



Key Messages

A new lead body for Scotland's historic environment

- Bringing Historic Scotland and RCAHMS together into one new body will deliver a more resilient, sustainable and effective heritage organisation, streamlining and improving current functions to deliver an enhanced service for the historic environment – now and in years to come
- The new Historic Environment Scotland (HES) will start work in 2015 and help deliver the Historic Environment Strategy - benefitting from the unique skills, experience, knowledge and expertise of staff in Historic Scotland and RCAHMS
- The fact the Scottish Government has decided to place the new organisation on a statutory footing (via the Historic Environment Scotland Bill, 2014) is a huge vote of confidence in the quality, expertise and professionalism of both organisations and their ability to create a new, joint organisation to promote and protect Scotland's historic environment
- Ahead of HES starting work, there are already many examples of both organisations coming together – e.g.: joint CEOs and Senior Management Team; joint Leadership Forum and Transition Programme Team; harmonisation of pay and conditions across both current bodies; joint staff surveys; increasing shared services across the likes of IT, HR, communications, finance, libraries and joint work on strategic projects such as corporate planning and new business model
- The preferred model for the new organisation is a Non Departmental Public Body (NDPB) which will be expected to apply for charitable status. This would give it a greater degree of operational independence than executive agencies and bring it closer in line with sector partners including the National Library; Galleries and Museums of Scotland; Creative Scotland and Scottish Natural Heritage - all of whom are NDPBs
- Charitable status will be sought for the new body to recognise the public benefit derived from its work

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Royal
Commission on the
Ancient and
Historical
Monuments of
Scotland



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Shaping our Future

Working together for Scotland's historic environment

Historic Environment Scotland Bill and Strategy

- The Historic Environment Scotland Bill (2014)
 - the Bill to set up the new joint organisation - was introduced to the Scottish Parliament in March 2014. The Bill will now move through the usual legislative process ahead of the new organisation starting work next year
- The first ever Historic Environment Strategy – *Our Place in Time* - will inform the direction and operation of the new joint organisation. It was published in March 2014
- Our globally renowned historic environment must be understood, valued, cared for, enjoyed and enhanced now and for the benefit of future generations. HES will play a lead role in delivering the new Historic Environment Strategy, a strategy which demonstrates the Scottish Government's commitment to the historic environment and the contribution it makes to Scotland's culture, society and economy
- *Our Place in Time* is Scotland's strategy and delivering it will require commitment and enthusiasm across the historic environment sector – from a wide range of stakeholders, including: academics and professionals with specialist knowledge and skills, through all aspects of local and national government, to individuals and communities interested in their local historic environment

Scotland's first ever Historic Environment Strategy – Our Place in Time - will inform the direction and operation of the new joint organisation. It was published in March 2014.