



WORLD HERITAGE UPDATE

Planning, Housing & Economic Development PDS Panel November 2015

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Update Items:

- Emerging draft replacement WHS Management Plan
- Great Spas of Europe project
- Proposed World Heritage Site Interpretation Centre



World Heritage Management

Exceptional city-wide site

UNESCO oversees

Partnership approach (Steering Group est. 2001)

Council provides the lead

The Steering Group has an Independent Chairperson

Steering Group members:

- Council cabinet member + officers
- Historic England
- National Trust
- ICOMOS UK
- Bath Universities x 2
- Federation of Bath Resident's Association
- Bath Primary Schools
- Avon Local Councils Association
- Bath Chamber of Commerce
- Bath Preservation Trust
- Bath Charter Trustees
- Bath Primary Schools
- Dept. Culture, Media & Sport
- Business Improvement District
- Bath Tourism Plus
- CURO



The Sustainable Growth of Cathedral Cities and Historic towns (2014). Produced by Green Balance – commissioned by English Heritage.

‘B&NES Council is a supporter of economic growth both as an authority and as major landowner in the city, while the Bath Preservation Trust leads a formidable array of conservation bodies in the city. This could be a recipe for a war of attrition between development and heritage, but the WHS provides a focus around which the parties can largely agree. All parties increasingly understand how the Outstanding Universal Value of the city plays out in relation to development proposals, and the WHS Management Plan explains the approach that is needed. With UNESCO taking a keen interest in how one of its few global city-scale Sites fares, there is a feeling of local shared responsibility for heritage often lacking elsewhere. All this has been a valuable context for managing growth.’

Study included Winchester, Salisbury, Oxford, Chester, Cambridge, Durham & Lichfield.

<https://historicengland.org.uk/images-books/publications/sustainable-growth-of-cathedral-cities-and-historic-towns/>



Management Plan

Management Plan
2010-2016

- UNESCO requirement
- Third plan 2016-2022
- Sets out what the site consists of
- Describes why it has OUV
- Identifies risks which might harm it
- Outlines the management procedures in place
- Action Plan
- Current state of conservation very good



Consultation Draft August 2010
This document has no formal Council approval

Supported by
**Bath & North East
Somerset Council**



<http://www.bathworldheritage.org.uk/>

Priorities:

1. **Managing Development:** Further period of considerable growth
2. **Transport:** Strategy in place but implementation will be key
3. **Public Realm:** Still much to do with regard to paving, street lighting, etc.
4. **Interpretation & Education.**
5. **Environmental Resilience:** Flooding, fracking, etc.

Timetable:

- Stakeholder event April 2015
- Compilation of draft actions, aims, vision, etc. with Steering Group
- Compilation of whole plan draft
- Apr 2016: Full public consultation
- Jul 2016: presentation to Full Council
- Dispatch to UNESCO



Great Spas of Europe



Czech Government approached UNESCO in 2007.

Study group of 16 spas formed, from 7 countries

The very best examples of European Spas

Bath deserves to be at the top table. (Robert Flechsig's 1883 Bader-Lexikon lists 652 European spas)

Model of European co-operation.

Offers the potential of a second over-laying WH inscription.

Our current inscription focuses primarily on architecture and archaeology.

Key elements of OUV:

- **Meeting Places.** ‘Cafes of Europe’
 - **Development of medicine**
 - **Unique urban forms**
 - **Intangible values** – sacred places
 - **Relationship with landscape.**
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- All study group candidates now included on their respective state ‘Tentative Lists’
 - Bath has recently undergone a DCMS Technical Evaluation
 - Study group numbers likely to be reduced early next year
 - UNESCO nomination in 2018



World Heritage Interpretation Centre, York Street.



Thematic arrangement

Introduction to WHC

1. Hot springs
2. Roman archaeology
3. 18th century social setting
4. 18th century architecture
5. 18th century town planing
6. Green setting of the City

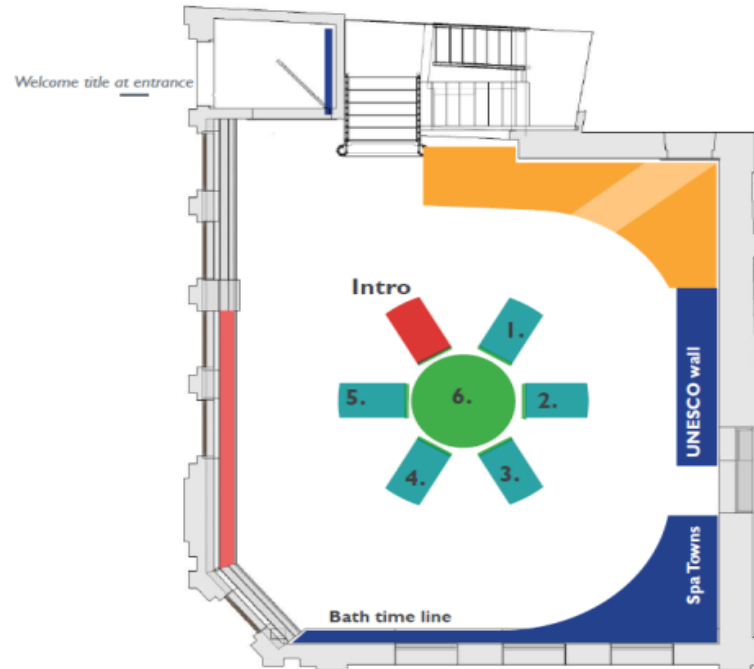
UNESCO wall

World Heritage sites and
UNESCO mission
'What would you save?'

Spa Towns

Bath time line

Time line screen interactive
Explore the archives & collections-
where visitors can see the authentic
objects / examples



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HKD
Museum + Exhibition + Exhibit Design

- A city with no city museum
- A very special place
- A hub
- One of the priorities of the Management Plan
- Bath as a centre of excellence for heritage management.