



HERITAGE IRELAND 2030

Analysis of Submissions Received
through Public Consultation



An Roinn Cultúir,
Oidhreacht agus Gaeltachta
Department of Culture,
Heritage and the Gaeltacht

Foreword

The process of developing Heritage Ireland 2030, a new National Heritage Plan, began in 2017 when conversations were held with a small number of key heritage stakeholders to help us better understand the priorities of people across the heritage sector, as well as some of the challenges they face. To deepen that understanding we launched a public consultation document in November 2018, outlining a vision for built and natural heritage and asking people to tell us what they thought.

What followed was an exhaustive four-month consultation. Building on the Stronger Heritage Partnership theme of the proposed heritage plan, the Heritage Ireland 2030 team worked closely with others to ensure that as many people as possible were consulted. The Heritage Council and the Heritage Officer Network worked tirelessly with us throughout the winter, helping host over 70 public events to raise awareness of Heritage Ireland 2030, to begin conversations about our heritage and to encourage people to make written submissions. Other partners helped immensely: the Office of Public Works (our key partner in government in managing our public heritage estate), the Royal Irish Academy, ICOMOS Ireland, and NUI Galway all hosted stakeholder events which encouraged robust discussion about the vision – and needs – of our heritage over the next decade and beyond. Numerous other organisations held discussions about the new heritage plan at their regular stakeholder and business events.

While the views and visions expressed throughout the public consultation varied, the clearest voice was that of an Irish public passionately engaged with its heritage. In total, 2,156 individuals and organisations made separate written submissions to Heritage Ireland 2030. The submissions illustrated the extraordinarily high level of awareness and care that we, as a nation, have for our heritage.

A multi-disciplinary Heritage Ireland 2030 team analysed each of the 2,156 submissions to identify themes and specific proposed ideas and actions. On 28 May 2019, we presented the summary results of this analysis at our Heritage Ireland 2030 Information Session in Dublin Castle. At that event, we assured attendees that the department has listened and promised that the full analysis would be published which is what we are doing now.

We have been struck by the depth and breadth of the suggestions made through the consultation process and by the clarity of the calls for action, which have included appeals for a wider definition of heritage that embraces its cultural and intangible aspects. We intend to develop a heritage plan over the coming months that is strongly inspired by the ambitions and perspectives summarised within this document. Heritage Ireland 2030 will identify clear, prioritised objectives for our heritage, the actions required to achieve these objectives, and the stakeholders responsible for these actions. It will provide the overarching policy framework within which many of the ideas expressed in this report may be realised in the years ahead.

You will be able to find information and updates about this ongoing process on our website at <https://www.chg.gov.ie/heritage/heritageireland2030/>. If you have any queries or comments about Heritage Ireland 2030 in the meantime, please let us know at heritageireland2030@chg.gov.ie.

We look forward to sharing the final plan with you in the coming months.



Josepha Madigan

Josepha Madigan, TD
Minister for Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht
October 2019

COURTNEY • DEERY
ARCHAEOLOGY & CULTURAL HERITAGE

Heritage Ireland 2030

Review of submissions and arising actions

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document presents a quantitative and qualitative analysis of the submissions made to Heritage Ireland 2030. The purpose of the document is to inform the decision-making process by identifying and summarising key themes and issues raised through the consultation process.

Based on the received submissions, Heritage Ireland 2030 will bring about a new national heritage plan where there is an

- Agreed need to set out a long-term strategy for the future;
- Acknowledgment that we must do things differently from the past – in this context we need big ideas, ambition, drive and resources.

As stated in the consultation document Heritage Ireland 2030:

- is the Government's commitment to a revitalised and refreshed National Heritage Plan;
- will recognise the vital role our heritage plays in our community, our economy and our society;
- will be a coherent, comprehensive and inspiring framework of values, principles and strategic priorities which will guide and inform the heritage sector over the next decade;
- will enshrine the shared responsibility of people, communities, businesses and local and national Government in protecting our heritage and ensuring it is cared for into the future;
- will help us enjoy, understand and care for our heritage;
- be formed around three Themes; National Leadership and Heritage, Heritage Partnerships and Communities and Heritage - built on a vision of our heritage being valued and protected for future generations, cherished and enjoyed.

There was a huge response to the consultation document and 2156 submissions were received and individually reviewed. The submissions welcomed the opportunity to engage at this early stage of the process and demonstrated that there was a significant awareness of heritage – both built and natural. This translated into practical actions for the proposed Heritage Plan 2030 (HI2030).

The submissions reflect the readiness of communities, organisations and individuals to participate and the urgency to act and develop a sustainable and dynamic National Heritage Plan for now and the future.

1. WHAT IS HERITAGE?

1.1. Definition

The Heritage Act, 1995, identifies “*monuments, archaeological objects, heritage objects, architectural heritage, flora, fauna, wildlife habitats, landscapes, seascapes, wrecks, geology, heritage gardens and parks and inland waterways*” as forming part of the national heritage.

The consultation document issued by the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht (DCHG) sets out that Heritage Ireland 2030 will focus on built and natural heritage. It states that other important aspects of heritage will be dealt with in other plans and strategies (Investing in our Culture, Language and Heritage 2018-2027 and Culture 2025 - Éire Ildánach) and lie outside the scope of the Plan.

Received submissions considered a more inclusive definition that celebrates the diversity, the tangible and intangible within heritage. Submissions advocated for a dynamic and evolving approach to heritage and an ambitious, contemporary and holistic plan that clearly articulates an understanding and value of heritage.

As well as built and natural heritage, submission themes include cultural heritage, a sense of place, identity, traditional practices and crafts, oral traditions, rituals, festive events, digital heritage, historical landscapes (rural and urban), social cohesion and wellness. The integration of these themes is discussed in Section 3.5 of this report under the title of ‘Vision’.

Submissions sought that Ireland's heritage is to be valued, made easily accessible, enjoyed and protected for future generations.

Submissions also asked that the marginalised and diversity of immigrant communities be acknowledged in the plan.

‘Recognising our unique sense of place and sense of identity, while equally respecting the heritage of new communities should lie at the core of Heritage Ireland 2030’ (Heritage Council 2019).

Illustrations (Figure 1-3) received from children as part of the submission process show what matters to them from a heritage perspective and how they interpret heritage.

It is clear from the received submissions that a comprehensive, flexible and broad definition of heritage is required for Heritage Ireland 2030.



Figure 1 Heritage: 'Dear Minister Madigan, I am sending you a letter with a picture of all the heritage that I love for your heritage plan...'



Figure 2 A picture of a red squirrel, a hedgehog, a herring gull, a pygmy shrew, a seal, a lady-bird and a butterfly



Figure 3 A flock of yellowhammers at sunset

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1. Submissions

In total 2156 submissions were received. These submissions were obtained by email and post (1225) and in response to an online survey (Survey Monkey, 931), as well as in response to workshops that were held throughout the county. When the multiple and duplicate submissions were removed the amount of submissions to be analysed was reduced to 2133.

For this analysis, all submissions were received digitally from the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht. A spread sheet was developed in order to assess, group and record the submissions. This spreadsheet assigned a unique ID for each submission so they can be retrieved and read in association with the database entries.

Each question from Survey Monkey was included in the spread sheet (submission code 87-95) and considered under the same headings/attributes as the other submissions. However, as the submissions from Survey Monkey were responses to 8 questions, they were analysed separately in order to examine the individual and proportional response and assess the most widely used terms and phases when addressing each question.

The following attributes/headings were assigned to filter the information from each submission.

Table 1 HI2030 Database headings

Attribute/ Heading	Description
SUBMISSION_CODE	A unique numeric code for each submission.
FILE_NAME	Name of digital file title.
STAKEHOLDER_NAME	Name of individual/organisation that wrote the submission.
SUBMISSION	The category of respondent including personal or professional interest, organisation etc.
COUNTY	Record of individual county, unknown county or a submission from a national organisation.
ISSUE_LEVEL	Whether the submission represents views on a National, Regional and or Local level.
CATEGORY	Built or natural heritage or built and Natural Heritage.
DATE	Date document added to the database
REVIEWER	Name of individual who reviewed document and entered it onto the database
PLAN_THEME_NATIONAL LEADERSHIP	Does the submission address this Plan theme – Yes/ No.
PLAN_THEME_HERITAGE PARTNERSHIPS	Does the submission address this Plan theme – Yes/ No.
PLAN THEME_COMMUNITIES AND HERITAGE	Does the submission address this Plan theme – Yes/ No.
SUBMISSION_THEMES	Qualitative analysis of submission contents – develop and list key themes within each category.

Attribute/ Heading	Description
PRIORITY/ACTIONS	Overarching objectives and mechanisms for implementation & timeframe.
NOTES	Other comments of relevance.
KEYWORDS	As the submissions were reviewed, key words started to emerge. Keywords allow each submission to be searched by the most popular or readily used phrases and keywords.

2.2. Keywords

Keywords were developed as a search tool and broadly reflect the general themes within the submissions. These themes were further assessed through the Priorities and Actions columns along with the Submission column to ensure that all information was captured within the data sheet. In total, 43 words/ phases were designated as key words and are included in the table below.

Producing the list of keywords was an iterative process and as more submissions were reviewed the number of keywords increased to ensure the key emerging themes were recorded.

Table 2 Submission keywords

Keywords	Interpretation
Adaptive re-use	Reusing existing buildings for a purpose other than that for which it was originally built or designed.
Agriculture	Intensive/commercial agricultural practices.
Archive/collections	An archive is an accumulation of historical records or the physical place they are located. Archives/collections contain primary source documents that have accumulated over the course of an individual or organisation's lifetime and are kept to show the function of that person or organisation.

Keywords	Interpretation
Artefacts	An object made by human beings, typically one of cultural or historical interest, also known as 'portable antiquities'. Access to them and their storage and display are included under this keyword.
Biodiversity	Refers to the variety and variability of life on Earth. It is typically a measure of variation at the genetic, species and ecosystem level. Includes submissions which address biodiversity in general and/or the National Biodiversity Action Plan (2017-2021).
Climate change	The threat of Climate Change, what is already occurring, and actions that need to be taken, for example cross department meetings and workshops.
Cultural heritage	Consists of the resources inherited from the past in all forms - tangible, intangible and digital.
Derelict buildings	Issue of derelict modern and historic buildings. How to stop this process, can these structures be reused?
Digital information	Including web resources and social media, record keeping, advances in technology for interpretation of sites, and access to information.
Education/training/ apprenticeships	Ways to upskill and promote heritage in our schools, communities and throughout interested professions.
EU initiatives	Such as EU Day of Cultural Heritage and EU Heritage Label
Facilities	Modern structures and appropriate adaptive reuse of structures for heritage purposes. The need for more facilities at a local level - in every town and village.
Farming	Methods, landscape, lifestyle, practices and farmers as managers of the land.
Funding	This keyword is used either when one theme for the submission is a general request for more funding or if a specific suggestion for raising funds is made, such as a heritage tax or rates remission for historic buildings

Keywords	Interpretation
Health benefits	Schemes such as Sli na Sláinte. Benefits to mental health and using heritage as an amenity.
Heritage Council	The Heritage Council was established as a statutory body under the Heritage Act, 1995. It is a public body working in the public interest.
Heritage in Schools Scheme	Includes submissions that specifically mention this scheme and/or discuss the importance of teaching heritage in schools.
Heritage officers	County Heritage Officers play a key role in promoting heritage awareness, developing policy and providing advice and information on a local as well as national heritage issues; employed by the Heritage Council.
Heritage week	National celebration of Ireland's natural, built and cultural heritage with an inspiring, informative programme of events.
Historic buildings	Includes Protected structures and structures listed in the National Building and Garden Inventory of Architectural Heritage as well as structures due to their architectural, historical, archaeological, artistic, cultural, scientific, technical and social interest.
Identity	How heritage contributes to the Irish identity; The Irish flag.
Intangible heritage	Sense of identity, sense of place, oral traditions and expressions including: storytelling and language, social practices, rituals and events, knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe, and traditional craftsmanship.
Irish language	How to promote and protect the Irish language.
Junior Cycle (history and geography)	Education of heritage subjects within the school cycle.
Landscape	An area, as perceived by people, whose character is the result of the action and interaction of natural and/or human factors. European Landscape Convention ratified by Ireland 2002.

Keywords	Interpretation
Legislation (new or enforce)	See attached reference list in Appendix 1. Implement / enforce existing legislation. Make people accountable for their actions and seek penalties where necessary. Where legislation is lacking advocate for new bills/ acts.
Local economy	Can include local jobs, rejuvenation of towns and villages.
Local groups	Community groups including Heritage Fora, archaeological and historical societies, citizen scientists and local Tidy Towns.
Marine	Marine and coastal environment, including habitats and species, and associated resources and activities.
Monuments	Definition of a monument (National Monuments Act 1930) - 'includes any artificial or partly artificial building, structure, or erection whether above or below the surface of the ground and whether affixed or not affixed to the ground and any cave, stone, or other natural produce whether forming part of or attached to or not attached to the ground which has been artificially carved, sculptured or worked upon or which (where it does not form part of the ground) appears to have been purposely put or arranged in position and any prehistoric or ancient tomb, grave or burial deposit, but does not include any building which is for the time being habitually used for ecclesiastical purposes'.
Museums	Museums take care of and document a collection; they store, display and exhibit artefacts. They also manage visitor care and access. The Heritage Council have developed a museum standard programme for Ireland. Calls within the submissions for more local museums, training and facilities to house displays and artefacts.
National Biodiversity Data Centre	National organisation which collects and manages data on Ireland's biodiversity in order to document our wildlife resource and to track how it is changing over time.
NGO	A non-profit organisation or an organisation independent of government. Addresses social issues. Voluntary groups.

Keywords	Interpretation
Planning process	Includes AAs, EIAR, EIA – transparent processes
Pollution	Including use of herbicides, pesticides and pollution from the spreading of slurry. Air pollution. Plastic and litter.
Rural villages	Sense of place to streetscape and aesthetics.
Semi-natural habitats	Includes specific habitats such as hedgerows and the conservation and restoration of these habitats.
Stewardship	Support (knowledge, financial) for landowners. Landowners, communities and built heritage owners understanding the value of the heritage asset and taking ownership.
Sustainability	The needs of the present generation must be met without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs - heritage as an enabler for sustainable development, policies, projects, communities, regeneration.
Tourism	Providing access to built and natural heritage. Managing the resource in a sustainable manner. Attaching an economic value to a heritage asset.
Traditional practices	Agriculture, forestry, fishing, dry stonewalls, thatching, the use of lime mortar, lace making, inherited traditions.
UNESCO	World Heritage Sites, regulation and legislation. Protection.
Vernacular architecture	Structures that are characteristic of their area, made of local materials in a traditional manner. How to assist owners? Improve energy efficiency? Thatched cottages, stone roofs, traditional cottages, hanging slates, wattle and daub structures, farm buildings and barns etc

2.3. Analysis of the HI2030 email and postal submissions

Twenty-three lines of data were removed which held no relevant data - individuals or organisations who had requested further information but submitted no information or comment on HI2030, or duplicates;

identical submissions from the same individual etc. This left a remaining 1202 rows of data to be analysed. 348 submissions were from the Durrow High Cross committee and an additional number of individuals or organisations made multiple submissions of between two and six submissions. There was also some minor overlap between the email/postal submissions and the survey monkey data overall with 45 individuals submitting once using each format. It should be noted that it is not possible to identify all overlaps between those submitting using survey monkey and email/postal submissions as initials were sometimes the only identifier used for the survey monkey submissions while in other cases no name was given.

