

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS FOR ONSITE PEER-LEARNING VISIT IN GLASGOW

ON **8-10 JULY 2024**

CULTURAL HERITAGE AS AN ASSET FOR A SUSTAINABLE, INNOVATIVE AND INCLUSIVE
SOCIETY

Opening date of the Call: 8 May 2024 - Closing date: 22 May 2024 (before
midnight CET)

Background

The [European Heritage Hub](#), a two-year EU-funded pilot project, brings together heritage stakeholders and initiatives across Europe to support the transition towards a more sustainable, innovative, and inclusive society. It is formed by a consortium of [20 partners](#) led by Europa Nostra with the Europeana Foundation, Eurocities, KU Leuven - HERKUL, and ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability, as co-beneficiaries.

The Hub aims to foster cooperation between existing and future heritage initiatives and actors, adopting holistic and integrated approaches to heritage policies at all governance levels.

This training and **capacity-building opportunity is aimed at city representatives and heritage professionals to share good practices and equip them with the skills to tackle environmental, digital, and social challenges** related to heritage, in their local contexts.

Peer-learning visit

A peer-learning visit is an opportunity for selected local decision-makers and stakeholders to spend time in another city/region and see first-hand how it has implemented policies, projects, and practical solutions that can be relevant and inspiring in diverse contexts.

It is a chance for meaningful exchanges among peers already active in cultural heritage as well as for those eager to transform their heritage initiatives and policies into more sustainable, innovative, and inclusive ones.

Participating in a peer-learning visit means discussing policies and projects, top tips, pitfalls, and local experiences, in a private and friendly expert

environment. Selected participants will get useful information and ideas for improving or initiating local projects, as well as transferring some of the presented practices.

Host city: Glasgow

Glasgow will be the host city for the Hub's first peer-learning visit this year. The city was selected through the [Open Call for Local Good Practices](#), having presented exemplary local solutions in the field of cultural heritage that contribute to the green, digital, and social transformation of our society.

The core context for the visit will be the Pollok Country Park, home to two major inclusive cultural heritage development projects which exemplify the good practices as identified by the [European Heritage Hub concept of 'triple transformation'](#): the **Pollok Country Park Stables & Sawmill** and the **Burrell Renaissance Project**.

The **Pollok Country Park Stables and Sawmill** project, shaped in collaboration with Glasgow Building Preservation Trust and local groups, will develop a net-zero carbon 'Living' Heritage Centre, and community and visitor attraction, based around the famous Clydesdale Horses, and the development of traditional power generation into modern renewable technologies. The project will restore and redevelop the Stables/Sawmill and create a heritage destination for visitors and local communities to learn about the rich history of this famous breed and the role of horsepower and hydropower in society, demonstrating an exemplary pathway to net-zero as the city moves towards carbon neutrality by 2030. Involvement of social enterprises and community groups, alongside opportunities for training and employability, through programmes such as the Glasgow Guarantee Programme, will give communities a stronger voice, develop local environmental stewardship and contribute further to sustainability and wellbeing goals.

The **Burrell Collection** played an essential role in the city's transformation into the thriving cultural destination it is today. Opened in 1983, it sparked the regeneration of Glasgow as a major cultural city, following decades of post-industrial decline. Between 2016 and 2022 the museum was closed for refurbishments: 15,000 people from the local community were involved in its redesign and reinterpretation. The museum took steps to enhance accessibility for people with physical and sensory disabilities and created an

inclusive volunteer programme, removing barriers for those who couldn't participate previously. The Burrell Collection museum's environmental performance was enhanced by greatly improving the building's sustainable technologies, achieving industry standard BREEAM rating of "Excellent" while the Burrell Collection won the Art Fund Museum of the Year 2023 award for its efforts to create the most accessible, inclusive, and sustainable fine and decorative arts museum on a global scale. The Burrell Collection was also nominated for European Museum of the Year Award 2024 by the European Museum Forum.

