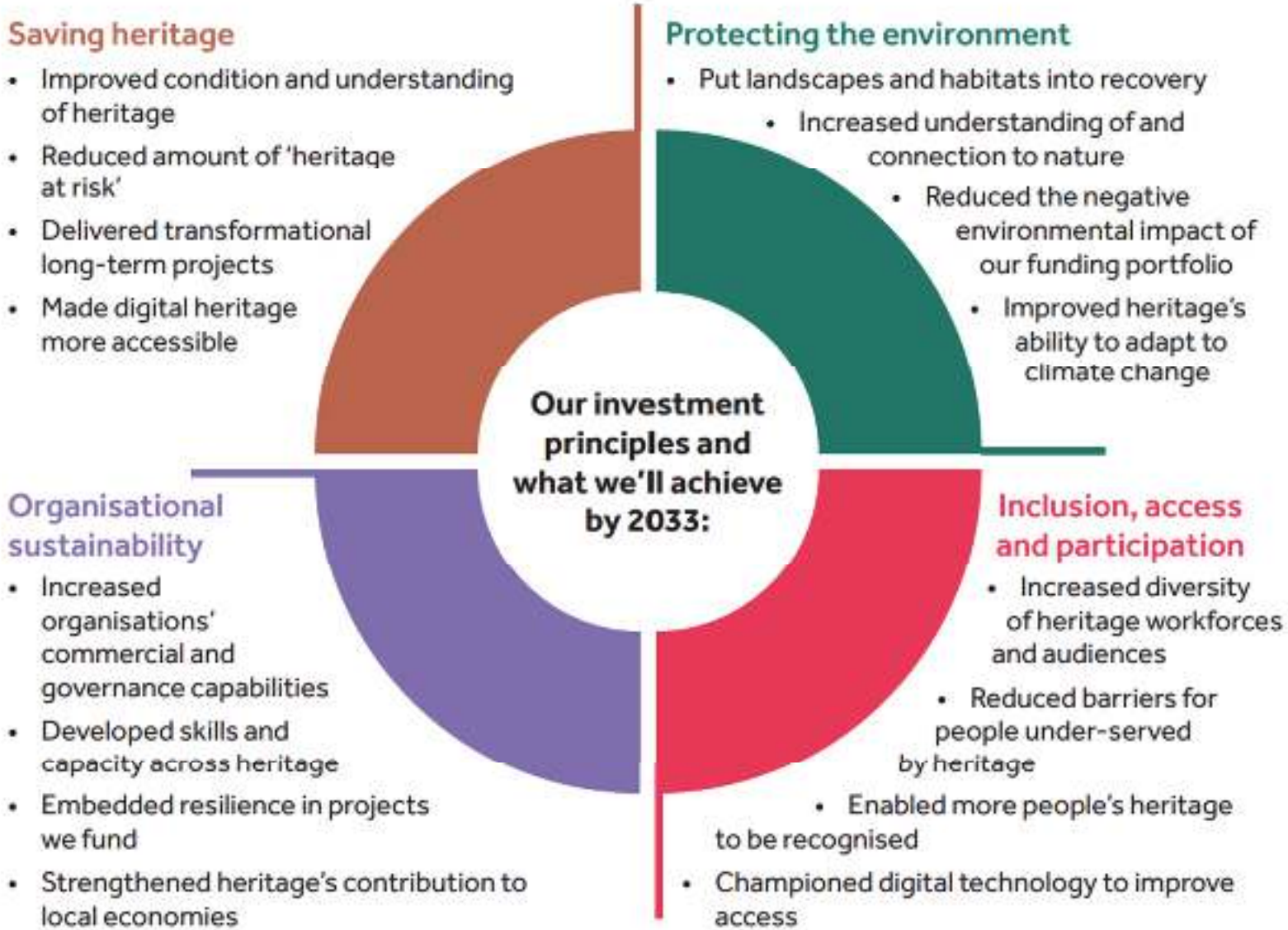

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Saving heritage

- Improved condition and understanding of heritage
- Reduced amount of 'heritage at risk'
- Delivered transformational long-term projects
- Made digital heritage more accessible

Credit: Kayleigh Wright/Derbyshire Wildlife Trust

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Protecting the environment

- Put landscapes and habitats into recovery
- Increased understanding of and connection to nature
- Reduced the negative environmental impact of our funding portfolio
- Improved heritage's ability to adapt to climate change