Categorisation of heritage

Each email/postal submission was categorised as either built heritage, natural heritage, or a submission that discussed both types. For the purpose of this project, built heritage also included all submissions relating to manmade items and human culture.

Categorisation of scale

Each email/postal submission was categorised as either a local, regional or national issue. If multiple scales were discussed the largest scale was usually entered unless the dominant theme of the submission was at a smaller scale. A local issue was defined as up to and including county level, a regional issue was multiple counties within a region, and a national issue was relevant to many regions and usually the whole country.

Categorisation of respondents

All respondents were divided into categories as shown in Table 3.

Table 3 Definitions for the six categories of respondent

Category of respondent	Notes
Academic institute	No additional notes
Business	Submissions from a business name, such as Newbridge Silverware or Dublin Port Company, rather than an individual
Government	Included local government, national State bodies, and semi-state bodies such as Waterways Ireland
Individual	Subdivided into those that stated a professional interest, such as a practicing ecologist or archaeologist, and those that did not

Category of respondent	Notes
Local initiative	Included local initiatives such as those promoted by the Durrow High Cross Committee, heritage fora, local groups such as the Donegal Historical Society, and Tidy towns
NGO	Included national organisations such as An Taisce and professional associations such as the Association of Architectural Conservation Officers

Analysis of keyword or themes

To avoid any one issue creating significant bias in the results of the keyword analysis the decision was taken that no campaign would represent >1% of all submissions. The 348 identical submissions from the Durrow High Cross committee that represented 29% of all email/postal submissions were therefore reduced to 12 before the keyword analysis was undertaken. No other campaign with more than 12 submissions was identified.

2.4. Methodology for Analysing the Heritage Ireland 2030 Survey Monkey Results

931 individuals submitted a response to the eight questions posed by the DCHG in the survey monkey poll. The responses were analysed using a combination of keywords (Table 4) that represented the main themes discussed by the 931 individuals. Keywords were mostly based on those utilised to analyse the email submissions, with minor changes made based on the responses provided in the survey monkey submissions, these changes are described below.

Table 4: Keywords and additional associated words used to analyse the 931 survey monkey submissions. Parentheses are used to show where a word was shortened to ensure multiple endings were recognised, (e.g. architectur(e) was added as 'architectur' to ensure that both architecture and architectural were captured). For the analysis the singular version of a word was often used except in cases where the singular version may lead to false positives (e.g. bees was used rather than bee, as bee could form part of common words such as been).

Table 4 Survey Monkey keywords

Keyword	Additional associated words or phrases used to analyse the 931 submissions						
Adaptive re-use	reuse						
Archaeology							
Built	architectur(e)						
Natural	nature	environment	wildlife				
Agriculture							
Archive							
Artefact							
Biodiversity	(butter)flies/cups	animal	bees	bird	fauna	flora, mammal, and plants	
Climate change	climate	warming					
Cultural heritage	cultural	culture					
Derelict building	derelict						
Digital information	digital	internet	social media	web			
Education/training/apprenticeship	apprentice	educat(ion)	school	training			
Farming	farm						
Faro							
Funding	fund	financial mental health	investment	money			
Health benefit	human health	health	wellbeing				
Heritage Council	heritage council						
Heritage in Schools Scheme	heritage in schools						
Heritage officer							
Heritage week							
Historic buildings	historical building	heritage building					
Intangible heritage	intangible	folklore	oral tradition	story telling			
Irish language	linguistic						
Invasive species	invasive						
Junior Cycle (history and geography)	junior c(ycle)						
Landscape							
Legislation	law	legislat(ion)	regulation				
Local economy	jobs	employment					
Local group(s)	community group(s)	Tidy town(s)					
Marine							
Monuments							
Museum							
NGO(s)							
National Biodiversity Data Centre	data centre						
Planning process	planning						
Pollution	emission	herbicide	pesticide	pollut(ion)	slurry	spray	
Rural village							
Semi-natural habitat	habitat	beach	bog	coastline	hedge	peatland, tree, wetland , and woodland	
Sustainability	sustainab(ility)						
Tourism	touris(m)						
Traditional practice	craft(s)	dry stone (walling)					
UNESCO							
Vernacular architecture	thatch	cottage					

Four keywords used to analyse the emailed submissions were not used during the analysis of the survey monkey data. The keywords ‘facilities’ and ‘identity’ were considered to have definitions that were not specific enough to the topic of heritage to apply during this analysis. ‘EU initiatives’ was rarely used in the survey monkey submissions and the European Union was most commonly discussed in the context of legislation or law and could therefore be analysed using other keywords. The keyword ‘Stewardship’ was not found within any of the survey monkey submissions. In addition, three new keywords were analysed these were Faro (i.e. the Faro convention), archaeology, and invasive (i.e. invasive species).

All analysis was undertaken in MS Excel using the ‘countif’ function, all words or phrases were searched for using the wildcard option and if the word occurred at least once within the response to one of the questions it was scored as present. Multiple uses of the same word in the response to the same question by the same respondent were only scored once, therefore within the whole dataset the maximum number of times a word could be scored in response to each of the eight questions was 931, representing the 931 individual submissions. To address the problem of some keywords occurring as part of other keywords (e.g. culture is part of agriculture) or other commonly used words (e.g. natural is part of natural) a space was added at the front of these particular words to ensure the countif function would only find the unique word. It should be noted that any submissions in Irish were translated to English and all submissions were spell checked to ensure that all keywords had been spelt correctly by all respondents. Initial analysis showed that 38 (4%) of the submissions were not being analysed by the keywords and associated words and phrases shown in Table 4 (i.e. none of the keywords or associated words were found within these submissions). It was recommended that these 38 submissions be included with the emailed submissions for further analysis.

2.5. Results – Submissions by County

Email / Postal submissions by county

Table 5: The 1202 (1225 submissions – 23 with no relevant data (see section 2.3)) email and postal submissions are ordered by the number of submissions per county. ‘Unknown’ means the county of the respondent was not known, ‘National’ means the respondent’s submission was on behalf of a national organisation. 348 submissions were made regarding Durrow High Cross in County Offaly.

Table 5 Email / postal submissions by county

County	No. of submissions
Offaly*	367
Unknown	282
National	85
Dublin	72
Donegal	68
Cork	37
Galway	30
Mayo	28
Waterford	27
Meath	20
Sligo	17
Roscommon	17
Limerick	15
Wicklow	14
Tipperary	13
Kilkenny	13
Clare	13
Longford	12
Kildare	11
Westmeath	10
Wexford	9
Louth	9
Laois	8
Kerry	7
Monaghan	6
Carlow	6
Cavan	5
Leitrim	1
Total	1202

*348 submissions were made regarding Durrow High Cross

The majority of the 1202 analysed submissions addressed issues at a national scale.

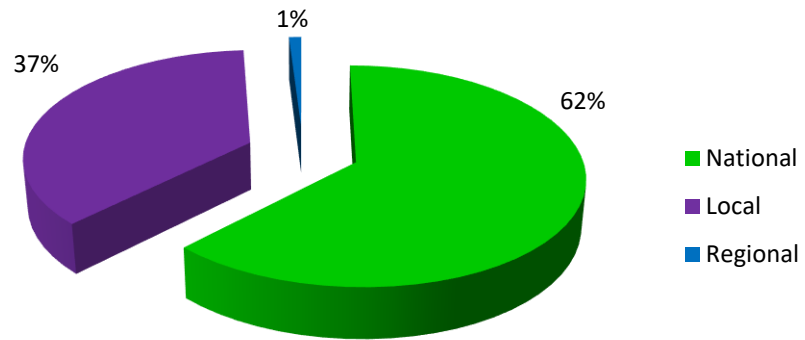


Figure 4 Percentage of submissions received in relation to scale

Built heritage; relating to manmade items and human culture, was the most common topic, but it should be noted that this is due to the 348 submissions made regarding Durrow High Cross.

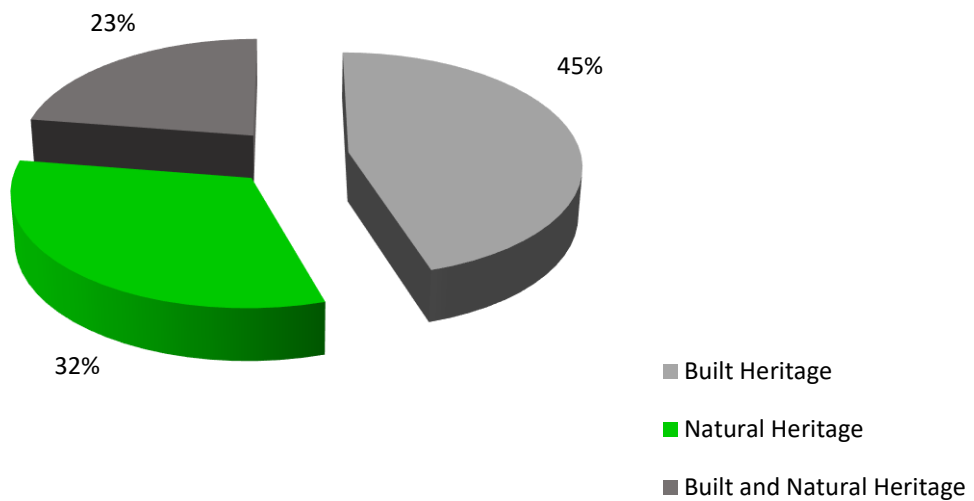


Figure 5 Percentage of submissions received in relation to topic

Local groups such as heritage fora, historical societies, Tidy Towns and the Durrow High Cross committee were the most common type of respondent, followed by individuals who did not express a professional interest.

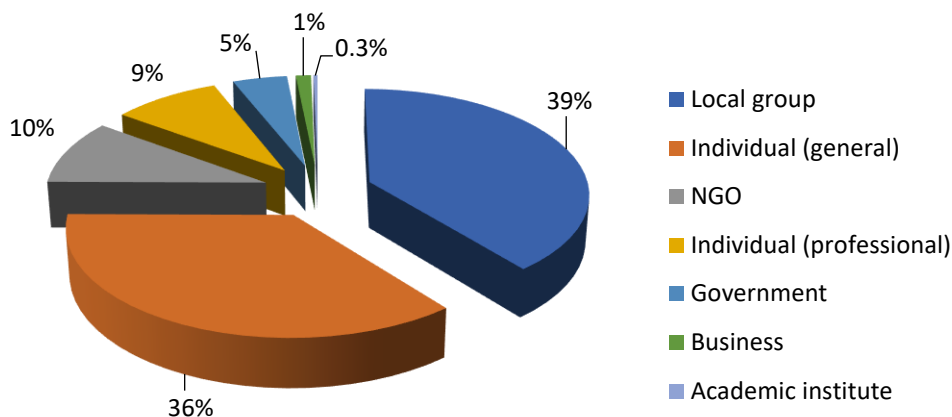


Figure 6 Percentage of submissions received from the seven different respondent categories

Table 6 The top 20 most common keywords across all email and postal submissions

Rank	Keyword	No. of submissions
1	Funding	548
2	Biodiversity	496
3	National Biodiversity Data Centre	309
4	Local groups	252
5	Education/training/apprenticeships	238
6	Cultural heritage	208
7	Historic buildings	187
8	Semi-natural habitats	180
9	Climate change	174
10	Tourism	157
11	Legislation (new or enforce)	149
12	Landscape	148
13	Monuments	146
14	Stewardship	133
15	Planning process	127
16	Archive/collections	126
17	NGO	119
18	Intangible heritage	118
19	Farming	114
20	Museums	113

Funding, biodiversity and the National Biodiversity Data Centre were the top three ranked keywords.

Survey Monkey submissions by county

Table 7: The 931 survey monkey submissions are ordered by the number of submissions per county. 'Unknown' means the county of the respondent was not known, 'National' means the respondent's submission was on behalf of a national organisation. 281 of the Kerry submissions were from schools within Kerry.

Table 7 Survey Monkey submissions by county

County	No. of submissions
Unknown	477
Kerry	305
Dublin	27
National	17
Donegal	16
Cork	13
Galway	13
Meath	8
Roscommon	7
Offaly	6
Kilkenny	5
Louth	5
Waterford	4
Wicklow	4
Mayo	3
Sligo	3
Tipperary	3
Westmeath	3
Carlow	2
Clare	2
Limerick	2
Monaghan	2
Cavan	1
Leitrim	1
Longford	1
Wexford	1
Total	931

As can be seen from Table 7, the majority (51%) of respondents did not declare which county they were from. The survey monkey respondents were heavily biased by submissions from Co. Kerry with 33% of all respondents from this county, this was mainly due to large numbers of submissions from schools within the county.

Analysis of keywords to understand the main themes emerging from the survey monkey submissions

As can be seen in Table 6, climate change, represented by climate change (rank 1st) and global warming (rank 13th), was the most important theme, followed by funding (rank 2nd). Natural heritage (rank 3rd), biodiversity (rank 4th) and the environment (rank 5th) are all important keywords within the survey monkey submissions, as are education (rank 6th) and schools (rank 8th). Cultural heritage was ranked as the seventh most important keyword, ahead of built heritage.

Table 8 The top 20 most common keywords across all Survey Monkey submissions and all eight questions

Rank	Keyword	No. of Submissions
1	Climate change	535
2	Funding	493
3	Natural heritage	448
4	Biodiversity	417
5	Environment	408
6	Education	329
7	Culture/cultural	273
8	Schools	231
9	Built heritage	224
10	Habitats	221
11	Farming	217
12	Wildlife	176
13	Global warming	171
14	Tourism	164
15	Nature	156
16	Law/legislation	139
17	Hedgerows	138
18	Landscapes	133
19	Trees	133
20	Sustainability	111

In response to the eight questions posed in the survey monkey poll, the following eight tables show the important keywords that emerged.

Table 9 Q1. What is the most important thing Heritage Ireland 2030 needs to deliver?