The programme will cover, among others, the Hub's main aspects related to the triple transformation concept:

Green

- Reuse of an existing range of buildings impacted by climate change and the opportunity to demonstrate effective climate adaptation and low carbon technologies in an understandable heritage context – in a unique natural environment.

Social

- Partnership at the heart of public access, and educational programmes.
- Engagement of the diverse communities of Glasgow within an accessible urban area.

Digital

- Digital technology removing barriers to accessing information via translation and multiple layers of interpretation. From point cloud scanning of the buildings in advance of stabilisation works, to the deployment of an IES digital twin to assist with the design, management, and demonstration of energy use.
- Digital interpretation at The Burrell in its many forms.

Participants' profile

If you work on cultural heritage for a local, regional or national administration, civil society organisation, cultural initiative or project **across Europe**, including Ukraine, Moldova, the Western Balkans (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo¹, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia) and the Caucasus (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia) – then this opportunity is made for you!

The group of **20 selected participants** will be composed of representatives from European cities and regions but is also open to a limited number of

¹ This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

cultural heritage stakeholders.

The group will ideally be represented by:

- Min. 12 policymakers, representing areas of expertise related to cultural heritage, both at political/decision-making and technical levels (from local or regional administration);
- Up to 4 representatives of national/federal administrations, with areas of work/expertise related to cultural heritage;
- Up to 4 individual participants representing heritage professionals and custodians, civil society organisations (e.g., young people's representatives, entrepreneurs, organisations representing Indigenous communities), NGOs, cultural initiatives/projects, local/regional organisations, thematic associations or other relevant stakeholders with thoroughly demonstrated interest and expertise in related topic and coming from countries other than the country of hosting city.

The following criteria will be considered in the selection:

- Overall quality of the application
- Motivation to participate in the peer learning visit: improve a specific practice or project, implement a new practice or initiative...
- Match between the theme of the visit and the needs/local context of the applicant
- Commitment to take part in the visit and to allocate time to preparation and follow-up
- Balance of the delegation: political/technical/decision-making level, broader mandate than culture, different thematic departments/areas of work/expertise, gender balance

Format & covered costs

The visit will last 2.5 days and **2 nights** and will combine meetings with local policymakers and stakeholders, site visits, and facilitated, solution-building workshops. The **working language will be English**.

During the visits:

- You will be introduced to the host city context and successful practices related to culture and cultural heritage. You will get useful information and ideas for improving your existing local projects, initiating new ones

or transferring some key elements of the presented practices.

- Our peer learning methodology is designed to stimulate interaction, collaborative learning and solution-building! You are expected to ask a lot of questions & exchange with the group.
- To prepare for the visit, each participant will receive a participants' pack before the visit.

The European Heritage Hub will **cover** travel and accommodation (2 nights) costs for participants as well as meals during the stay. The hotel booking will be taken care of by the organisers, however, the participants will book their individual travels to and from the destination – for which they will be reimbursed.

The travel reimbursement will be done with accordance to the [European Commission Decision](#)², e.g. if you travel from Paris to Glasgow the max amount for a return trip is 276 EUR. You can use this [online tool](#) to calculate the travel distance relevant for you. **If selected, you will be contacted by our team to explain and coordinate all the logistical aspects, at least a month in advance of the visit.**

Additional benefits

- International visibility to your city/region/work at European level and through [European Heritage Hub](#) tools and channels.
- Joining a community of practice and fellow experts, stakeholders and decision-makers in sharing knowledge and experience on heritage projects and policies.
- On-site learning, and application of tested solutions to your local context.

Application form full link:

https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/runner/CALL_FOR_PARTICIPANTS-Visit_in_Glasgow

If you have additional questions, you can write to:
iwona.lopacinska@eurocities.eu

Please make sure to submit your completed [application form](#) by 22 May 2024 (Wednesday, before midnight CET).

²https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/docs/2021-2027/common/guidance/unit-cost-decision-travel_en.pdf