

APPENDIX 1

Heritage Lottery Fund – Priority List January 2006

The projects on this list are a 'wish list' of projects, with proposals at differing stages of development. Preston Hall Winter Gardens and Thornaby Town Hall are the only two that are currently ready for submission.

The National and Townscape Heritage programmes are not subject to the same prioritisation process and have been included here for information.

Programme	Project	Organisation
National	Preston Hall	Stockton Council
	Preston Park	Stockton Council
<p>Preston Park and Hall provide the main museum attraction for residents and visitors alike. Significant investment is required to secure the fabric of the building, undertake extensive restoration to the park and to provide a forward-looking plan to meet the needs of the visitors. It is estimated that £3-4M will be applied for from Heritage Lottery Fund national programme within the next three years.</p>		
Townscape Heritage	Stockton Town Centre	Stockton Council
<p>English Heritage has recently expressed interest in working more closely with Stockton Council and a wider partnership in Stockton centre to improve the historic fabric of the town. This will include improving building facades, providing development briefs for fill sites and working with businesses to increase occupation levels in the town centre (both commercial and residential). It is estimated that £2M will be applied for from Heritage Lottery Fund Townscape Heritage Initiative within the next eighteen months.</p>		

Regional and Local	Preston Hall Winter Gardens	Stockton Council
<p>As a forerunner to the main restoration work at Preston Hall and Park, this early piece of work will restore and reopen the Winter Gardens at Preston Hall. The fabric of the Winter Gardens is seriously damaged with significant concern over how the weather will affect the stability if nothing is done in the short term. If we are to attract the £3-4 million in the next few years, which we expect to need to revitalise the Park and Hall as our most important visitor attraction, we must begin the process now, improving the very visible Winter Garden and showing that we value the Park and Hall.</p> <p>The proposal being put forward will see the Winter Gardens made safe and reopened for a structured programme of activities that centre on Victorian planting and horticulture. A friends group of local representatives are supporting the proposal for this popular site for weddings and other ceremonial events and detailed historic planting schedules having been worked out by horticultural specialists.</p> <p>The total project cost is £308,771, made up of HLF contribution £208,957, volunteer labour £12,500, Stockton Council £87,314.</p>		

Regional and Local	Thornaby Town Hall	Stockton Council
<p>The fabric of Thornaby Town Hall has been deteriorating since it fell into disuse in the late 1980's. The loss of the lead from the roof is a significant contributor to this with the temporary repair work reducing the damage rather than removing the source entirely. The only current use for the building is Thornaby Town Council who occupies a single room on the ground floor; the deteriorating condition of the building may put that use at risk.</p> <p>A project has been developed that will see the disused building and four extensions that make up the building group of Thornaby Town Hall being fully restored and refurbished to provide business incubator workspace for the creative industries and a community heritage centre for local activities and displays. This link between community and business support activity is in line with the recommendations being proposed by the Government backed Local Enterprise Growth Initiative.</p> <p>The total project cost is £2.5M, the total HLF contribution required is £585,000.</p>		
Regional and Local	Cemeteries	Stockton Council
<p>Cemeteries in the borough are in need of restoration and maintenance with recent episodes of vandalism adding to this need. The historic features within these can be funded through Heritage Lottery Fund with no other likely options being available to approach for this purpose.</p>		
Regional and Local	Trinity Church	Stockton Council
<p>Trinity Church stands at an important gateway site to Stockton town centre and is listed grade II*. Proposals to stabilise the ruin and undertake environmental improvements to the park are moving forward. Heritage Lottery Fund will be approached to complete this with information and interpretations within the site.</p>		
Regional and Local	Georgian Theatre	Stockton Council
<p>At the centre of the Green Dragon Cultural Quarter, the Georgian Theatre is the focal point for this regeneration initiative.</p>		

The prioritisation process has taken each of the projects and looked at the contribution that they can make in supporting the heritage of the borough. Each has an important role to play so further consideration have looked at

- Wider regeneration impact
- Cultural facilities offered
- Alignment with regional and sub regional priorities
- Cost implications
- Current development stage of proposals
- Community representations and support

In addition to the Stockton Council projects, a number of additional proposals are being brought forward by the Councils Partners and are included here in no priority order.

Regional and Local	Saltholme	RSPB
The planned Nature Reserve at Saltholme will provide a wild bird discovery centre of international repute in one of the most deprived areas of the borough. Heritage Lottery Fund has been in discussions with RSPB over funding to provide interpretations for the visitors and revenue support for the opening.		
Regional and Local	Yarm Town Hall	Yarm Town Council
Yarm Town Council have been developing plans to restore the town hall building and open the ground floor as a heritage information centre. This will mean the location of the public toilets to another location in Yarm		
Small Projects	Stockton Parish Church	Parochial Church Council
The Parish Church received an urgent works grant for repairs to the roof and drainage systems, however, there is still a danger from falling masonry. Falling congregations have left the Parochial Church Council with low funds and a need to find alternative uses for the building.		
Small Projects	Brunswick Methodist Chapel	Private Owner
Standing on the corner of Brunswick Street and Dovecot Street, this grade II* building is in private ownership and currently used as a carpet warehouse. The fabric of the building is seriously deteriorating and English Heritage has recently expressed concern that this building needs work and may well be entered onto the buildings at risk register.		
Small Projects	Natural Heritage	Tees Archaeology
The development of a trail across the borough that takes in the natural heritage of the area, linking points of interest that visitors and residents would like to visit.		
Small Projects	Railway Trail	Tees Archaeology
A trail along the original route of the Stockton-Darlington Railway with information boards, signage and points of interest including Preston Hall and Park.		