Rank	Keyword	Submissions
1	Natural heritage	105
2	Biodiversity	99
3	Environment	84
4	Built heritage	61
5	Culture	61
6	Funding	58
7	Wildlife	50
8	Climate change	43
9	Habitats	39
10	Sustainability	32

It is clear from the submissions that the plan needs to protect, preserve, save and support the natural and built heritage. It needs to educate and provide awareness. Climate change must be addressed and we must understand what this means for heritage - how do we understand and assess the rate of change? Many submissions called for assistance in keeping rural villages alive and protecting old buildings.

Table 10 Q2. What do you think of the vision for Heritage Ireland 2030? Is there anything we should add?

Rank	Keyword	Submissions
1	Natural heritage	59
2	Biodiversity	56
3	Culture	48
4	Education	44
5	Environment	42
6	Built heritage	32
7	Funding	31
8	Nature	29
9	Schools	27
=10	Climate change	21
=10	Habitats	21

For question 2, culture has moved up from 5th, in response to question 1, to 3rd, indicating that cultural heritage is a theme that respondents thought was missing from the vision for Heritage Ireland 2030. The

keywords of education and schools are now in the top 10, indicating that these are also keywords that respondents felt were missing or not emphasised enough in the public consultation document.

Submissions differed in their responses, communicating that the public consultation document was either too short on detail or too general. Many had nothing else to add, and saw the plan as very good and a welcomed development. The vision, in some instances, was seen as lip service paid to heritage, which needs to be valued and understood. There was strong support for a community and natural heritage focused vision, with public engagement at grassroots level seen as crucial.

Themes included: Protection of the natural heritage and biodiversity; Co-ordination between key stakeholders to enhance and promote the natural environment; Provision of financial incentives to protect natural and built heritage; Cultural heritage in the form of intangible heritage, oral history, marine heritage; Education for children, farmers, developers and politicians and investment in the sciences such as geography, geoarchaeology etc.; Built heritage and development control as well as vernacular architecture.

Table 11 Q3. What are the biggest challenges facing our heritage?

Rank	Keyword	Submissions
1	Climate change	141
2	Funding	91
3	Natural heritage	77
4	Environment	65
5	Biodiversity	62
6	Farming	61
7	Habitats	59
8	Built heritage	46
9	Global warming	43
10	Education	42

Climate change, also represented by the phrase global warming (rank 9th), and funding are seen as the biggest challenges facing our heritage. Farming is ranked in the top 10 keywords for the first time indicating that farming practices are seen as a big challenge facing our heritage. In response to question 3 pollution; represented by 35 submissions, ranked 11th in the list of challenges and natural heritage, the environment and biodiversity ranked 3rd, 4th, and 5th respectively indicating the challenges the natural environment and the species that live within it face.

Climate change, habitat loss and extinction, lack of protection for endangered species, excessive non-native forestry and drainage of wetlands, heritage as a finite resource, lack of funding, pollution, globalisation,

modernisation, lack of co-ordination between agencies, political apathy, lack of skilled crafts people, deforestation, litter, losing the Irish language and rural depopulation were all themes raised as a result of this question.

Weak regulation was discussed in many submissions – implementation of existing legislation was called for. Also many submissions felt that HI2030 was an opportunity to enforce the link between natural and built heritage. It was generally felt within submissions that funding is now more difficult to access.

Table 12 Q4. What do you think of the draft objectives in the document? In your view, is there something important missing?

Rank	Keyword	Submissions
1	Natural heritage	51
2	Biodiversity	43
3	Environment	42
4	Funding	39
5	Education	37
6	Culture	26
7	Climate change	25
8	Schools	24
9	Law/legislation	23
=10	Built heritage	18
=10	Habitats & nature	18

What is being asked in question 4 is similar to question 2 and the results of the analysis for both questions are similar. As for question 2 the keywords education and schools are ranked higher in response to this question than they were in response to question 1. Law or legislation is ranked in the top 10 for the first time indicating that the enactment or enforcement of legislation is seen as something important that is missing from the public consultation document. Just outside the top 10 are traditional crafts (ranked 14th), represented by 16 submissions, and the Irish language (ranked 18th) indicating that these are important items that respondents felt were missing.

Comments on the draft objectives were generally positive, describing the objectives as very comprehensive. However, many submissions asked how the plan going to be achieved and how access to funding will be facilitated.

Comments on items missing from the objectives include the subjects of accountability, penalties, enforcement, and delivery time. It was also noted that there is a need for more research activities to address

biodiversity issues. There was a considerable call to involve young people with the solution for finding a sustainable future in our natural and built environments.

Concerns were raised over the lack of reference to intangible heritage, oral heritage, storytelling, cures, history, fieldnames, the forgotten history of communities and museums.

Table 13 Q5. What changes are happening right now that might impact on our heritage?

Rank	Keyword	Submissions
1	Climate	262
2	Global warming	100
3	Natural heritage	70
4	Environment	64
5	Habitats	60
6	Farming	51
7	Biodiversity	50
8	Tourism	42
9	Hedgerows	41
10	Trees	41

Climate change, also represented by the phrase global warming, is seen as the most important impact on our heritage. Tourism is ranked in the top 10 for the first time and is seen as an important impact, this could be viewed as positive impacts, such as income from tourism contributing to the economy and the conservation of our heritage, or negative impacts, such as tourism exploiting our heritage and contributing to damaging actions. Farming is ranked in the top 10 keywords again and, as with tourism, farming practices can contribute to both negative and positive impacts on heritage. In response to question 5 pollution ranked 13th; represented by 30 submissions, and negative impacts on natural heritage, the environment, habitats, biodiversity, hedgerows and trees are the probable reason why these keywords were ranked 3rd, 4th, 5th, 9th and 10th respectively.

Climate change and biodiversity loss, collapse and extinction are listed as the biggest changes. Natural culture impacts include pollution, hedgerow destruction, overfishing, peat extraction. Built heritage impacts include tourism, derelict structures, demolition of structures, lack of care of historic structures, decline in traditional crafts. Impact to systems include Brexit, OPW outdated, population growth and rural depopulation. Other listed impacts include reduction of funding in county councils, heritage council and communities.

Table 14 Q6. How can we work better together and engage all our communities under Heritage Ireland 2030?

Rank	Keyword	Submissions
1	Education	107
2	School	95
3	Funding	77
4	Local groups	44
5	Environment	46
6	Farm	34
7	Heritage officers	29
8	Social media	19
9	Tourism	17
=10	Heritage Council	15
=10	NGOs	15

As this question focused on solutions the highly ranked heritage descriptors of culture (32 submissions), natural heritage (33 submissions) and biodiversity (45 submissions) were replaced with the highly ranked suggested solutions of social media, tourism, the Heritage Council and Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs). Education and schools are the top ranked keywords in response to question 6, followed by funding and local groups (e.g. Tidy Towns). Heritage officers are also seen as important in the engagement of communities.

Communication is seen as the best way to work together and engage communities. Promoting heritage among children through education and bringing heritage into the classroom was seen as an important action.

There was an expression of a need to inform and invest in communities and training. Increased resources are required, such as more heritage officers and rangers at a local level. It was suggested that awareness campaign and the use of social media would be helpful in providing education.

Schemes such as 'Adopt a Monument' were noted as worthwhile and engaging community projects. Bottom up initiatives are well intentioned with proven outputs but have a limited audience. Government must take the lead and support local initiatives, but also create initiative which are broad and reach everyone.

Table 15 Q7. How can we ensure Heritage Ireland 2030 delivers?

Rank	Keyword	Submissions
1	Funding	113
2	Environment	32
3	Education	28
4	Law/legislation	28
5	Schools	26
6	Money	25
7	Local groups	16
8	Heritage officers	15
9	Investment	12
10	Planning process	12

Again, as this question focused on solutions the highly ranked heritage descriptors natural heritage (16 submissions), culture (17 submissions), and biodiversity (26 submissions) were replaced with the highly ranked suggested solutions Heritage officers, investment and the planning process. Funding is seen as the most important way we can ensure Heritage Ireland 2030 delivers. The enactment or enforcement of legislation is also seen as important, as is the role of education, schools, Heritage officers and the planning process. Just outside the top ranked keywords were the Heritage Council, social media, and tourism.

Table 16 Q8. Do you have any further feedback?

Rank	Question	Submissions
1	Funding	45
2	Natural heritage	37
3	Biodiversity	36
4	Environment	33
5	Built heritage	24
6	Schools	24
7	Culture	24
8	Climate change	23
9	Tourism	19
10	Education	16

As shown by the question 8 table above, the top 10 ranked keywords follows similar themes to those already identified by analysing the response to the first seven questions. Items just outside the top 10 probably indicate additional topics that respondents felt were important and had not been addressed in their response to the first seven questions. The keyword museum was ranked 11th; represented by 13 submissions, and the Irish language was ranked 12th; represented by 12 submissions.

Many responses recorded 'no' and thanked HI2030 for the opportunity to voice an opinion. Other responses were very specific and included actions such as planting more trees, saving stone walls, cleaning up oceans, getting everyone to recycle, and the inclusion of cultural heritage and maritime heritage in the plan.

Generally, there were comments on changes in our natural environment, the effects of biodiversity loss, climate change and that action is needed now. Many asked for funding to be increased, especially in relation to the National Biodiversity Data Centre and built heritage and education in schools.

People called for an audit of the work undertaken and that the plan should take practical steps to ensure a successful outcome.

Most importantly, HI2030 needs to listen to the people, especially the communities and recognise that our heritage is a shared responsibility. We need to work together at local and national level to care for and unlock its future potential.

3. ACTIONS ARISING FOR TOP KEYWORDS

3.1. Funding

The most prevalent sentiment arising from the public consultation was the necessity of more funding to enable the implementation of the objectives of Heritage Ireland 2030. Many of the submissions requested that resourcing within the Heritage Sector should be significantly increased, particularly following several years of reduced budgets during the economic crisis. Submissions tended to be specific and practical about the allocations of funds and for what purpose they are required. Calls for funding were generally not limited to the specific contributor or their projects, but were more democratic, recommending funds be directed to a variety of causes, agencies and organisations. The funding requirements cover both natural and built heritage in terms of conservation, preservation, education, human resources, research and facilities.

While funding can be attributed to the Leadership Theme for the ultimate provision of capital funds, the submissions reflect an understanding that the organisations within the Partnership Theme will be responsible for the structure of how these funds will be spent.

While the necessity for the provision of funds and grants is clear, the submissions also reflect the need for a clear, tailored, accessible and streamlined funding strategy to the various funding streams, including the allocation of multi-annual funding. This will more adequately reflect the needs of individuals, communities and organisations who are seeking funding for a variety of heritage projects.

The submissions make several recommendations for new approaches to funding, such as a National Lottery Heritage Fund. Behavioural changes can also be encouraged through lateral funding approaches such as tax incentives. Philanthropy was also seen as a potentially important source of financial assistance.

There is a particular concern from landowners that conservation efforts or changes in land-use practices carry a significant financial burden that they feel are not always acknowledged by authorities. These issues will require adequate compensation or incentives to encourage behavioural changes.

Funding priorities

It is the general consensus that the Department of Culture, Heritage and the Gaeltacht require additional funding. The desired budget was put forward by some submissions, while others stated the immediate priorities.

- Funding for the natural environment should at least match the 0.3% of GDP as advised by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (currently funding only stands at 0.13%)
- As an emergency measure, prioritise the provision of significant short-term additional funding to enable the full implementation the National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021, along with a long-term commitment.

Agencies

Department agencies and local government were identified as key partners for the receipt of funds, to be spent on internal resourcing, as well as the dispensing of Heritage grants. They are itemised below in order of frequency.

- Local Authorities – Local Authorities are the most commonly cited agency in need of funding. Specifically, funding will be required for the expansion of Heritage staff including Heritage Officers, Assistant Heritage Officers, Biodiversity Officers, County Archivists, Heritage Education Officers, County Archaeologists, Conservation Officers, Wildlife Officers, Field Monuments Advisors, Language Officers, Arts Officers and Funding Officers; in short the submissions call for resourcing to hire a multi-disciplinary heritage staff within local authorities in order to facilitate public outreach, community projects, data collection, enforcement of legislation and decision making. Additional calls were made for specific budgets for local authorities to eradicate invasive species.
- The Heritage Council – Submissions indicate that funding for the Heritage Council should be directed to staffing such as archivists, the implementation of its Heritage at Heart Strategy 2018-2022 and a significant call for the restoration of the Community Heritage Grants Scheme, as well

as support for other schemes such as Adopt a Monument, INSTAR, the Heritage in Schools Scheme, and the Thatch Conservation Grants Scheme. In addition, there is a need for larger grants for particular projects.

- National Parks and Wildlife Service – Calls for funding for NPWS staff (Rangers and Education Officers), conservation efforts, SPA and SAC restoration, enforcement of legislation, education, schemes (Farm Plan Scheme), the preparation of Conservation Plans and the acquisition of more National Parks.
- National Museum of Ireland – Submissions call for additional funding to the National Museum of Ireland, citing staffing, the provision of a long-term storage facility and a rescue archaeology budget as areas which will require funding. Submissions related to museums also showed a desire for better funding for local museums.
- National Monument Service – Under resourcing within the National Monuments Service was noted, in particular the requirement for archaeologists on staff, county surveys and protection of vulnerable archaeological sites.
- National Archives – Resources are needed within the National Archives, and are most urgently needed for local archives to address staffing, building issues, appropriate storage and facilitating communities.
- Office of Public Works – More heritage staff will be required within the OPW in order to implement the objectives of the Heritage Plan and to effectively act on biodiversity and climate change issues.

Organisations

Several organisations were identified as heritage bodies which require additional funding.

- National Biodiversity Data Centre – Secure long-term funding is seen as crucial for the continued operation of the NBDC. The work that it has achieved thus far is seen as invaluable and submissions call for further staffing to enable data collection, outreach, the continuation of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan and the possibility of capital projects.
- The Discovery Programme – Funding for the Discovery Programme to commit to research and fulfil its Charter.
- National Inventory of Architectural Heritage of Ireland – Funding to enable the buildings and gardens surveys.
- The Digital Repository of Ireland – Long term funding is required.
- A variety of Environmental NGOs were cited as in need of further funding, in particular to facilitate the conservation and survey work which they do among communities, including An Taisce, Irish

Wildlife Trust, Birdwatch Ireland, Irish Whale and Dolphin Group, Bat Conservation Ireland, Irish Seed Savers etc.

- A variety of organisations which operate among communities were identified within the submissions which require funding from the larger umbrella organisations, including organisations such as the Irish Community Archive Network, Community Wetland Forum, Local Heritage Fora, Local Historical Societies, Leave No Trace Ireland, Irish Uplands Forum etc.
- The creation of an Irish National Trust with a dedicated fund for the acquisition and conservation of historic buildings, cultural venues and heritage sites.

