



Department
for Culture,
Media & Sport

Public Appointments

Historic England x 7 Commissioners

[Apply on Public Appointments Website](#)

Deadline: 4 June 2026



Historic England

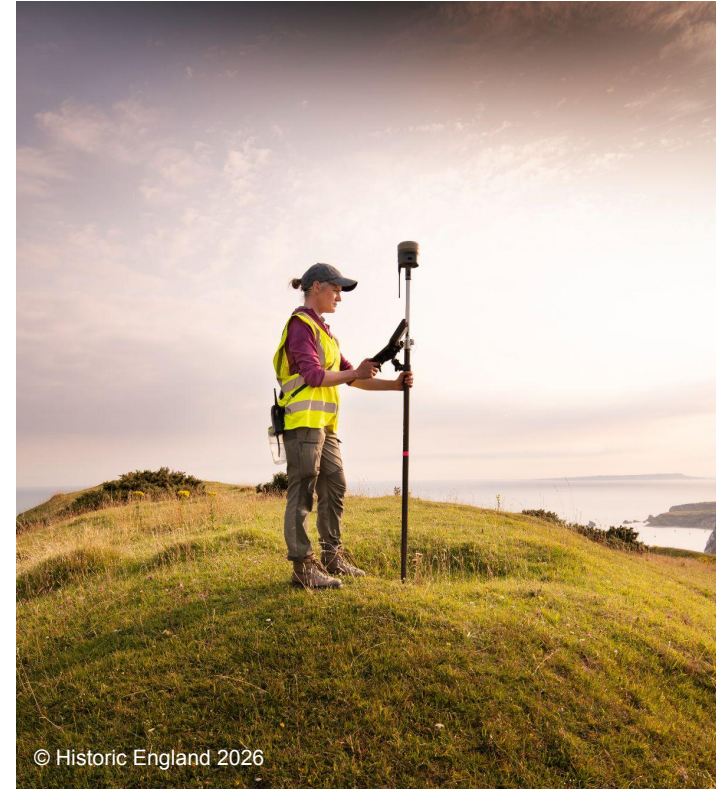
The Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport is seeking to appoint seven Commissioners to the Historic England board.

Historic England is the public body that helps people care for, enjoy and celebrate England's rich and diverse historic environment, from high streets and battlefields to parks and pie shops.

At the heart of shaping how the nation understands, protects and reimagines its heritage, Historic England ensures that the historic environment plays a vital role in economic growth, community identity and future sustainability.

By championing historic places that connect and inspire people, Historic England ensures heritage has a lasting and positive impact on the world around us.

Historic England operates as an arm's length public body sponsored by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS).



About the role

The Commission is the governing body of Historic England. The role of a Commissioner is to:

- provide expert advice and guidance to the Executive;
- establish the overall strategic direction and monitor performance against agreed objectives;
- ensure statutory responsibilities are met; and,
- maintain high standards of probity in the administration of public funds and the effective use of resources

Commissioners are expected to contribute actively to Board discussions, offering both support and constructive challenge, and helping to ensure effective governance and decision-making.



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Key Details



Time Commitment: Around 12 days per year. There are five half-day Commission meetings per year, plus two regional overnight site visits. Commissioners are generally expected to sit on at least one sub-committee. The role also involves attending and hosting events and other engagements. Additional time will be required to prepare for meetings and provide ad hoc advice as necessary.

Location: Meetings are generally held in London, with some visits required to other locations. We actively encourage applications from individuals based outside London and the South East, particularly from underrepresented areas of the UK. Reasonable travel expenses will be reimbursed.

Remuneration: £4,133 per year

Term Length: Up to 5 years. There will be the possibility of re-appointment for a further term, at the discretion of Ministers.

Person specification



We are seeking to appoint up to seven new Commissioners with strong generalist skills, alongside additional experience in one or more areas set out in the additional criteria.

We are committed to building a Board that reflects the UK's breadth of perspective. We welcome applications from individuals of all backgrounds, including those from underrepresented groups such as people from ethnic minority backgrounds, a wide range of ages, and diverse lived experiences from across the UK.

We recognise that relevant experience can be gained through a variety of professional, community or lived experience routes. We welcome applicants who can demonstrate the required skills and the ability to contribute effectively at Board level, including those who have developed equivalent experience outside of traditional senior leadership roles.

