



THE INSTITUTE OF HISTORIC BUILDING CONSERVATION

## NEWS FROM THE IHBC

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### **'Heritage Protection? Match the talk with the walk' says IHBC President**

David Lovie, IHBC President, today called for the government's new Heritage Protection strategy, launched with a White Paper, to get essential investment. 'It's a once-in-a-generation chance to revolutionise how we work with our historic places. But we all know that investment will make it, or break it', said Lovie, a conservation consultant. 'It's an ambitious and long-term agenda. Government must match their ambitions with the necessary funds to deliver it. They're 'talking the talk', now they must 'walk the walk'.

Under legislation planned for 2010, local planning authorities, and communities, could take a new lead in managing nationally important historic properties and places. With added responsibilities on hard-pressed, even threatened, local conservation planning services, dedicated investment is critical to success.

English Heritage (EH) and DCMS, the sponsoring government department, have led the proposals, with the IHBC, the professional body for heritage conservation, a key consultee. IHBC Vice-Chair Dave Chetwyn said 'IHBC's advice has been formative, but now the IHBC and our members can scrutinise the current proposals in detail'.

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#### **EDITOR'S NOTES**

1/ The Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC) is the professional body for the UK's historic environment practitioners and conservation specialists. The Institute is a registered charity (No 1061593) that exists to establish the

highest standards of conservation practice, to support the effective protection and enhancement of the historic environment, and to promote heritage-led regeneration and access to the historic environment for all.

2/ The IHBC is 10 years old in 2007, and has a wide and diverse membership of architects, surveyors, engineers, designers, historians, archaeologists and planners. It is the lead professional body providing guidance on the historic environment to Government and other parties.

3/ The IHBC is guided by an elected Council, supported by a national office and an extensive voluntary network.