Schemes

The public consultation submissions recommend several schemes which they would like to see implemented, many of which have existing funding streams or ENGO involvement which could be enhanced.

- Funding for community initiatives which require funding allocations from larger umbrella organisations. These include a wide range of citizen scientist and community heritage projects such as the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan, marine mammal monitoring, bat monitoring, the collection of place names, local history, archaeological survey and the restoration of boats etc.
- Funding for the care, restoration and re-use of built heritage in private and public ownership, including those not on the Record of Protected Structures and vernacular structures. Schemes which are cited for expansion include the Built Heritage Investment Scheme, the Historic Structure Fund, Thatch Conservation Grants and the Traditional Farm Buildings Grant Scheme.
- Funding for farmers and landowners to create, restore and protect habitats with rewards for environmentally friendly practices. Cited initiatives include the Bride Project, Aran Life Project, Burren Life Project, REPs and GLAS.
- Funding for a Local Archaeological Monument Maintenance Scheme for archaeological monuments on private land and in public ownership to enable landowners, communities and authorities to protect and maintain them.
- Funding for historic towns and villages regeneration. The Heritage Council could participate in the Towns and Village Renewal Scheme.
- Investment in digitisation and development of databases, local histories, portals, apps etc. and their long-term care.
- Funding for the conservation and protection of habitats such as peatlands, the marine, waterways, canals, uplands etc.
- Creation of a Heritage Preservation Fund / Heritage Foundation to support people who own significant heritage sites to conserve and maintain them.

Funding mechanisms

The suitability of funding mechanisms was questioned in many of the submissions, citing funding amounts, durations and accessibility as issues to be addressed. Alternative funding mechanisms were also suggested, including direct funding mechanisms, as well as the potential for partnerships with other funding streams and tax incentives to encourage heritage actions.

- Accessibility and bureaucracy are often cited as posing difficulties in procuring funds for heritage projects. It is suggested that an online portal be established providing application forms, information and advice for all heritage funding mechanisms.
- Matching funding is too much of a financial burden on local groups who require major grants to fulfil their projects within a finite timescale.
- Restructure heritage grants to a two-year or multi-year cycle to better facilitate tendering, work timetables and continuity.
- Restoration grants should be replaced with proper maintenance grants, which should be made available to all owners of historic buildings and awarded in proportion to their responsibilities, with minimal bureaucracy / A 'decay per annum' figure for maintenance as in Denmark.
- Grant giving bodies such as the SEAI must comply with conservation principles on a statutory basis when issuing grants.
- Create an Irish Heritage Lottery Fund to increase financial support for conservation of heritage properties on a consistent basis.
- Establish a Percentage for Heritage Scheme, whereby x% of the cost of any future large-scale development be spent on a heritage product.
- A new funding model could be considered with central allocation by Government, available to all Departments, agencies & public (perhaps administered through the Heritage Council) to cater for elements of the Heritage Plan.
- A state sponsored or grant aided body such as Monumentenwacht in Belgium needs to be established in Ireland for the cyclical maintenance of protected structures - particularly at high level (above two storeys).
- Link schemes such as CAP to Heritage Plans (e.g. Burren Life, GLAS, Hight Nature Value Farming).
- Partner with other funding streams (e.g. Creative Ireland, Fáilte Ireland).
- Funding through social enterprise agencies.
- Allow a reinvestment of a percentage of revenue generated by a heritage site back to the maintenance and management of that site
- Removal of VAT and Local Property Tax for RPS historic structures.
- Tax incentive to businesses in and / or undertaking conservation works in historic buildings.

- Incentivise philanthropy and heritage projects.
- Maintain the Section 482 tax scheme for historic buildings providing public access, but also allow tax relief for those who cannot provide public access.
- Maintain & enhance the Section 1003 tax relief donation scheme for acquiring significant heritage items for qualifying public collections (from 80% to 90%).
- Re-introduce the 9% VAT rate for the heritage sector (admission fees, private hires etc.).
- Introduce capital allowances for energy efficiency works on commercial buildings and/or grant remission from commercial rates on a graduated scale over a ten-year period for commercial buildings to be refurbished.
- Introduce a Biodiversity Tax for organisations and landowners.

3.2. Education / training / apprenticeships

Education was seen as a crucial solution and action among the HI2030 submissions. There is a recognition for a need for heritage awareness at all levels of education from Primary level to Third level in order to create an interest and knowledge in heritage from an early age. Education among communities will be crucial to empower citizen scientists and community heritage groups to engage in heritage projects with best practice procedures. There is also a growing need for heritage professionals and for practitioners of traditional skills, for which training courses will need to be provided. For professionals in the heritage sector and those who engage with heritage, there is an ongoing need for awareness courses, Continuous Professional Development (CPD) courses and professional guidelines.

Schools

- Develop a Heritage curriculum in schools which includes nature studies, folklore, local history, ecology etc. This should be encouraged from pre-school and could potentially be an exam subject at second level.
- Reinstate History and Geography as core subjects in the Junior Certificate cycle.
- Support place-based learning programmes such as Forest Schools or Áitbheo Primary and Secondary programmes.
- Support school programmes such as Archaeology in the Classroom and Heritage in Schools.
- Promote the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan in schools.
- Create a Heritage Education Roadshow in different schools with different themes every year.
- Enhance the Green Flag scheme.
- Develop a Heritage Flag scheme which would be similar to the Green Flag but with heritage projects.

- Integrate heritage into other strands of education (e.g. art, maths, history).
- All schools should adopt a Heritage project (e.g. school gardens, a 2020 Oral Heritage Collection collected from older communities by pupils).
- Create Transition Year Heritage projects.
- Develop a heritage category within the Young Scientist competition.
- Expand Heritage in Schools to Second level.
- Make a museum visit compulsory during a child's school career.
- Provide guest speakers and workshops in schools.
- Promote and protect the Irish language with research, an examination of current teacher training / methodologies and an assessment of Gaelscoileanna. Rethink how Irish is taught.
- Heritage training modules should be available to Primary and Secondary school teachers.
- Develop an on-line heritage resource for teachers, with lesson plans, projects, information and other resources.
- Create a liaison with the Department of Education.

Third Level Education

- Encourage outreach from third level institutions to work with communities (e.g. Build community internships into third level History and Heritage courses, tours with Architecture students).
- Third level courses leading to professions which interact with and impact with heritage should include heritage modules (engineering, planning, architecture, agriculture, climate change, sustainable development and food).
- Develop a University programme on the Conservation of Cultural Heritage.
- Third level specific programmes (e.g. Environmental studies, Veterinary, Science, Analytics, MBAs) could use real trusts, heritage sites and charities to conduct research, case studies, business plans, training programmes etc.

Heritage professions

- Training for local and National Museum staff and support for the Museum Standards Programme.
- Develop the accreditation of archives services in Ireland, similar to the Museum Standards Programme for Ireland (MSPI).
- Research will be required from Heritage professionals as to how best to implement the Plan, to be co-ordinated with the training and education objectives of the Plan.

- Include an objective to publish new guidelines for licenced archaeologist & archaeologists working in local authorities covering key issues that require guidance (e.g. piling, industrial heritage, preservation in-situ, standards in recording & report writing, historic building survey, impact assessment, methods of excavation, urban archaeology, water monitoring and hydrology at archaeological sites).
- Provide guidelines on a range of heritage issues such as climate change, digital survey etc.
- Encourage interaction between academics and local communities to bring knowledge and understanding of local objects, buildings and folk history to the local community.
- An increase in knowledge or the training of a specified person within National Monuments who oversees detection licences, geophysical methodologies & the submission of geophysical reports.
- Train conservators of portable heritage.
- Develop a professional accreditation for Heritage Preservation and Risk Management.

Traditional practitioners

- Maintain traditional skills (e.g. thatching, stonewall construction, lime mortar, boat building, smithing, hedge laying, coppicing etc.) by providing training programmes, apprenticeships and sustainable skills transfer programmes. A Traditional Building Skill Centre / National Conservation Training Centre should be established (similar to the Historic Environment Scotland Training Yard, Engine Shed Training Centre, Cathedral Workshop in Trondheim and Training Centre in Roskilde etc.). This centre should be in accordance with ICOMOS guidelines for training and education, and could be established in association with a third level institution (TU or an IT).
- Work with traditional practitioners to promote educational opportunities and research (e.g. traditional net fishery demonstrations, boats, crafts).
- Create a centre for earthen buildings to recognise the building type and to facilitate those involved in or interested in joining the earthen building community.
- The report of the pilot Traditional Building Skills Training Scheme 2014 should be reviewed and implemented as appropriate.
- Create bursaries for undertaking training in traditional skills.
- Skills training dependant on a scarce protected resource should only be permitted where there is adequate resources/stocks to facilitate training and a reasonable expectation to use the skills in the future (e.g. salmon fishing).

Other professions

- Provide education for machine operators on biodiversity, plant identification and invasive species.

- Provide courses in heritage to outdoor Local Authority staff or contractors (e.g. in ecology, vernacular architecture, archaeology).
- Provide CPD courses to local authority staff in SUDS, Green Infrastructure Strategies, control of invasive species, natural flood management, protection of hedgerows and other traditional land boundaries etc.
- CPD courses on heritage, climate change and biodiversity should be provided for all stakeholders in the building profession (architects, engineers, building surveyors, planners) and for those who interact with heritage.
- Provide training to An Garda Síochána on their role in protecting portable heritage and preventing wildlife crime.
- Provide training for tourism authorities and employees working with heritage sites (maintenance, signage, tours).
- Develop best practice guidelines where another profession interacts with heritage (e.g. climate change).

Landowners and farmers

- Create a media campaign to educate landowners on the importance of hedgerows, their correct management and the laws regarding hedge-cutting.
- Set up a Natural Heritage Advisory Scheme to help farmers and landowners retain wetlands, use pollinator friendly measures and improve hedgerow maintenance, with assistance from ecologists.
- Encourage farmers, foresters, fishers & food-producers to be at the forefront of conservation and promotion of our natural and cultural heritage by enabling them to diversify their skillset.
- Provide outreach and education on better lawn management for biodiversity.

Community

- Provide heritage advice and training courses for communities undertaking heritage and citizen scientist projects, and caring for heritage sites (e.g. plant and animal recording schemes, protection of sites, principles of the Hague Convention, how to manage bureaucracy, health and safety, project management, tour guiding, habitat conservation, oral history recording etc.)
- Provide heritage education and outreach to young people, old people and new communities (e.g. Life-Long Learning Courses, a Youth Heritage Forum, cross-generational programmes delivered by Age Action Ireland or Age Friendly Ireland etc.).
- Enhancement of Heritage Week. Possibly move it to during the school year and host more regular family friendly events.

- Create TV programming which features heritage and heritage awareness (nature programming, renovation of vernacular homes etc.).
- Facilitate peer learning by creating a network for heritage groups with a national website to publicise projects, forge links and seek volunteers, information etc., and the publication of newsletters, news articles, news programmes etc.
- Maintain traditional practices (e.g. dry-stone walling, gates etc.) among communities by nurturing them and facilitating workshops in Rural Ireland, similar to how it has been accomplished in the English Lake District and the Yorkshire Dales.
- Work closely with the Department of Social Protection to develop suitable training programmes around natural heritage for community workers (e.g. Community Employment & TUS) who are on the ground helping to look after green spaces.
- All funded heritage projects should be required to include a skills training and educational dimension.

Resources

- In addition to an education brief for Heritage Staff in Local Authorities, every Local Authority should have a dedicated Heritage Education Officer.
- Provide staff with a general Education/Community brief and an increase to the education budget of the National Parks & Wildlife Service and open Education Centres throughout the school year.
- Support museums, libraries and education centres.
- Support NGOs which deliver heritage training and engagement (e.g. Leave No Trace Ireland, Irish Peatland Conservation Council, iCAN).
- Provide support to NGOs such as the Irish Georgian Society to deliver CPDs & training programmes for professional, practitioners & owners.
- Create an advisory service / online initiative to supplement the existing Government Advice Series, and this could proceed to develop initiatives at grassroots level, leading on to apprenticeships and through to third level education (both undergraduate and postgraduate level)
- Develop interpretative technologies and signage at heritage sites.
- Create a National Landscape Study and Research Centre.
- Establish a network of facilitators to co-ordinate community groups.

3.3. Natural Heritage

Recommendations for Natural Heritage build on the measures set out in Funding and Education. Biodiversity, Semi-Natural Habitats and Climate Change were the principle sentiments within Natural

Heritage submissions. The recommendations will require action from the Leadership, Partnership and Community arms in the implementation of policy, enactment and enforcement of legislation, behavioural changes and data collection. In addition, there are several particular habitats and geographies which require special attention, including farmlands, public lands, uplands, wetlands, water, woodlands, hedgerows and the skies.

Leadership

- Make biodiversity and prevention of habitat loss an all-of-Government legal and policy objective and an objective of Heritage Ireland 2030.
- Integrate the National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021 (NBAP) objectives into Heritage Ireland 2030, including the 'Seeds for Nature' commitments.
- Integrate Heritage Ireland 2030 with climate action in other strategies.
- Heritage Ireland 2030 should have specific measures to review and address the impacts of agriculture, forestry, peat extraction, wastewater treatment, chemical fertilizer and insecticides on biodiversity.
- Heritage 2030 must be clear that significant genetic and ecological concerns take precedent over commercial interests and are communicated clearly and unambiguously.
- Implement the integration of natural capital accounting across areas of Government, companies and landowners in decision making, and use the accounts to develop a 'State of Ireland's Natural Capital Report'. Provide a national biodiversity accreditation system that will enable companies to gain credit for investing in nature.
- Develop a National Biodiversity Net Gain policy. This means that instead of policy focusing on slowing degradation and decline that we should be focussing on restoring, renewing and increasing our biodiversity natural capital.
- Integrate climate mitigation and adaptation with biodiversity (Ensure new renewable energy is integrated with biodiversity, adopt river basin flood management which is assessed at a catchment scale and recognises the importance of restoring floodplains and wet woodlands).
- Create a government department for Natural Heritage / Conservation which will include National Parks and Wildlife and have an increased budget.
- Creates an Office for Nature Conservation, and appoint a Commissioner for Nature Conservation, whose job it is to influence high level decision-making for the benefit of nature conservation.
- All state and semi-state bodies should incorporate UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- Create national strategies which do not erode heritage.
- Develop national guidance on management of natural heritage (tree management, climate change, invasive species etc.).

