



· INSTITUTE · OF · HISTORIC ·
BUILDING · CONSERVATION

Making Heritage Work

Third Sector Partnership Board
Third Sector Team
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Dear Sirs

THE THIRD SECTOR PARTNERSHIP BOARD CONSULTATION

The Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC) is the professional body of the United Kingdom representing conservation specialists and historic environment practitioners in the public and private sectors. The Institute 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.

The Institute welcomes the opportunity to comment on the consultation. Our response to the questions posed is as follows:

Question 1: Do you agree with these proposals on the role of the Partnership Board?

The Institute supports the formalization of the Third Sector Partnership Board as a vehicle for dialogue between the Department and the Third Sector.

Question 2: Do you agree we need a mixture of third sector organizations, representative bodies and local government?

Yes. However, it is not entirely clear how the Department envisages the Board as providing representative views when it intends the membership to consist largely of people appointed for reasons of personal expertise and potential contribution, at least at the outset. Extending the membership slightly, as suggested in the consultation, to reflect representative sectors would be a start.

Question 3: Do you have views on which representative organizations should be invited, given our strategic objectives?

The Institute would like to see the built heritage sector represented and would like to suggest that the Institute itself might be a suitable organization.

Question 4: Do you agree with the proposal that the department should hold an open competition for members during 2009?

The Institute supports this on the basis suggested.

Question 5: Do you agree the Partnership Board should meet three times a year linked to key milestones?

Yes, so long as the opportunity for ad hoc meetings is retained.

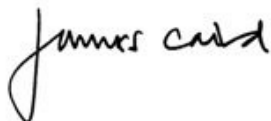
Question 6: Are there key opportunities and risks, relevant to our strategic objectives that the Partnership Board should consider to discuss?

We are not sure we understand the question but feel that the Board should be charged with undertaking an annual self-assessment exercise to ensure that it has the expertise to deal with current and expected workload.

Question 7: Do you agree with the proposed approach to project groups?

Yes.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "James Caird". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

James Caird
Consultant Consultations Co-ordinator