

## BRIEFING: THE INSTITUTE OF HISTORIC BUILDING CONSERVATION (IHBC)

[www.ihbc.org.uk](http://www.ihbc.org.uk)

### **What is the IHBC and what do we do?**

- A professional body & registered charity operating across the UK, with global links
- Represents interests of conservation specialists in the built & historic environment
- 2800+ members across public, private & 3rd sectors, and growing **(Chart 1)**
- 30,000+ users of social and digital networks; website with 500,000+ visits/month.
- Support conservation standards and outcomes as we help:
  - People: Promote heritage and conservation understanding, enjoyment & access
  - Conservation: Support conservation for its delivery of public benefit
  - Conservation specialists: Help members practice to international standards.

### **How does the IHBC Work?**

- As a cross-disciplinary professional body, promoting interdisciplinary skills
- Members operate across key place-making professions: town planners, architects and surveyors (c.40%) with engineers, educators, architectural historians, urban designers, archaeologists, garden historians & landscape architects *etc.* **(Chart 2)**
- Volunteers help add the equivalent of 10+ posts to the sector
- Generates and hosts links across heritage, construction and voluntary sectors
- Runs a trading arm, IHBC Enterprises, that delivers research & projects *etc.*
- The IHBC does not do casework.

### **How does the IHBC help deliver conservation?**

- Promotes interdisciplinary conservation skills for valuing, managing and changing historic places, in line with our 'Conservation Cycle' and wider standards **(Chart 3)**
  - Full members (IHBC): Accredited interdisciplinary practice standards that map to [ICOMOS conservation standards](#) and [World Bank project management](#) models
  - Associates (AssocIHBC): Accredited practice standards equivalent to Full Members, but in a single area of practice
  - Affiliates: Aspiring to IHBC accreditation, but untested
- Standards maintained through Code of Conduct, mandatory CPD, & peer review.

### **Who are IHBC members & what benefits do they bring?**

- Interdisciplinary practitioners with wide-ranging specialisms & skills, contributing to & delivering conservation as an integrated part of placemaking
- Mix of dedicated conservation specialists, in public, private and not-for-profit sectors, and mainstream built environment, regeneration & urban design professionals with substantial conservation interests
- Help deliver hundreds of millions of pounds of projects, contributing to economic growth and sustainable development around the UK
- Operate at the cutting edge of modern practice in sustainable development, with local neighbourhoods & communities, stakeholders, developers, regeneration bodies, community-sector organisations and other partners, helping transform local places and deliver sustainable growth.

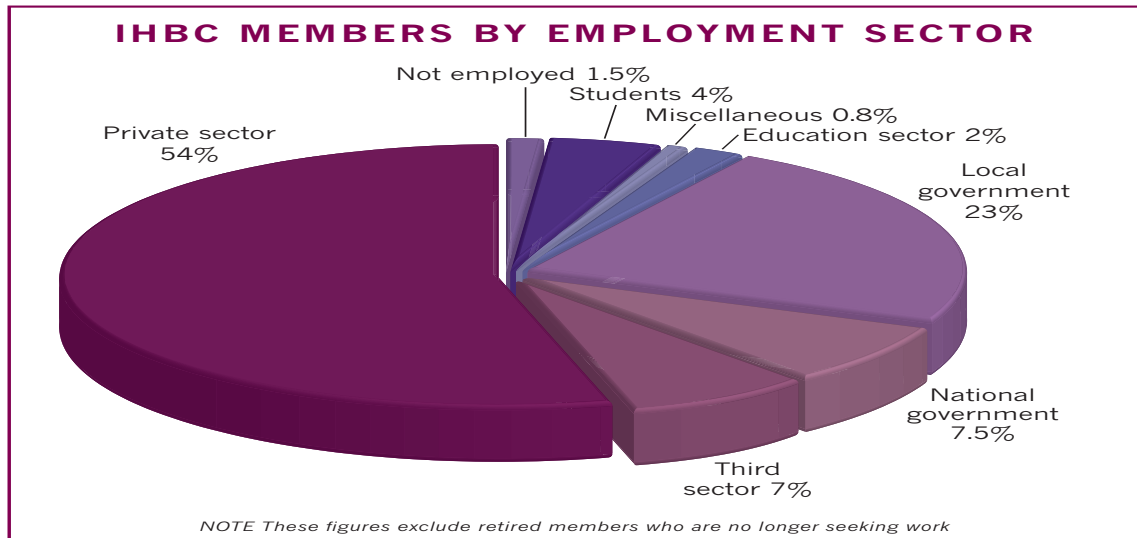
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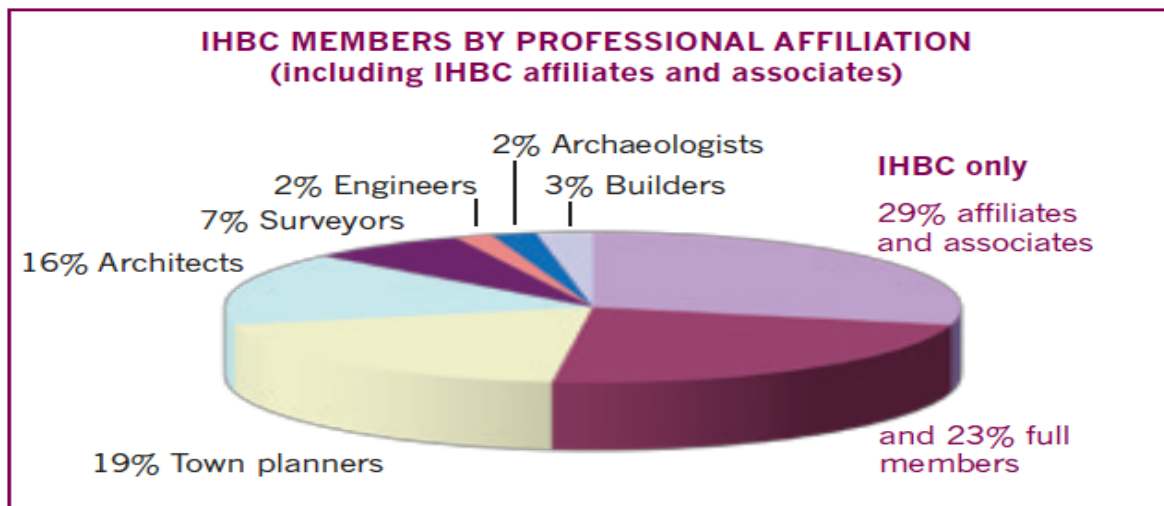
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**CHART 1**



**CHART 2 (Indicative)**



**CHART 3: [IHBC skills sets: The Areas of Competence & the Conservation Cycle](#)**