- Develop a national wildlife management framework to set out the number of wildlife sanctuaries, wildlife hospitals, rehabilitation centres, policies and sanctions.
- Implementation and enforcement of existing policies, legislation, planning conditions, directives and conventions through cross-departmental co-operation.
- Implement measurable targets that align with those of the Water Framework directive, the Marine Strategy Framework Directive, the Sustainable Development Goals, the Convention of Biological Diversity etc.
- Create targets for restoring habitats and wildlife populations (e.g. planting native trees, restoring hedgerows, restoring river health, completing sewage works, planting wildflowers on roadsides, increasing curlew populations, encouraging the return of pine martins).
- Create management and conservation plans for all SACs, SPAs, NHAs and Natura 2000 sites.
- Commit to completion of NHA designation process within a defined period. The Minister must not de-designate NHAs until new sites are designated.
- Develop a nationally funded restoration plan for degraded, and nationally and internationally important habitat types, based on cost-effective and evidence-based management actions to achieve specific goals.
- Resource the implementation of Ireland's National Strategy for Conservation Plan.
- Develop a framework for quantifying the carbon value of natural habitats.
- Implement a plan to reduce dumping nationally.
- Define the baseline and continuously monitor the environment through the National Biodiversity Data Centre, partnerships with ENGOS, citizen science projects, academic research and surveys.
- Establish a conservation led national programme to support the identification, recording, protection & promotion of landscapes of high cultural heritage significance.
- Designate and conserve a network of sites of national, regional and local importance for nature conservation.
- Develop a mechanism to measure the loss of undeveloped land (as in Scotland).
- Complete the digitising of key heritage datasets, and provide them for use in planning and protection, for example national monuments, watercourses and waterbodies (ecological status information), locations of species and habitats etc.
- Found a national seed bank and an insect bank.
- Create actions which recognise the need to link cultural & natural heritage in order to better manage heritage sites (e.g. Newgrange, Girley Bog, Skelligs) where both aspects are mixed.
- Introduce planning directives for new building & renovation work to protect swift nesting.
- Ban glyphosate, chemical weed killers and pesticides and implement stronger laws on poisons such as carbofurans.

- A complete ban on Fossil Fuel Exploration.
- No more houses should be permitted to be built in rural areas, prioritising increased density cities, small towns & villages. This should be written into the National Planning Strategy and Local Development Plans.
- Planning applications should require a biodiversity plan.
- Introduce a Biodiversity tax.

Partnership

- Strengthen the position of NPWS to deliver education, hire Conservation Rangers, manage National Parks, enforce legislation, monitor biodiversity, create conservation plans, manage invasive species etc. Staffing levels should be increased in line with the recommendations of Grant Thornton's 2010 report.
- NPWS should be made a more independent body with more influence in legislative decision-making.
- Integrate the work of the NPWS with that of the Environmental Protection Agency.
- Support the role of the National Biodiversity Data Centre in education, data collection, making information accessible and informing evidence-based decision-making. The NBDC website could serve as a central repository for Appropriate Assessments along the lines of the recently established EIA portal.
- Every Local Authority should have at least one qualified ecologist / Biodiversity Officer on staff to prepare and assess AA documents, advise on biodiversity, advise on planning, perform community outreach etc.
- Every Local Authority should have an arborist on staff.
- Every statutory body with a remit under the Birds & Natural Habitats Regulations 2011 should have a suitably qualified ecologist on staff.
- The Office of Public Works must be part of an integrated approach for the protection of biodiversity.
- Develop partnerships between NGOs and government (e.g. BirdWatch Ireland, Irish Whale and Dolphin Group, Irish Wildlife Trust, Irish Peatland Conservation Council).
- Heritage Ireland 2030 should ensure that the support and implementation of the All-Ireland Pollinator Plan is fully funded and that local authorities, community groups, schools and other entities are supported in their attempts to put in place actions laid out in the plan.
- Encourage local authorities to produce County Heritage and Biodiversity Plans every 5 years.
- Create a specialised unit within the Gardaí to deal with wildlife crimes, and promote the environmental crime phone line.

- Promotion of heritage partnerships with Northern Ireland to address biodiversity, climate change and the importance of our shared heritage assets.
- The legal constitution and remit of State agencies & companies (Bord Bia, Coillte, Bord na Móna, Gas Networks Ireland) should be amended to embrace overarching biodiversity restoration and landscape & cultural heritage objectives.
- Create a 'National Conservation Grazing Partnership' in conjunction with various departmental, local government, semi-state bodies etc. (e.g. NPWS, Coillte), similar to the UK where local & national authorities have implemented a grazing animals project (GAP) by opening up large land banks in public ownership to grazing at preferential rates to native breed societies for high nature value farming.
- Údarás na Gaeltachta must be supported to stimulate low-carbon Gaeltacht businesses that have little to no impact on the natural environment.
- The establishment of an independent, science-based, Centre of Excellence for Climate Smart Conservation Actions that can advise land managers in government (e.g. Dept. of Agriculture, Food and the Marine, NPWS, OPW etc), semi-state organisations (e.g. Coillte, Bord na Mona, Inland Waterways Ireland etc.), industry and local authorities, on the best evidence based conservation schemes and actions that can be applied.
- Develop & implement River Basin Management Plans with regional partnerships.
- Support participation in Convention on Biological Diversity and the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform for Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES).
- Local Authorities must take a lead role in reducing / recycling plastics.
- Bring back the ENFO.

Community

- Encourage Citizen Scientists with advice, funding, training, digital resources etc. to enable them to participate in data collection and undertake projects.
- Encourage biodiversity and environmentally friendly activity in Tidy Towns by continuing the Pollinator awards, delivering biodiversity awareness training, discouraging grass cutting and the use of peat compost, and encouraging the planting of wildflowers and the use of rainwater.
- Bee-keeping should be encouraged and bee-keeping associations supported.
- Promote better lawn management among individuals and communities.
- Incentivise peat-free gardening.
- Create an 'Adopt a Habitat' scheme similar to 'Adopt a Monument' to include designated as well as habits of local importance.

- A campaign to encourage reporting of wildlife road kill could help identify the most urgent areas like that on biology.ie.

Farmlands

- There needs to be a more integrated approach between the DCHG and the Dept. of Agriculture, Food and Marine to develop cohesive policies to support extensive traditional farming practices.
- Create a National Farm Heritage Plan.
- Support farmers engaging in sustainable farming practices, High-Nature Value Farming and habitat creation (e.g. Burren LIFE, Bride Project, Farm Plan Schemes, Aran LIFE). Rewards should be results based and long-term and the schemes rolled out nationally.
- The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine should not penalise farmers for 'unproductive land' and should not incentivise the removal of wildlife habitats.
- No farmer with land in SAC/SPA/NHA sites should be penalised for maintaining habitats. Protection of habitats should be rewarded.
- Every farm should allocate 7% of its holdings to wildlife (excluding structures & hedgerows) without BPS being penalised.
- Integrate CAP & Rural Development funding with effective biodiversity action (RDP funding should be allocated for results based measures which promote biodiversity and reduce emissions; direct and indirect subsidies should be available for biodiversity action e.g. High Nature Value farming, historic native woodland regeneration, carbon soil management and flood attenuation).
- Engage with agricultural sector on habitat loss with education for agricultural students.
- Encourage a move away from beef and dairy farming and replace it with a mixture of woodlands and farming (agro-forestry / agri-silviculture).
- Ban on the use of slurry spreading through the spray plate method to protect habitats & water quality.
- Increased emphasis on soil health and treatment of run-off.
- Set up a Natural Heritage Advisory Scheme to help farmers retain wetlands, use pollinator friendly measures, improve hedgerow maintenance etc.
- It should be a standard measure for all farmers to fence off an area of 1 to 2 meters along all watercourses including small streams and hedgerows to reduce run-off and encourage biodiversity.

Public lands

- Traditional practices such as grazing should be favoured over mowing in National Parks.
- There should be less emphasis on mowing and more on rewilding.

- There should be statutory protection and conservation plans for all National Parks.
- Invest in National Parks (E.g. Increase the size of the Burren National Park; establish a Peatlands National Park / National Nature Reserve in the Lullymore / Lullybeg complex, Co. Kildare; establish a National Park on the peatlands of the River Suck; develop Coastal and Marine National Parks; create a wildlife refuge in the Shannon Callows).
- Local authorities & the TII should plant native species (trees, wildflowers etc.) in public spaces, road verges and along railway lines.
- Invest in Green Infrastructure Planning and Guidelines.
- Act on the recommendations of BirdWatch Ireland on the mitigation of barn owl mortality on motorways and the impact to birds & wildlife from the greenway on Lough Swilly.
- Safe cycle lane infrastructure, especially in small urban centres.
- Leave a portion of all public parks to grow wild and encourage public gardens.
- Enact the recommendations of the Inter-Departmental Task Force on the future management and development of the Curragh (1999).
- Urban, industrial & transport infrastructure must have impacts assessed including the appropriate use of SuDS (Sustainable Urban Drainage Systems), which can also enhance biodiversity.
- The use of moss peat in public spaces should be phased out.
- Install insect hotels across Cities, Schools and Public Gardens.
- Install over and under-road wildlife bridges and tunnels.
- Eradicate invasive species in National Parks and public lands.
- Integrate nature into urban & infrastructural design (e.g. Introduce legislation requiring all local authorities to make provisions for wildlife (e.g. nest-boxes, bat boxes) in all new public buildings).

Uplands

- Outlaw upland gorse and heather burning.
- Collaboration with the Department of Agriculture on the issue of uncontrolled burning of uplands, in order to ensure that illegally burned land becomes ineligible for subsidies and that prosecutions are made where appropriate.
- Halt turf cutting on upland blanket bog.
- Remove blanket bogs from the review under the Wildlife (Amendment) Bill 2018.
- Local authorities must provide effective development control and enforcement regarding unauthorised developments in upland areas.
- Provide resources to repair path erosion and trampling in upland areas.
- Introduce support measures for changing direction on afforested raised and blanket bogs.

- Protect the uplands by phasing out of sheep-rearing & control of deer numbers (through the reintroduction of wolves).

Wetlands

- Embed the National Peatlands Strategy & the National Raised Bog Special Areas of Conservation Management Plan 2017-2022 in Heritage 2030 and in other regional & local plans.
- Resource peatlands management in line with EPA Bogland (2011) report (and amend the National Peatland Strategy accordingly).
- Halt turf cutting and commercial peat extraction.
- Rewet cutover / cutaway bogs.
- Consultation with landowners must be a priority when hydrological management plans are issued for designated raised bogs.
- The State should purchase and protect bogs which are SACs or NHAs.
- Designate more wetlands as NHAs.
- Compensate turbary rights to turf cutters.
- Compensate commercial peat cutters.
- Conduct a national fen survey in line with Action No. 52 in the Government's Prioritised Action Framework for the Natura 2000 network.
- Any areas of acid peat deposit remaining should be included in the Bord na Móna Raised Bog Conservation Programme.
- Include an objective to establish NPWS officers with responsibility for fens, cutaway bogs, cutover bogs and community engagement who can work with local authorities, statutory bodies, eNGOs, communities and citizens.
- Large Semi-state landowners (Coillte, Bord na Mona) should be encouraged to restore areas of bog, cutover bogs and other wetlands within their ownership, funded by the State & EU.
- Transfer ownership of all publicly owned peatlands to a new agency established solely to manage them for their natural capital benefits.
- Develop a network of heritage wetlands trails which might further assist with generating an appreciation of wetlands.

Water

- Water quality has to be continuously improved with more investment in waste water plants.
- Support for natural floods management, following the law and international best practice.

- The fisheries police need to be given greater numbers and greater powers to penalise people who damage the water quality of our streams and waterways.
- Create clarity in the roles of the OPW, Inland Fisheries, ESB, NPWS and local authorities in river management.
- Remove invasive species from river banks.
- Prohibit the deliberate introduction of coarse fish into salmonid rivers and lakes
- Designate at least 30 per cent of Ireland’s inshore waters and 50 per cent of our offshore waters as marine conservation areas where fishing, farming and prospecting would be prohibited.
- Recognise the marine in the objectives.
- Implement the Marine Strategy Framework Directive.
- Designate Marine Protected Areas.
- Employ more State Marine Biologists.
- Create a National Fishing Heritage Plan.
- Halt the over-exploitation of the seas.
- Protections for coastal wildlife which are often culled (seagulls, jellyfish, seals).
- The use of machinery to harvest seaweed should be banned because of the negative impacts on marine life and ecosystems.
- The impact of sea bed bottom or drag trawling needs to be assessed for ecological issues.
- Address lack of legal protection for fish or marine vertebrates under the Wildlife Act.
- A stronger system of protection and screening of invasive species is required at international ports.
- Plastic capturing devices need to be installed in suitable locations on our coasts where they can be readily emptied and serviced.
- A strategy needs to be put in place to control the discharges from international cruise liners in waters within twenty-five miles of our coasts.
- Defining any activity involving the exploitation of a natural resource, such as wild Atlantic salmon, as a “heritage” activity fundamentally requires the availability of a resource to exploit within safe biological limits.

Woodlands

- Encourage and incentivise native woodland over conifer plantations.
- Coillte should prioritise native species when replanting.
- Restore trees to riverbanks, creating riparian woodlands.
- Complete the mapping of ancient forests across Ireland.
- Develop support measures for planning and management of ancient forests.

- Develop a national plan to provide native deciduous woodland corridors which join fragmented areas of woodland and develop large native woodland areas.

Hedgerows and trees

- Hedgerows must be appropriately managed through training for machine operators who must use appropriate equipment, and education / awareness among landowners and Local Authorities.
- Strengthen the legislation regarding the cutting of hedgerows and repeal the shorter cutting season under the Heritage Bill 2018. Consider statutory protection year-round.
- Encourage land owners to improve their hedgerows with funding, education and access to professional advice from ecologists.
- Councils must not force landowners to cut hedges.
- Enact public consultations on tree felling and planting.
- Consider making planning permission a requirement for the removal of hedgerows.
- Address the issue of insurance companies raising policy costs due to trees.
- Implement protection orders on urban trees and introduce protective legislation.
- Oversight of verge cutting where an ecologist marks out areas & species which require care.
- Establish a county-based tree management policy.
- All Hedgerow cutter owners and operators (including local authorities) must be registered and educated on the importance of machinery sterilization.

Skies

- Include as policy the responsibility to protect naturally dark spaces for future generations to enjoy and learn from, reflecting the international values set out by UNESCO re. Astronomical Heritage.
- Correct management of LED technology.
- Reduction of light pollution.
- Create Dark Sky Parks.
- Abide by the UNESCO World Charter with regards to LED lighting.

Energy

- Encourage genuine reductions in energy consumption.
- Wind energy development needs to be compatible with peatland conservation & the protection of the Hen Harrier and other bird species.
- Produce national guidelines for the location of solar farm development.

- Immediately stop peat burning in power stations.

Irish breeds

- Protect the native Irish hone bee *Apis Mellifera Mellifera* from being eroded due to interbreeding with imported species.
- Support for the rearing of Irish breeds like Droimeann cattle and the Old Irish Goat.