Credit: RSPB Minsmere – Discover Nature

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Inclusion, access and participation

Inclusion, access and participation

- Increased diversity of heritage workforces and audiences
- Reduced barriers for people under-served by heritage
- Enabled more people's heritage to be recognised
- Championed digital technology to improve access

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Organisational sustainability

Organisational sustainability

- Increased organisations' commercial and governance capabilities
- Developed skills and capacity across heritage
- Embedded resilience in projects we fund
- Strengthened heritage's contribution to local economies

Credit: Sam Frost/Wiltshire Wildlife Trust

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Heritage Places

Nature Cities and Towns

Integrated Landscapes

Strategic initiatives

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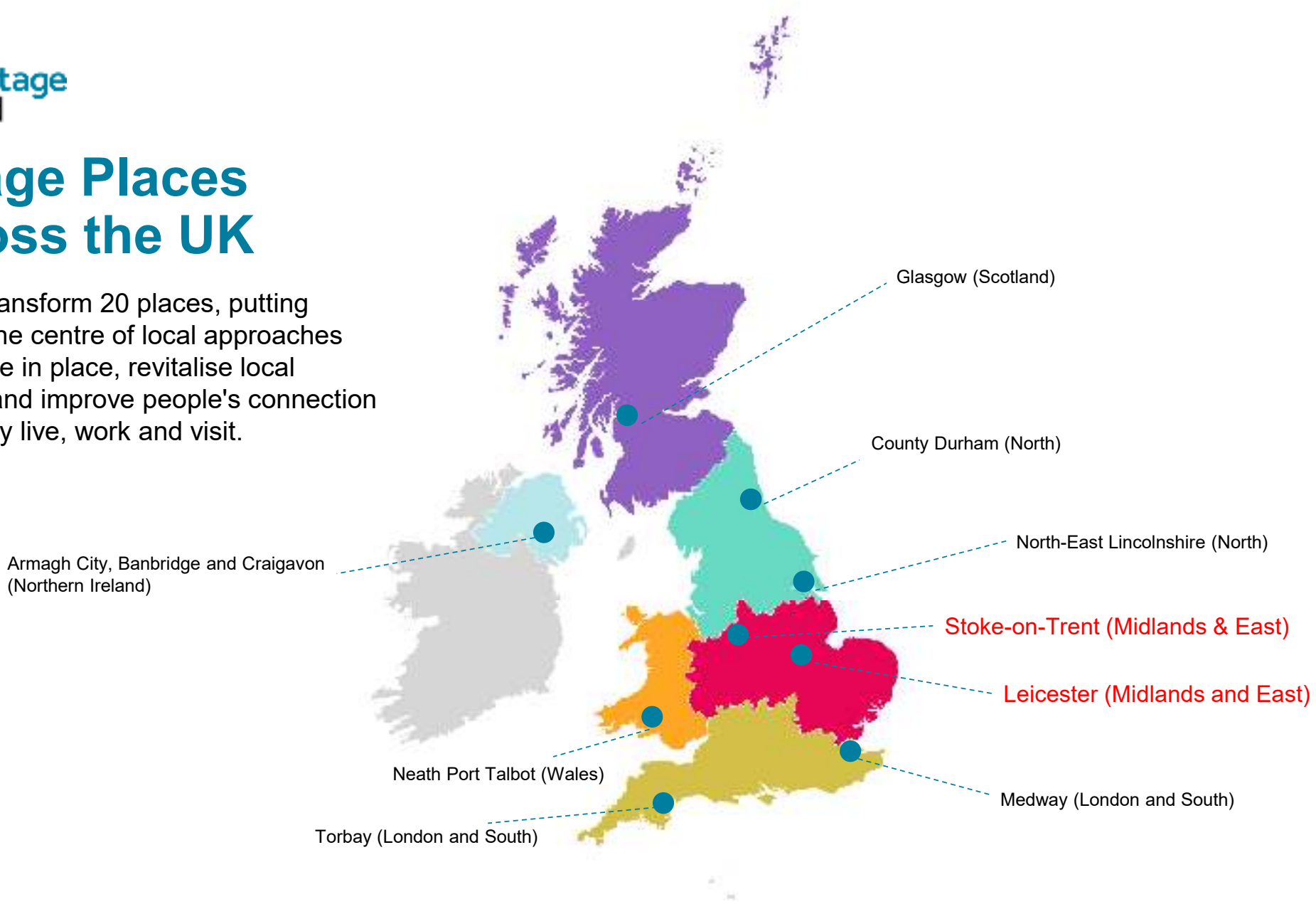
Heritage Places
9 across the UK

Helping to transform 20 places, putting heritage at the centre of local approaches to boost pride in place, revitalise local economies and improve people's connection to where they live, work and visit.



