

# HERITAGE COUNTS

## EAST MIDLANDS



*Heritage Counts 2009* is the eighth annual survey of the state of England's historic environment. It is prepared by English Heritage on behalf of the East Midlands Heritage Forum. This year *Heritage Counts* has increased its online presence. Visitors to the *Heritage Counts* website will be able to download the full set of regional indicators as well as view maps detailing the historic environment in their region. This year we have also undertaken a ground-breaking study which shows that the historic environment has a positive impact on sense of place and social capital. Please see [www.english-heritage.org.uk/heritagecounts](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/heritagecounts) for more information on the historic environment in the East Midlands and for our sense of place research.

### UNDERSTANDING THE ASSETS

EAST MIDLANDS	2009
WORLD HERITAGE SITES	1
SCHEDULED MONUMENTS	1,509
LISTED BUILDINGS GRADE I	979
LISTED BUILDINGS GRADE II*	1,830
LISTED BUILDINGS GRADE II	26,734
REGISTERED PARKS AND GARDENS	135
NO. OF CONSERVATION AREAS	1,039

### CARING AND SHARING

In 2009 *Heritage at Risk* compared the fortunes of the East Midlands' most vulnerable assets over recent years. A striking contrast emerges between buildings and monuments. The East Midlands region now has the lowest proportion of scheduled monuments at high risk. However only 39% of the region's entries on the first Buildings at Risk register in 1999 have been found a secure future compared with 48% nationwide.

4.6% of listed buildings (Grade I and II\*) were registered as 'at risk' in 2009, a reduction from 5.1% in 1999.

Of scheduled monuments 9% are at high risk, a significant fall from 13% in the region in 2006, and in 2009 well below the proportion (18%) for England as a whole.

Of the registered parks and gardens 4% were listed as being at risk in the East Midlands in the 2009 report, and just over one in ten of the region's conservation areas surveyed.

### MANAGING POSITIVELY

In 2008/09 there were:

- ▶ 1,964 listed building consent decisions, a 12% decrease on 2002/03.
- ▶ 71 scheduled monuments consent decisions, an increase of a third on 2002/03, when there were 53 applications.
- ▶ 271 conservation area consent decisions, a 1% fall on 2002/03.

### CAPACITY AND RESOURCES

Spending in the historic environment comes from a variety of sources: private owners, the voluntary sector, local and regional government and central government. In most regions, key sources of funding for the historic environment are the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) and English Heritage.

Between 2002/03 and 2008/09 grants paid out by English Heritage in the East Midlands fell by 22%.

In 2008/09 HLF funding was less than in previous years. In part this is because of the 2012 Olympics but is also due to legislative changes in the way that Lottery money is funded. Awards totalling nearly £24 million were made in the region in 2008/09, and a total of nearly £858 million since the creation of the fund in 1994/95.

### LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Local authorities are central to the protection and management of the historic environment. Their role is set to be even greater under Heritage Protection Reform. An important piece of research this year looked at existing historic environment resources in local government.

In the East Midlands, the number of local authority staff working in the historic environment fell slightly from an average of 2.67 per local planning authority in 2006 to 2.42 in 2008. The largest drop was in local authority staff working in conservation, where the number of staff dropped by 8% between 2006 and 2008.

Of the region's 45 local authorities, 34 have appointed a Member as their 'heritage champion', a substantial increase from 20 in 2006.

### USING AND BENEFITING

#### PARTICIPATION

In 2008, the final figures for measuring PSA 3 (increasing participation in culture and sport for priority groups) were published. In 2007/08 in the East Midlands 74.6% of adults participated in the historic environment. The increase on the baseline figure for 2005/06 (71.5%) was not statistically significant. However there was a statistically significant decrease in participation rates for people from black and minority ethnic backgrounds. In 2008/09 DCMS moved to a new measure of participation in the historic environment, with the definition changing from one visit in the last 12 months to two visits. The baseline figure in the East Midlands is 55.4%.