Wildlife

In addition to measure set out in the actions for habitats and public lands above, the following actions have been recommended.

- A complete ban on blood sports.
- Protection of rare moths under Section 23 of the Wildlife Acts 1976/2000 by statutory instrument (White Prominent, Burren Green, Irish Annulet, Portland Moth and Sandhill Rustic).
- Improve legal protections to wild flora & fauna outside of designated NHA sites.
- Ban on badger culls.
- Ban fur farming and manage mink issues.

3.4. Built Heritage

The recommendations for built heritage develop on from the findings within the Funding and Education sections of the report (3.1 and 3.2 respectively). Many submissions sought increased resources and additional heritage staff should be made available to the NMI, local authorities, Heritage Council, DCHG and OPW in order to assess, protect, conserve and enhance our built heritage. Investment in heritage expertise and training so that traditional skills can be kept alive and practiced throughout Ireland was seen as a priority to achieve. Economic support should be made available for the sustainable growing and cultivation of materials such as thatch in order to promote traditional practices and crafts.

Some submissions in relation to built heritage tended to be very specific, detailing particular buildings for restoration projects, repair, adaptive reuse and funding. While others were general, referring to the enhancement of built heritage or that vernacular buildings should be listed and protected. Others discussed access to grants and insurance costs in relation to private ownership as issues for consideration, while there were calls to enforce strict penalties for breaching of heritage laws or damages to a structure. There was an acknowledgement that the majority of Irish heritage properties are in private ownership, and for Ireland's

heritage to be properly cared for, the government has a duty to do so in partnership with its owners. Also, that the renovation of privately-owned heritage properties should be zero VAT. Along with the provision of additional financial incentives for the protection of Great Irish Houses.

Suggestions were also made that an Irish Heritage Lottery Fund should be established to increase financial support for the conservation of heritage properties on a consistent basis. There were calls for a commitment for increased funding for the Built Heritage Investment Scheme and Historic Structures Fund, and support for 'Heritage at the Heart: Heritage Council Strategy 2018-2022' and for the Community Heritage Grants Scheme to be reinstated. It was recommended that there be a review of the current schemes to allow for flexible multi-annual grant schemes that reflect the reality and complexity of most building conservation projects.

Funding was also requested for the digitisation of local history resources in public libraries and for landowners & community groups to care for recorded archaeological sites.

World Heritage

- Include a reference in the Plan to Ireland's World Heritage Sites & Tentative List sites and commit to supporting the advancement of tentative list sites for nomination.
- Develop strategies for the two existing World Heritage Sites and a plan for advancing the nomination of sites on the Tentative list.
- Build capacity regarding World Heritage matters at governmental, local authority, professional and community levels.
- Articulate the significance attached to World Heritage designation within the County Development plans.
- Develop organisational structures for the management of and public engagement at cultural sites.

Planning Legislation and guidelines

- Support the Historic Urban Landscapes (HUL) approach to the management of historic urban areas in County and City Development Plans, and provide advice for implementation.
- Consider the impact recent planning legislation and guidelines (Urban Development and Building Heights for Local Authorities 2018, Bringing Back Homes Manual for the Reuse of Existing Buildings etc.) will have on built heritage.
- Development Planning: County and City Development plans need to have regard to the management of built heritage and reflect the importance of cultural assets and landscapes development.

- UN Sustainable Development Goals: Heritage 2030 should be benchmarked with UN Sustainable Development Goals [UNSDGs], it should acknowledge that access to cultural heritage is a human right established in the UNDHR and echoed in the recent ICOMOS Buenos Aires Declaration.
- The National Heritage Plan should align with the Sustainable Development Goals, as outlined in the National Planning Framework.
- Amendments to legislation under the Planning & Development Act (2000) must align with the Sustainable Development Goals outlined in the National Planning Framework – Project Ireland 2040.
- Due to the growth of the Irish population, there will be a need to have an Interdepartmental approach to ensure that both Housing and Infrastructure requirements are placed with a long term view with quality and capacity.
- Publish an updated National Monuments Act with protection to post-1700 built heritage.
- Include an objective to publish new guidelines for licenced archaeologists and archaeologists working in local authorities, covering key issues that require guidance (e.g. piling, industrial heritage, preservation in-situ, standards in recording & report writing, historic building survey, impact assessment, methods of excavation).
- Amend the Planning Act based on the proposed recommendations of the Expert Advisory Committee report of Part IV of the Act. Draft legislation to provide for effective powers to enforce in architectural conservation areas, enable emergency listing procedures and tree protection in urban areas.
- Review and update the Government Policy on Architecture 2009-2015.
- Ratify the National Monuments Bill.
- National policies for the care & conservation of historic graveyards.
- The international charters and conventions that Ireland has ratified should underpin Heritage 2030.
- Statutory legislation will be implemented to ensure that local authority Records of Protected Structures are up to date and reflect the National Inventory of Architectural Heritage.
- Architectural Conservation Areas will have meaningful, legible plans put in place to facilitate local authorities, public bodies and private property owners in protecting built heritage.
- Existing statutory obligations surrounding technical and administrative resources within local authorities will be fulfilled, with the relevant personnel put in place to implement the legislation.
- Local authority personnel will be supported by an enforcement department which are sufficiently funded and have sufficient legal powers to ensure that the planning act is enacted.
- A National Trust for Ireland will be put in place and sufficiently funded to protect and conserve our significant and important historic structures.
- Built Heritage will have a place in all future strategic planning for Ireland.

- Better enforcement of archaeological conditions and oversight on planning.
- Regulatory protection for dry stone wall habitats is scant and it is crucial that measures are taken to rectify this situation.
- Apply adequate archaeological monitoring controls to all land and sub aqua based activities, including peat extraction.

Resources, expertise and advice

- Having local archaeological expertise (county/city archaeologists etc.) can assist in ensuring the quality and authenticity of decision-making, conservation, management schemes and local authority development outcomes.
- Provide further support and advice to encourage owners of recorded monuments to maintain them in a satisfactory manner.
- The continued appointment and role of architectural heritage advisers in the DCHG as integral to the on-going success and involvement of the DCHG at this strategic level.
- The establishment in all local authorities of in-house multi-disciplinary teams to promote coordinated, coherent advice on the re-use and upgrade of historic buildings.
- Provide guidance and training for energy upgrading in protected structures and historic buildings, and in the use of new products for Conservation Officers.
- Provide greater resources to local authorities to all its varied statutory and non-statutory heritage functions to be carried out more effectively.
- Make archaeological grey literature accessible online on Heritage Map Viewer and expand nationally the archaeology GIS project model developed by Dublin City Council.
- Allow for archaeological research into existing data e.g. INSTAR model.
- Work with heritage NGOs (e.g. Irish Georgian Society, SPAB, Building Limes Forum, Letterfrack Conservation) to establish a centre for training of traditional craft practices & care of historic buildings similar to West Dean College in Sussex.
- Support collaborative research initiatives between 3rd level colleges, local authorities, statutory bodies & independent study groups.
- A 'Heritage Forum' within local authorities as a formal coordinating structure would be an effective management structure.
- Carry out a national mapping of the voluntary sector operating in cultural heritage & investigate their effectiveness. Provide supports to encourage greater public participation based on the findings of the survey.
- Support the Heritage Council's 'Adopt a Monument' Scheme.

- The establishment of a formal national structure for the administration of building conservation services in Ireland. This should include the appointment of a State Conservation Officer to oversee a national network of conservation officers. The office of this position would absorb the existing Built Heritage Advisory Unit and require a significant expansion in staffing levels and oversight functions.
- Conservation officers must become a mandatory function within every local authority and should be additionally resourced from departmental level, with numbers of officers relative to statutory built heritage in its jurisdiction. Dublin city requires a senior conservation officer, a rank of conservation officers, and research / administrative officers.
- Conservation officers require statutory powers under Part IV of the Planning & Development Act in relation to planning enforcement.
- Appoint heritage professionals in all local authorities at levels where they can properly inform decision making & planning decisions.
- Provide appropriate staff to Heritage Officers, and a permanent County Archaeologist and County Archivist in each local authority, with the possibility of a Field Monuments Advisor.
- Working with the DHPLG to bring forward training and accreditation of Planning Officers in the management of the historic environment.
- Overall coordination by government with NGOs and heritage stakeholders is needed to build greater expertise and capacity in the sector.
- A mapping exercise to identify all heritage locations along the Royal and Grand Canals, the River Barrow and the River Shannon would be of benefit to integrate heritage and historical sites along the waterways into future waterways tourism promotion.
- Incorporate the place names of Northern Ireland into the www.logainm.ie service.
- Enhance local area and community appreciation of archaeology with support for site excavation access programmes and both permanent and temporary display of excavation finds in local museums and other appropriate locations.

Funding

- Increased & multi-annual commitment of funding from central government for built heritage investment (including Built Heritage Investment Scheme & Historic Structures Fund).

NIAH and RPS

- The NIAH should become the co-ordinating national agency for a singular National Record of Protected Structures.

- The inventory (NIAH) should record building interiors, noting that significant fabric and early architectural features are often to be found within modest buildings.
- Review the role of the NIAH (e.g. thematic surveys) & consider the role between ACAs & Protected Structures.
- Introduction of a two tier RPS which would differentiate between the more modest (generally privately owned) structures and the more important and large sites often in state ownership.
- That pre-planning forms for protected structures be re-designed to provide adequate space for conservation concerns to be set out fully.
- Grant funding will be easily accessible (not tied into undemocratic tax incentives that only benefit the well off). Grant funding will be such that historic structures and inclusion on an RPS are seen as desirable.
- Designation of canals and canal infrastructure within RPS and NIAH listings.

Towns and Villages

- Include key recommendations in the Plan from Peter Bacon's (2004) Assessment of Possible Fiscal Incentives in Relation to the Built Heritage in Ireland's Towns re. impact of investment on built heritage.
- Highlight value of heritage-led regeneration of towns & villages (preparation of Character studies, heritage-led Village Design Statements, Public Realm Plans, adaptive re-use of historic town centre buildings).
- We need to find alternative, complementary uses for our town centres and develop new usages for the vacant properties.
- Our towns' heritage requires planning policies, economic development policies, housing policies and heritage policies to save the living heritage that is our town centres.
- Robust conservation plans to be in place for towns and cities of known heritage which include listed structures, subsurface archaeology and older properties.
- Greater support to enhance the liveability of historic towns and enhanced protection for the heritage that makes these places special.
- Develop of a towns network focused on the sustainable, heritage-led regeneration of historic towns to provide training and advice; address gaps to our knowledge on matters concerning urban regeneration and the management of heritage; publish advisory documents; and provide grant support.
- Develop partnerships at all levels to promote revival and new use of vacant buildings in townland and villages.

- Ensure effective application of the Design Manual for Roads and Streets and provide speed limit controls to enhance the amenity of urban and village centres.
- Signage in keeping with the architectural character of an area (e.g. prohibition of electronic and neon signage).

Museums and Archives

- Create a county archive in every county with appropriate staff and resourcing.
- Support local museums and heritage centres. Develop facilities for adequate resources for presentation, interpretation and secure storage of objects of material culture (artefacts).
- Provide education to young people on natural, built & archaeological heritage.
- The creation of guidelines and policies in relation to digital archival storage.
- The creation of guidelines on the implications of GDPR for archiving.
- Acknowledge the vital role of museums in conserving and curating object of material culture.
- A long-term national storage centre is required for the National Museum of Ireland.
- Create waterways heritage centres.
- Enhance support for local museums with Heritage Council administered Museums Standards Programme.
- Maintain and enhance the Section 1003 tax relief donation scheme for acquiring significant heritage items for qualifying public collections.

Vernacular Architecture

- Better identification of vernacular architecture as protected structures, particularly in upland areas.
- Create a centre for earthen buildings to recognise the building type and to facilitate those involved in or interested in joining the earthen building community.
- Provide guidance and training opportunities on the repair techniques and heritage value of earthen houses and earthen built heritage.
- Undertake a nationwide survey of earthen buildings.
- Compile data through researching, recording and surveying dry stone structures to establish statistics on abundance, typology and state of repair on a national basis.
- Traditional cottages & listed farm buildings that are in form of dereliction- Support has to be given so this vital part of our heritage is protected.
- Conservation of clachan structures around the country.
- Retrofit historic vernacular structures to improve their energy efficiency.

- Develop a national conservation, training and research centre for traditional practices and methods
– A centre of Excellence.

Traditional Practices

- Protection of traditional farming practices which are central to our heritage, especially in consideration of the fact that people were able to sustain themselves on small holdings.
- Support for protection of old ways of life and practices eg. traditional cutting of turf by sleain, cutting the oats by scythe, making the butter by churn, crafting, lace making etc.
- Traditional stone wall retention and promotion of stone-masonry craftship.
- Research the intangible cultural heritage associated with dry stone walls. It is important that the nomenclature, practices, folklore, stories and traditions of this craft are recorded for posterity.
- Promotion and support of traditional practices which are required for appropriate maintenance of historic and vernacular structures.

Adaptive reuse

- The phrase adaptive reuse is used within 39 of the submissions.
- Adaptive re-use of existing buildings should be prioritised over demolition and redevelopment to work to meet carbon emissions and climate change targets.
- Commit to promote research in environmental sustainability in relation to existing historic buildings and provide advice on methodologies for calculating embodied energy in steel-framed, reinforced concrete and brick buildings.
- Include an objective to support ongoing research into best practice in upgrading the thermal performance of mid-late 20th century concrete buildings to further support their adaptive re-use.
- Conserve and re-use old buildings for civic purposes (e.g. old St. Patrick's Classical School, Navan).
- Measures to halt the decline and loss of thatched structures and vernacular buildings (e.g. thatching grants and promotion of traditional skills).
- Encourage adaptive reuse of heritage sites for gatherings, e.g. local markets, concerts, assemblies, marriages and all that minimises impact and economically sustains on a local level.
- Adaptive reuse of traditional farm buildings.
- Develop a community-based approach to feed into County and National policy to tackle adaptive re-use, and improve local knowledge, ideas, skills and co-operation.
- The reuse of buildings in historic towns should be encouraged and the current incentives should be analysed for their suitability. The provision of additional council staff and the creation of one-stop

shops featuring planners, heritage professionals, architects, etc., would likely be helpful to individuals thinking of reusing a structure.

- Reuse and restoration of existing heritage building stock as a key objective in revitalising our historic centres.