A Commissioner must be prepared to declare and actively manage any pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests upon appointment and whenever a matter arises in which the Commissioner has an interest which might be perceived to conflict with those of Historic England. Commissioners are required to complete and submit a declaration of interests on appointment and thereafter annually.

Essential Criteria

- **Heritage:** A commitment to preserving cultural heritage, and improving education and understanding of British and World history
- **Knowledge:** An understanding of Historic England's work, the environment in which it operates and a commitment to its aims and objectives
- **Judgement:** An ability to think strategically and exercise sound judgement, using their own area of expertise to support corporate decision making
- **Collaboration:** An ability to work constructively on a Board, providing support, constructive challenge and assurance across a full range of issues



Additional Criteria

Candidates are invited to indicate up to two areas of relevant experience, although applications are not limited to these areas.

- **Public Sector / Charity Leadership:**

Experience of leadership within the public or voluntary sector, with an understanding of governance, operational and financial management. Experience of arm's length bodies or public sector governance is desirable. The successful applicant may be asked to Chair the Business & Finance Committee.

- **Human Resources/People Management:**

Senior-level experience in people management, organisational or cultural change, or workforce strategy, with an understanding of organisational effectiveness.

- **Property Development and Planning:**

Experience of property development, including engagement with the planning system and its impact on the historic environment. Knowledge of planning systems and delivery - within local authorities or the private sector - is essential, including the interface between heritage and development. Experience of major infrastructure planning and the adaptive reuse or regeneration of heritage buildings is desirable.

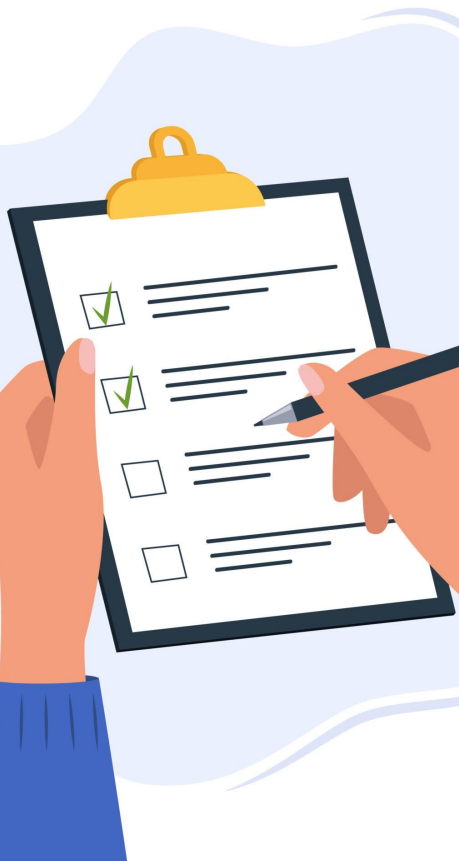
- **Local government/devolution:** Experience of leadership within local government, with an understanding of evolving local government structures and devolution in England.

Additional Criteria (continued)

- **Conservation of Heritage Estates and /or Heritage Visitor attraction(s):** Experience of managing heritage sites or property portfolios as visitor attractions, supported by a strong understanding of conservation principles.
- **Community Engagement:** Experience of engaging communities and building partnerships with diverse audiences and stakeholders, ideally within the arts, culture or heritage sectors.
- **Digital:** Experience of digital strategy, transformation or innovation, including the use of digital tools to enhance engagement, improve access to services or support organisational effectiveness.



How to apply



In order to apply you will need to [create an account](#) or [sign in](#).

Once you are logged into your account, click on 'apply for this role' and follow the on-screen instructions.

To apply, all candidates are required to provide:

- equality information
- information relating to any outside interests or reputational issues
- a Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- a supporting statement
- a short professional biography (150 words)

We will ask you to check and confirm your personal details to ensure your application is accurate. You will also have the opportunity to make a reasonable adjustment request or apply under the disability confident scheme before you submit your application.

As part of your application, you will be asked to provide equality information including special category data (which may identify your race/ ethnic background or health); you have the choice to opt out from sharing any equality data, by selecting 'prefer not to say'. DCMS will use your data in line with our [privacy policy](#).

Questions?

The full role advert including eligibility criteria is available on the [HMG Public Appointments Website](#)

To discuss the roles please contact Andrew.Wiseman@historicengland.org.uk

To discuss the appointment process please contact publicappointments@dcms.gov.uk or sam.whelan@dcms.gov.uk

Should you encounter any issues with your online application please get in touch with publicappointments@cabinetoffice.gov.uk