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Integrated Landscapes

Landscape-scale nature recovery across the UK's national landscapes, providing better connections for people and nature.

Likely to focus on the landscapes within and surrounding the UK's National Parks and National Landscapes (previously AONBs).

Supporting a cohort of ten-year long projects to improve the accessibility and condition of some of our most treasured and iconic landscapes.

Launching in 2024.

Credit: Carlton Marshes/Steve Aylward

Heritage Fund

Nature Cities and Towns

Partnership to deliver urban nature recovery through thriving historic parks and green spaces.

- Replicating and scaling-up the learning from Future Parks Accelerator to more places.
- About whole places and green space estates.
- Currently in development and to be launched in 2024.
- Keen to see the learning from Future Parks being applied. www.futureparks.org.uk

Credit: The Wildlife Trust Birmingham & Black Country/Kevin Fern Photography Ltd

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Why fund nature?

Nature is part of our heritage; it is our oldest form of heritage.

The benefits of nature are undeniable. In our 2020 Space to Thrive report, we showed that access to green space is not only beneficial to humans, but to nature itself.

Parks and green spaces can help communities to build a connection to nature, this connection can help people see the value of nature, which in turn is vital to the survival of our wildlife and habitats and to combatting climate change for the future.

Parks and Urban Green Space

The Heritage Fund has invested £1 billion in over 1,000 parks projects since 1994.

This has helped transform parks and urban green spaces across the UK, improving the experience for the 37million people that use public parks every year.

The Future Parks Accelerator, launched in 2019, was a £14million joint programme between The National Lottery Heritage Fund and the National Trust. £1.2million was invested by Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities.

The cohort approach bought together eight urban areas, covering a population of 5 million people, to find new ways to manage and fund parks and open spaces across whole towns and cities.

Credit: Plymouth City Council

Credit: Islington Council

Future Parks Accelerator

From their shared experiences the cohort of local authorities involved identified 10 core actions for others:

1. Known your green estate
2. Be ambitious for environmental justice
3. Ensure green space is central to local community life
4. Put health at the heart of green space strategy and plans
5. Grown your urban nature network
6. Make parks and green spaces a popular cause
7. Be socially entrepreneurial
8. Promote green space as valuable natural infrastructure
9. Develop new sources of investment
10. Nurture your green team and wider ‘family’

Drew Bennellick, Head of Land and Nature Policy at the Heritage Fund, said:

“Our Future Parks Accelerator programme has demonstrated what a vital public resource green spaces are and how they positively contribute to environmental quality, public health and wellbeing.

“With time, resource and imagination, local authorities can put parks at the centre of their thinking, rather than see them as a financial liability.”

Good Practice Guidance

All projects should consider how they can both **reduce the loss of natural heritage** and **contribute to a net gain in habitats and species**.

Seek expert local advice from the Wildlife Trusts, environmental charities like the RSPB or expert consultants.

For projects collecting and recording habitat and species data we require you to:

- Make data more accessible
- Provide a wider range of people with volunteering and learning opportunities
- Supply all habitat and species data, free of charge, to local environmental record centres and to the NBN. Species observations must comply with standards set out by NBN.

Consider Biodiversity Net Gain requirements if applicable to your project.

Projects involving species reintroduction must ensure there is compliance with government legislation, strong evidence that this is the best way to deliver nature recovery and a sustainable solution.

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Good Practice Guidance

We can fund land purchase where it is important for landscape aesthetic value, physical public access, for nature and geodiversity. Projects should explain why this option is the best solution.

We support projects to create better public access whenever possible and practical. If physical access is not appropriate, we ask you to consider other forms of access such as the use of hides, remote cameras or digital technologies.

Landscape-scale and multi-site projects should review our guidance and submit an area action plan.

We have specific guidance for projects involving privately owned land.

We recommend you join Fit for Future, a UK-wide environmental sustainability network.

Consider the 10 recommendations from the Future Parks Accelerator.

At completion, where appropriate apply and achieve Green Flag Award for 7 continuous years.

Who can apply?