Derelict Buildings

- Dereliction and vacancy should be penalised or taxed appropriately while renovation should be encouraged.
- Incentivise the re-use and restoration of derelict buildings through grant schemes and tax incentives.
- Create a consultation process between insurance providers and owners of derelict buildings.
- Local Authorities to take a proactive targets approach to identify and secure intervention on Buildings at Risk, before a spiral of neglect and dereliction sets in.
- Facilitate enhanced partnership potential between State bodies and companies including Coillte, Local Authorities, Irish Heritage Trust, An Taisce, Irish Landmark Trust and other NGOs, to create or enhance new public access and heritage amenity projects and revival of neglected buildings or historic landscapes.

Monuments

- Improved management of visitor numbers at heritage sites and of traffic.
- Facilitate sustainable public access to heritage sites in state care or in private ownership.
- Support for communities working with heritage through the Field Monuments Advisor Programme and Heritage Officers.
- Promote heritage sites that are free to visit.
- Continue and encourage greater access to monuments not in public ownership. Liability and insurance needs to be reformed to protect landowners.
- Update the Record of Monuments and Places (RMP).
- Take National Monuments into State care.

Tourism

- Include an objective to support sustainable and responsible tourism, and include an action to survey the positive & negative impacts (including climate change considerations) of tourism on Ireland's heritage.

- Communication and appropriate interpretation of sites is essential.
- Embrace the European Heritage Label.
- The installation of greenways and walkways shouldn't interfere with the operation of canals and locks.
- Provide funding to restore vessels using original skills where possible, for publications on the histories of vessels and to Waterways Ireland for the protection & preservation of canals.
- Heritage Ireland 2030 should consider the 'Green & Silver' navigation route of international significance (it forms a waterways circular route of the Royal Canal, River Shannon, Grand Canal and Dublin) and promote it as a heritage & tourism asset.

Interactions

- Create a joined-up policy where built heritage sites provide habitats (e.g. swifts, bats etc.)
- Create conservation plans for heritage sites in which natural and built heritage assets must be protected (e.g. Skellig Michael, Girley Bog).
- Survey historic structures in advance of renovation works for wildlife (e.g. swifts, swallows, bats, bees).
- Protection of traditional nest sites and the incorporation of swift nest boxes into all new public buildings.
- An improved strategy to water level management would assist in preserving the amenity of inland waterways. A system of data sensors could leverage an online information platform for remote access.
- Conduct experiments to analyse and record the impact of dry stone ecosystems on sustainability.

3.5. Vision

In general, the submissions welcomed the plan. However, a more holistic and inclusive approach to the definition of heritage is recommended in many submissions so that benefits such as social and economic value as well individual and society wellbeing and heritage as a 'public good' can be incorporated into the Heritage Plan.

Elements such as cultural heritage, tangible and intangible heritage as well as our artefacts, museums, archives and practices, identity, the Irish language and flag, as well as placemaking and traditional skills, and crafts, such as lace making, thatching, stone wall building, boat building and navigation, are all mentioned in submissions as being central to our understanding of heritage.

Submissions sought that Ireland's heritage is to be valued, made easily accessible, enjoyed and protected for future generations.

Submissions also asked that the marginalised and diversity of immigrant communities be acknowledged in the plan. They ask that the role of heritage in integrating newcomers to Ireland be acknowledged and that support be provided for intercultural dialogues and exchanges of cultural heritage. The Plan should allow immigrant communities to maintain and share their own heritage, while providing an opportunity to embrace the heritage of Ireland.

The following definitions have been included in several submissions and reflect the openness and inclusivity of heritage on a national and international level.

Many submissions have quoted the following definition from Heritage at the Heart, Heritage Council Strategy 2018-2022:

'Heritage is the bedrock of civilization, the foundation of culture and the steady pulse of contemporary Ireland. It encompasses not just buildings, monuments and museum pieces, but also our distinctive landscapes, native wildlife and woodlands, literature, folklore and crafts. Passed on to us in all its forms from previous generations, it defines who we are in the present, and our efforts to protect and interpret it today, will be our legacy to future generations.'

Tangible and intangible, personal and collective, heritage is at the very heart of Irish Society. Its relevance is palpable at local level where it drives economies, stimulates innovation and is the focal point for festivals, conferences and commemorations. A touchstone for identity in a world of accelerating change, heritage fosters a sense of belonging and supports social cohesion at a local and national level. It simultaneously crosses borders and transcends difference to connect people through

shared values, history and traditions. As the nation's most valuable publicly owned asset, heritage must be protected, nurtured and enjoyed so that it continues in 2022 and beyond'.

Other definitions within submissions include the following:

'Heritage is identity, a repository of historical, cultural and social memory, preserved through its authenticity, integrity and a sense of place'¹

'Heritage is more than monuments, towns, townscapes, landscapes, seascapes, artefacts, collections, tourism and economy, though it is each of these. It is about people, creation, interaction, and function – a dynamic process that reflects the legacy, actions and aspirations of the people into the future'²

As part of this process, cultural heritage has also been mentioned and defined as follows:

'cultural heritage consists of the resources inherited from the past in all forms and aspects – tangible, intangible and digital (born digital and digitized), including monuments, sites, landscapes, skills, practices, knowledge and expressions of human creativity, as well as collections conserved and managed by public and private bodies such as museums, libraries and archives. It originates from the interaction between people and places through time and it is constantly evolving. These resources are of great value to society from a cultural, environmental, social and economic point of view and thus their sustainable management constitutes a strategic choice for the 21st century'³

and

'Tangible and intangible heritage are sources of social cohesion, factors of diversity and drivers of creativity, innovation and urban regeneration – we must do more to harness this power'⁴.

Many submissions asked that the Council of Europe's 'Faro Convention' be ratified as part of Heritage Ireland 2030. The Faro Convention⁵ definition is broad, flexible and aligns with international assessment on the subject:

¹ The Paris Declaration on heritage as a driver of development. Adopted at Paris, UNESCO headquarters, on Thursday 1st December 2011

² Workshop ICOMOS Ireland on the Heritage Ireland 2030 Consultation Document Feb 4th 2019.

³ Council conclusions 21 May 2014 on cultural heritage as a strategic resource for sustainable Europe (2014/C 183/08).

⁴ Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO at the World Urban Forum (Naples, 2012).

⁵ Council of Europe, 2005, 'Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society' (The Faro Convention).

'cultural heritage is a group of resources inherited from the past which people identify, independently of ownership, as a reflection and expression of their constantly evolving values beliefs, knowledge and traditions. It includes all aspects of the environment resulting for the interaction between people and places through time' (Art. 2-definitions).

'a heritage community consists of people who value specific aspects of cultural heritage which they wish, within the framework of public action, to sustain and transmit to future generations.' (Art 2 – definitions).

There were also calls to link and support the ratified (December 2015) 2003 UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage to the development of the plan.

'The intangible cultural heritage means the practices, representations, expressions, knowledge, skills – as well as the instruments, objects, artefacts and cultural spaces associated there with – that communities, groups and, in some cases, individuals recognise as part of their cultural heritage. This intangible cultural heritage, transmitted from generation to generation, is constantly recreated by communities and groups in response to their environment, their interaction with nature and their history and provides them with a sense of identity and continuity, thus promoting respect for cultural diversity and hum creativity. For the purposes of this Convention, consideration will be given solely to such intangible cultural heritage as is compatible with existing international human rights instruments, as well as with the requirements of mutual respect among communities, groups and individual, and of sustainable development'.

The 'intangible cultural heritage' as defined above, is manifested inter alia in the following domains:

- a. Oral traditions and expressions, including language as a vehicle of the intangible cultural heritage
- b. Performing arts;
- c. Social practices, rituals and festive events
- d. Knowledge and practices concerning nature and the universe
- e. Traditional craftsmanship.

'Safeguarding' means measures aimed at ensuring the viability of the intangible cultural heritage, including the identification, documentation, research, preservation, protection, promotion, enhancement, transmission, particularly through formal and non-formal education, as well as the revitalisation of various aspects of such heritage.

The Plan should be supportive of Citizen Heritage programmes, deploying similar methodologies mainstreamed by the citizen science movement. It should also incorporate the concept of participation in

all aspects and stages of the Plan through to representation on the proposed National Steering Group of Stakeholders & other mechanisms.

Submissions requested a commitment from all Government Departments to ensure that 'Key heritage protection and management considerations are integrated into the work of all government departments' and that the plan's objectives and actions be integrated into the workings of all Departments.

In terms of ambition for the plan, the development of functioning collaborative networks for long lasting and sustainable engagement at a European, National and local level was listed in several submissions.

In order for the Plan to succeed it needs to be regularly reviewed and some submissions called on the establishment of a steering committee / or Leadership Group to review, revise and implement the plan.

It should also be clear how the natural heritage part of HI2030 links in with the National Biodiversity Plan (NBP) 2017-2021. The NBP vision is 'Ireland's Vision for Biodiversity. That biodiversity and ecosystems in Ireland are conserved and restored, delivering benefits essential for all sectors of society and that Ireland contributes to efforts to halt the loss of biodiversity and the degradation of ecosystems in the EU and globally'.

3.6. Communication and Collaboration

Communication and collaboration between Leaders, Partners and Communities, is key to the success of the plan. The submissions received during the consultation process discussed collaboration within and between government (including national and local government, statutory agencies and semi-state bodies), NGOs, local groups such as Tidy Towns, and local communities.

Previous sections within this document have discussed ways that funding and education can be used to strengthen and improve these collaborations. This section will focus on reviewing the suggestions and comments from the submissions on the mechanisms of collaboration, and specifically how these can be improved.

Submissions which emphasise communication and collaboration can be utilised to inform the actions that will deliver the Partnership Theme - Objective 1: National and local government working effectively together to protect, manage and promote our heritage, and Objective 2: Effective partnerships between national government, local government, the private sector, NGOs and local communities, within the public consultation document.

Cross-border collaboration

- Support was voiced for cooperation and collaboration was between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland governments to proactively engage in the preservation, conservation, management and promotion of heritage through their institutions. In particular, the pilot Heritage Officer programme between Derry City & Strabane District Council and the Historic Environment Division, Department for Communities in Northern Ireland could be expanded.

Intra governmental collaboration

Within national government:

- It has been proposed that heritage needs to be considered as an intrinsic element of decision making across all government departments, not just the DCHG.
- Better co-ordination of policy between government departments was the theme of a significant number of submissions. Some submissions focused on the contradiction between an agricultural policy that promoted intensive/commercial farming to the detriment of natural heritage and how the partnership between DCHG and the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) will need to be developed to tackle this issue. There were calls for a more integrated approach between the DCHG and the DAFM to develop cohesive policies to support extensive traditional farming practices.

Climate change was identified as a significant challenge for the preservation of both built and natural heritage and therefore the relationship between the DCHG and the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment will be important in tackling this issue. Pollution was also seen a challenge for heritage and this issue can be addressed by continuing to develop the relationship between DCHG and the Environmental Protection Agency.

- There were calls for the 'guardians' of Ireland's heritage (i.e. National Museum of Ireland, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Heritage Council, and National Archives) to be better resourced to ensure that national government is a more effective partner in the protection of heritage.
- It was proposed that the actions within HI2030 should be aligned with the sustainable development goals outlined in the National Planning Framework.

Between national and local government and within local government:

- Some submissions discussed County Heritage Plans which provide an important framework for heritage policy within a county and within the context of the county development plan inform national government and other stakeholders of the future direction for the county. There was little

discussion within the submissions on how county heritage plans would complement HI2030 or vice versa.

- There was a desire for the development of more intercounty projects between local authorities and/or national agencies on cultural heritage themes/sites (e.g. Coastal Defences/Martello Towers, Regional thatching styles).

Between government and non-governmental organisations; including the private sector, NGOs, charities, local groups and local communities

- A number of submissions suggested that a national Heritage Citizen's Assembly or a National Heritage Forum should be established. This would provide an opportunity for heritage stakeholders, including representatives of local groups, such as historical societies and Tidy Towns, and members of national NGOs (e.g. An Taisce, The Irish Wildlife Trust, BirdWatch etc.) to meet with government and discuss items such as the monitoring and delivery of the HI2030 plan.
- County heritage fora were significant participants within the public consultation process and these fora could assist in strengthening the partnerships between government and other stakeholders.
- The fact that there has been no published assessment of the last national heritage plan was highlighted. Many submissions felt that it would be important that the HI2030 is reviewed on an annual basis and the findings published to allow all stakeholders to monitor its progress. Also, many submissions agreed that measurable, achievable, and relevant actions/targets should be identified in HI2030 to facilitate reviewing the plan and allowing all stakeholders to understand what the plan aims to achieve.
- Many submissions felt that for HI2030 to be a success the public and young people in particular have to become engaged. One suggestion was to implement actions that promote community pride in heritage. Another suggestion was that local communities would nominate/elect a local heritage representative, who would receive training and then act as a community representative developing partnerships between the local community and other stakeholders such as local government and NGOs. It was also suggested that 'Heritage Champions' be nominated as positive role models and influencers who champion heritage.
- The National Biodiversity Data Centre (NBDC) was often identified as a key partner, providing a link between governmental and non-governmental organisations and providing expertise and outreach to the public. It was also recognised that the type of citizen science initiatives that the NBDC organise help engage the public in recognising, recording and valuing natural heritage.
- Heritage officers were also seen as having a key role to play in facilitating the partnership between local government and the non-governmental organisations and citizens within their county.

- A notable number of submissions called for more recognition for the role of volunteers under the Heritage Partnership theme of HI2030. It was proposed that a national mapping survey be undertaken of the voluntary sector operating in heritage and an assessment carried out of their effectiveness. Based on the findings of the survey, supports could then be provided to encourage greater community participation. The development of citizen heritage programmes was also suggested, deploying similar methodologies mainstreamed by the citizen science initiatives such as the National Biodiversity Data Centre.
- As already discussed under funding, submissions call for resourcing to hire more heritage staff (e.g. biodiversity officers, heritage officers, ecologists, archaeologists, building conservation officers) within local authorities in order to facilitate public outreach, community projects, and provide expertise that can inform and assist local groups and communities. It was proposed that a network of professional facilitators be established who are embedded in the local community and could support community heritage projects.
- As already discussed, more funding for community initiatives would allow local groups to be more active in the conservation and preservation of their local heritage. More active communities would facilitate a more equal information exchange that is both bottom-up and top-down. Some submissions noted that for some small rural communities it is difficult to resource the matching funding that is required under some grant schemes and this acts as a barrier preventing community engagement.
- Digital information and the use of social media were seen as key in improving information exchange and facilitating partnerships. It was proposed that more of our archives should be digitised and digital images of artefacts and historical sites should be made available online so that they are available for more people to access. There is a need for improved access to heritage knowledge and research.
- The planning process was sometimes listed as an area of concern where there needed to be more effective collaboration between local and national government and the private sector. One submission suggested that the solution was more 'professionals with expertise in heritage (archaeology, architectural conservation, local history and biodiversity) must be within the local authority sector at sufficiently senior status to be able to efficiently and effectively interact with the planning process'. The delisting of previously protected buildings was also seen as an area of concern that could undermine the partnership between the local community and local government.
- Partnerships between Fáilte Ireland and local communities were discussed by some submissions. One initiative proposed that towns and villages could take positive steps to promote their own local heritage attractions liaising with organisations such as Fáilte Ireland to ensure that these attractions

are promoted. The Fáilte Ireland funding scheme could be expanded to smaller towns, to invest in developing or protecting signage and interpretation panels for local heritage. The adverse impacts of tourism on heritage sites was raised by a number of submissions, and improved relationships between organisations such as Fáilte Ireland, government and local communities could be one way this issue could be tackled.