The number of visitors to National Trust sites in 2008/09 rose by 23% from the previous year. However visits to English Heritage and Historic Houses Association properties fell by 6% and 5% respectively. The number of visits to historic sites as recorded by the *Visit Britain Visitors to Visitor Attractions* rose by 3% between 2007 and 2008.

## EDUCATION

In 2008 the number of school visits for sites which answered the *Visit Britain Survey* in both 2007 and 2008 was down 7%. In 2008 the number of education visitors is very similar to 2001.

There was a slight increase in educational visits to English Heritage properties to 30,517, with a further 1,243 Discovery Visits.

## MEMBERSHIP

In 2008/09 there were 51,259 English Heritage members in the East Midlands (7% of the national total). This is a 13% increase since 2006/07.

The number of National Trust members in the East Midlands has risen by just over 4% between 2006/07 and 2008/09. There are now 289,000 National Trust members in the East Midlands.

## KEY POLICY DEVELOPMENTS

The Sub-National Review of economic development and regeneration in 2008 is leading to far-reaching changes in the way the historic environment will be managed through planning policy and public investment. The East Midlands Development Agency is required to work with the region's local authority Leaders' Board to prepare a **single regional strategy** which integrates and refreshes the current Regional Plan and Regional Economic Strategy. The region has benefited from strong policies protecting its built and archaeological heritage, and it is hoped a similar level of protection is included in the new strategic framework.

To help those involved in making economic and planning policy and working in the heritage sector, the East Midlands Heritage Forum has published *Making your heritage work for you*, a **prospectus for the region's historic environment**. It shows how the region's historic places can help deliver an 'attractive, distinctive and prosperous' East Midlands.

The prospectus helps people work together at both local and regional level in new arrangements for planning and economic development. It provides tools not only for conserving the places we care about, but for unlocking their potential for the regeneration and the quality of life. Making your heritage work for you can be downloaded from [www.helm.org.uk/emprospectus](http://www.helm.org.uk/emprospectus), or for a hard copy e-mail [paul.bodenham@english-heritage.org.uk](mailto:paul.bodenham@english-heritage.org.uk) or call 01949 869135.



As part of the reforms, county and unitary authorities are beginning to prepare **Local Economic Assessments**. The Assessments will be decisive documents in determining future investment for regeneration and renewal. English Heritage and the Heritage Forum have also published informal guidance encouraging those working in the historic environment to ensure their local assessment makes the economic case for investment in heritage.

The summer of 2009 saw consultation on a draft **Planning Policy Statement** for the historic environment. This will supersede Planning Policy Guidance Notes 15 and 16, and is a key element in the ongoing programme of heritage protection reform. It is accompanied by a practice guide published by English Heritage. The new PPS offers a new rigour for decision-making, putting greater emphasis on pre-application

planning and discussion, and a framework for evaluating the significance of a heritage asset. It places protection of the historic environment in the context of sustainable development.

The region has taken the first steps to manage the impacts of future **climate change** on its heritage. Within decades our historic assets are expected to be facing very different conditions from those for which they were built. There are potentially a wide range of impacts on the various types and settings of buildings, landscapes, townscapes and archaeology. Some 80 people gathered in July 2009 to establish how to help the region's heritage adapt to changes in hydrology, vegetation and use. Four priorities emerged for joint working between those involved in heritage and in climate change. These are:

- ▶ access for owners and their agents and contractors to advice and guidance on the management of historic assets in new climatic conditions;
- ▶ a robust, shared and simple methodology for the assessment and registering of risk to assets from new climatic conditions, and from proposals for adaptation and mitigation;
- ▶ guidance for policy makers to ensure regional and local plans address vulnerabilities and opportunities of the historic environment;
- ▶ a clear case, widely accepted, for the sensitive re-use of historic buildings as a means of avoiding carbon emissions.

For more information on the state of the historic environment in your region please visit [www.english-heritage.org.uk/heritagecounts](http://www.english-heritage.org.uk/heritagecounts)



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