Not for profit organisations such as:

- public sector organisations
- charities, trusts and charitable incorporated organisations
- community and voluntary groups
- community/parish councils
- community interest companies
- faith based or church organisations
- local authorities

Private owners of heritage (for example, individuals and commercial organisations)

National Lottery Heritage Grants

£10,000 to £250,000

Project Enquiry Form service available

Single-round application

No deadlines to apply

8-week assessment

Maximum 5 years

No mandatory match funding

National Lottery Heritage Grants

£250,000 to £10million

Mandatory Expression of Interest Form

Two-round application: Development and Delivery

Quarterly deadlines to apply

3-month assessment

Max 7 years: 2 years development and 5 years delivery

5% match funding for up to £1million, 10% for over £1million

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National Lottery Heritage Grants £10,000 to £250,000

National Lottery Heritage Grants £10,000 to £250,000 ▶

1. Project enquiry: £10,000 to £250,000 ▶
2. Application deadlines: £10,000 to £250,000 ▶
3. Project plan and risk register template ▶
4. Receiving your grant: £10,000 to £250,000 ▶
5. Terms and conditions of your grant: £10,000 to £250,000 ▶

We fund projects that connect people and communities to the national, regional and local heritage of the UK.

Page last updated: 30 January 2024

Overview

National Lottery Heritage Grants is our funding programme for all types of heritage projects in the UK.

Use this guidance to apply for grants from £10,000 to £250,000.

Is this the right programme for you?

- Is your organisation looking to care for and sustain heritage in the UK?
- Will your heritage project run for no more than five years?
- Do you require a grant of between £10,000 and £250,000?
- Are you a not-for-profit organisation, or part of one? A heritage association, a partnership?
- Does your project take into account our four investment principles?

If you answered yes to these questions, then National Lottery Heritage Grants could be for you.

Our investment principles

Your [investment principles](#) guide all our grant decision making under our 10 year strategy, Heritage 2033:

- saving heritage

National Lottery Heritage Grants £250,000 to £10million

National Lottery Heritage Grants £250,000 to £10million ▶

1. Expression of interest: £250,000 to £10million ▶
2. Application deadlines: £250,000 to £10million ▶
3. Application deadlines: National Lottery Heritage Grants over £250,000 ▶
4. Receiving your grant: £250,000 to £10million ▶
5. Standard terms and conditions: £250,000 to £10million ▶

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Overview

National Lottery Heritage Grants is our funding programme for all types of heritage pro the UK.

Use this guidance to apply for grants from £250,000 to £10m.

You must first submit an Expression of Interest and, if you are successful, we will invite y apply.

Your application will usually go through two phases: a development phase of up to two enabling you work on your project proposal, and a delivery phase of no more than five y you think this phase application is not right for your project, please contact your loca to discuss.

Is this the right programme for you?

- Is your organisation looking to care for and sustain heritage in the UK?
- Will your heritage project run for no more than five years (excluding the developm phase)?
- Do you require a grant of between £250,000 and £10m?
- Are you a not-for-profit organisation or a partnership led by a not-for-profit organisation?
- Does your project take into account our four investment principles?

If you answered yes to these questions, then National Lottery Heritage Grants could be for you.

Our investment principles

Heritage Fund

Good practice guidance

Advice and resources to help you plan and deliver your he

14 good practice publications listed

Index

A

Activity plan good practice guidance
An activity plan sets out everything you'll do as part of your National Lottery supported project to engage, grow and diversify the audience for your heritage.

Area-based projects and area action plan good practice guidance
If your project focuses on the aspects or sites across a defined territory, or spans a large geographic area, and aims to connect people with the heritage of their local place, it might be what we call 'area-based'.

B

Business plan good practice guidance
A business plan is a document describing the key financial and organisational aspects of your business. It focuses on the overall organisation, not specific activities, and is a required as part of your funding application.

C

Conservation planning good practice guidance
Conservation planning is a process that will help you understand your heritage and its importance and ensure it is valued, cared for and sustained for everyone, now and in the future.

D

Digital good practice guidance
No matter the type or size of your heritage project, you will probably create some digital outputs. It's important these meet the conditions of our funding, availability, accessibility and openness.

Environmental sustainability good practice guidance

Heritage Fund

Apply online

Go to application portal to apply

Heritage
Fund
Questions?

Keep in touch!

HeritageFundUK
X, Facebook and Instagram

@HeritageFundM_E
Midlands and East Area X

Heritagefund.org.uk
Website Guidance and Application Portal