- There were calls to reduce the jargon and technical wording within the heritage documentation produced by government so that they are more accessible to the public
- One submission called for HI2030 to acknowledge the value of the Rural Social Scheme and the TÚS Scheme which are operated by the Department of Employment Affairs and Social Protection. These schemes provide communities all around the country with a valuable resource in caring for heritage sites such as historic graveyards.
- Some submissions made the point that much of Ireland’s heritage is within private ownership. There was a call for HI2030 to respect the diverse ownership of Ireland’s heritage and to cultivate effective partnerships between private owners of heritage and other stakeholders.
- There is a need for better interaction between landowners and government (e.g. local authority, Department of Agriculture, Food and Marine, and Teagasc) to protect the monuments on private land. Other submissions called for better access to monuments on private land, such as the Dun Ailinne site near Kilcullen (Co. Kildare).
- The Community Wetlands Forum was proposed as an initiative that could improve partnerships for the conservation of wetland habitats.

4. EMERGING HIGH-LEVEL STRATEGIC ACTIONS AND OBJECTIVES

4.1. National Leadership and Heritage

- Provide additional resources and funding to heritage agencies, organisations and funding streams.
- Implement existing legislation – there must be accountability and enforcement.
- Set measurable targets.
- Devise effective management systems.
- Questions were raised in relation to how the plan is to be delivered?
- Set out how organisations can apply for funding for projects that align with objectives.
- Use to seek practical actions – benchmarking will be necessary.
- A rigorous methodology is necessary to assess impacts of engagement in heritage - gather data, agree method, empower bodies to measure and assess etc.

- Sell to politicians and remove blockages in the system to ensure the delivery of the plan, future proofing, a long-term win etc.
- Let NGOs be forum organisers and leaders – state must empower others to act.
- DCHG must state its role and state must be transparent.
- Stability of heritage oversight at state level – should heritage be always in a department with culture, and with more integration with culture? How will interaction with DHPLG be structured?
- Value heritage when interventions are planned and carried out.
- The DCHG should lead the integration of heritage protection across government departments.

4.2. Heritage Partnerships

- Resourcing at Local Authority level – support the promotion of heritage officers, archaeologists, ecologists, built heritage conservation, biodiversity officers etc.
- HI2030 needs cross party support so it can deliver on its objectives, regardless of who is in government.
- Interdepartmental support - Departments need to work together, including for example the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine and the Department of Communications, Climate Action and Environment. Heritage has to be placed at the centre of the discussion not isolated or on the periphery.
- Planning, Infrastructure, Tourism (Fáilte) and Climate action departments and organisations must consult closely with the leaders and national representatives in Heritage, Biodiversity, and Wildlife Groups.
- Communication is essential.
- Create Heritage Ambassador positions.
- Target youth by developing a national youth forum a good base for a sounding board for heritage.
- Formalised offices & networks to integrate work with allied departments & manage impacts on heritage to adjoining local authorities (e.g. county heritage for a, networks of heritage officers etc.)
- More visibility for cultural institutions and museums as key points of interaction between the public & heritage.
- Develop partnerships which provide heritage education and training to professionals, communities and children.

4.3. Communities and Heritage

- Community was identified as essential to protecting and managing heritage and as the custodians of heritage.
- Engage and work with young people and develop school programmes for heritage education.
- The loss of history and Geography from the junior cert was cited as a loss for heritage.
- The loss / reduction of the Heritage Council's community grants initiative was regrettable for many communities.
- Upskilling and apprenticeships and the preservation of indigenous crafts must be promoted. The Plan must clarify how to apply for funding and facilitate mentors and access to resources.
- Inclusiveness must be achieved to avoid polarisation of communities, appropriation for political purposes, over-exploitation etc.
- Communities be involved in implementation of HI2030.
- The concept of local communities becoming involved in the conservation and management of local heritage sites within an 'expert-fed', rather than an 'expert-led' framework. This concept could include management of monuments and natural sites in partnership with the National Monuments Service and National Parks and Wildlife Service respectively. Examples of existing projects elsewhere include a community-led co-management project piloted by Marine Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage for the Sound of Barra mSAC, where local community members were funded by Marine Scotland to lead a co-management process with the support of both local and outside expertise. Such examples demonstrate how local knowledge, expertise and cultural heritage can inspire, shape and lead the management of protected areas.

5. REFLECTIONS

The key findings of the public consultation are that there is considerable willingness among NGOs, Local Authorities and communities to care for heritage, but that they must be empowered by heritage-conscious authorities, appropriate funding, accessible heritage training and collaboration. Under the themes of Leadership, Partnership and Community, Heritage Ireland 2030 must deliver these by adapting the following;

- There is an agreed need to set out a long-term strategy for the future, cognisant of the fact that change takes time;

- Build the evidence base to measure growth, establish baseline data and generate forecasting models;
- Develop long term and collaborative thinking strategies across governmental departments and agencies;
- Match the task with the team – create new Partnerships and strengthen existing ones;
- Don't underestimate the power of communication – remember the 4'c's of the 21st century skills – communication, critical thinking, creativity and collaboration. Everything from physical signposting to communicating the 'value' of heritage so its significance is understood by all. Interpretation and the presentation of heritage sites can raise awareness of heritage matters with the general public. Access to information and the transparency of information along with digital processes will lead to greater engagement with heritage.
- There must be a commitment and capacity to deliver;
- The plan must be dynamic and adaptable to create a sustainable and living plan. It must be relevant to the issues of the day.

APPENDIX 1 HERITAGE IRELAND 2030 REFERENCE LIST

Conventions

- Convention for the Protection of Archaeological Heritage of Europe (Valletta Convention 1992)
- Convention for the Protection of the Architectural Heritage of Europe (Granada Convention 1985)
- Convention on Biological Diversity (Biodiversity Convention 1992)
- Council of Europe Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro Convention 2005)
- European Landscape Convention (Florence Convention 2000)
- Hague Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict (1954)
- ICOMOS International Cultural Tourism Charter (1999)
- RAMSAR Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat (1971)
- UNECE Convention on Access to Information, Public Participation in Decision-making and Access to Justice in Environmental Matters (Aarhus Convention 1998)
- UNESCO Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Cultural Objects (1970)
- UNESCO Convention for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (2003)
- UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects (1995)
- United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (Earth Summit 1992)
- Venice Charter for the Conservation and Restoration of Monuments and Sites (1964)
- World Heritage Convention (1972)

Policy

International

- Berlin Call to Action “Cultural Heritage for Future of Europe” (2018)
- Code of Ethics for Museums (ICOM)
- Dresden Declaration on Flood Protection for Historic Sites (ICOMOS 2014)
- EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy
- EU Birds Directive (Directive 79/409/EEC)
- EU Directive on Environmental Impact Assessment (Directive 2011/92/EU)
- EU Directive on Strategic Environmental Assessment (Directive 2001/42/EC on the assessment of the effects of certain plans and programmes on the environment)
- EU Floods Directive (Directive 2007/60/EC on the assessment and management of flood risks 2007)

EU Habitats Directive (Directive 92/43/EEC)

EU Maritime Spatial Planning Directive (Directive 2014/89/EU)

EU Marine Strategy Framework Directive (2008)

EU Water Framework Directive (Directive 2000/60/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a framework for the Community action in the field of water policy 2000)

European Communities (Birds and Natural Habitats) Regulations (2011)

European Framework for Action on Cultural Heritage (2018)

European Heritage Label

European Union/ICOMOS Quality Principles

Habitats Directive (Council Directive 92/43/EEC on the Conservation of natural habitats and of wild fauna and flora 1992)

ICOMOS Buenos Aires Declaration

Natural Capital Protocol

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2015)

The Washington Charter: Charter on the Conservation of Historic Towns and Urban Areas (ICOMOS 1987)

UNESCO Historic Urban Landscapes

UN System of Environmental Economic Accounts

National

All-Ireland Pollinator Plan 2015-2020

An Action Plan for the Sustainable Future of the Irish Historic House in Private Ownership (2015)

Archaeology 2025: Strategic Pathways for Archaeology in Ireland (Royal Irish Academy)

Architectural Heritage Protection Guidelines for Planning Authorities (2004)

Bringing Back Homes – Manual for the reuse of existing buildings

Building Ireland's Future

Connecting our Past and our Future (NMI)

Culture 2025

Experiencing the Wild Heart of Ireland, A Tourism Interpretative Masterplan for Ireland's National Parks and Coole Garryland Nature Reserve (2018)

Food Wise 2025

Format for a Prioritised Action Framework (PAF) for Natura 2000 2014-2020

Frameworks and Principles for the Protection of Archaeological Heritage

Government Policy on Architecture 2009-2015
Heritage at the Heart: Heritage Council Strategy 2018-2022
Heritage Council Strategic Plan 2018-22
Interim Amendments to the Public Works Contracts (2014)
Investing in our Culture, Language and Heritage 2018-2027
Ireland's Peatland Conservation Action Plan 2020
National Adaptation Framework (2018)
National Agricultural Plan
National Biodiversity Action Plan 2017-2021
National Development Plan 2018-2027
National Energy and Climate Plan 2021-2030
National Heritage Plan (2002)
National Landscape Strategy 2013
National Peatlands Strategy (2016)
National Planning Framework – Project Ireland 2040
National Plant Conservation Strategy for Ireland 2005
National Raised Bog Special Areas of Conservation Management Plan 2017-2022
National Tourism Plan
People, Place & Policy: Growing Tourism to 2025
Project 2040 - Realising our Rural Potential: Action Plan for Rural Development
Realising our Rural Potential: Action Plan for Rural Development
River Basin Management Plan 2018-2021
Strategic Plan 2019-2022, Building Capacity, Driving Change (NMI)
The Museum Standards Programme for Ireland (The Heritage Council)
Towards a Marine Spatial Plan for Ireland
Urban Development and Building Heights for Local Authorities (2018)

Other

Boyne Valley Tourism Strategy 2016-2020
Community Wetlands Forum Strategic Plan 2017-2020
Heritage Incentive Policies: Multi-criteria Analysis (Auckland Council)

Heritage Plan 2017-2020 (Waterways Ireland)

Legislation

Finance Act (Section 1003)

Heritage Act 1995

Heritage Act 2018

Local Government Act 2001

National Cultural Institutions Act 1997

National Monuments Act

Planning and Development Act 2000 (Part IV & Part VIII)

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The Curragh Act 1961

Wildlife Act 1976

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APPENDIX 2 A SELECTION OF QUOTES FROM RECEIVED SUBMISSIONS

We love our natural heritage. Please give it space and time to return.

Dear Minister Madigan, I am sending you a letter with a picture of all the heritage that I love for your heritage plan...

Bit by bit, our natural heritage is being eroded and until eventually only monoculture grassland and conifer plantations will be left.

... This work uncovers sites that have been lost during the winter months where buildings have been renovated. It is hard to watch the birds [swifts] relentlessly trying to find their lost nest sites. The painful part of this is that in most cases the renovations have occurred without knowing the nests sites were ever there...

Members of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM), who work professionally for the betterment of our natural heritage, believe that biological diversity is a vital national asset that must be conserved in order to maintain a healthy and properly functioning environment that, not only provides ecosystem services to the benefit of all, but is able to mitigate the worst impacts of climate change for future generations.

Dark Sky Ireland is an-island network formed in October 2018 by a partnership of representatives and groups, both professional and community, with the common goal in mind; to protect and preserve our night skies for present and future generations.

All land managers, be they farmers, local councils, tidy towns volunteers, or gardeners, needs to appreciate and do their bit to help protect Ireland's biodiversity. The same applies to all land users, to every one of us that strolls or plays in the countryside or even in city parks.

In Rural Ireland, we are all very interested in all Heritage matters, but we are worried that, due to the continuing decline of Rural Ireland, soon there may not be a community to enjoy the preservation of our Heritage.

Hedgerows are extremely important in preserving our biodiversity and are a valuable habitat for native plants, trees, birds, mammals, and insects. Every year we continue to lose more and more of our hedgerows to development and agriculture.

For many rural areas and in rural towns and villages there is an ageing population. Younger people are migrating to larger urban areas to access employment. Volunteers are the cornerstone to the protection

and promotion of local heritage. If the population isn't there to carry this on or younger people not available to do this in an area there is a risk that the heritage of that area will be lost.

Rural development is crucial in the midlands, both from an economic and social perspective, particularly with the large reduction in current Bord na Mona employment expected in the near future, which does actually present opportunities for re-imagining the midlands within the perspective of this submission and making the waterways a huge part of the heritage offering for those counties.

We would submit that our waterways as historic artefacts combine very strong elements of both the natural and the built.

But, peatlands are actually ecosystem superheroes. They provide important functions such as purifying water, sometimes mitigating flooding and providing a home for rare plants, animals and biodiversity. Peatlands beat every other terrestrial ecosystem when it comes to carbon storage. 75% of the national Soil Organic Carbon is stored within them.

A better understanding of the value of our natural heritage and how it contributes to societal wellbeing and economic prosperity is necessary to ensure better practical and policy implementation and decision-making. By accounting for the value of nature, this ensures its protection and enhancement, and provides an evidence base for investment in conservation in order to ensure the long-term provision of the ecosystem services on which the economy and society depend...

Ireland's rural landscape is a jewel of our national heritage, formed by farmers and people living on and working the land over thousands of years. It includes a great range of heritage assets from historic buildings to archaeological remains to carrying on traditional farm practices.

Heritage is also vital in promoting social inclusion, a sense of person and place, and health and wellbeing and education. The interpretation and presentation of heritage through our cultural material and in our institutions is key to the support of these values and the provision of access.

Heritage Ireland 2030 should support and develop policies that provide for inclusiveness, diversity, social cohesion, tangible and intangible dimensions, the importance of quality and heritage at the heart of sustainable, urban regeneration.

At a local level in Ireland sites like Monaghan County Museum and Cavan County Museum have been to the fore in engaging cross-border communities and cross-cultural traditions in developing new understandings of each other's perspectives.

Better land management is required to ensure that Ireland's natural environment can continue to support the well-being of our citizens. Mountains and upland areas have a key role to play in this, especially in relation to water supply and carbon storage.

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