

Screen Heritage UK

Programme Overview

Background

Screen Heritage UK is the programme of work delivering on the *Strategy for UK Screen Heritage* set out in June 2007.

The vision of the Strategy is that:

“The public are entitled to access, learn about and enjoy their rich screen heritage wherever they live and wherever the materials are held.”

£25m has been allocated to the UK Film Council (UKFC) for phase one of the Strategy and four key investment aims have been agreed:

Investment Aim 1 – IDENTIFICATION

Provide a clear inventory and catalogue of significant screen heritage collections across the UK so that they may be efficiently managed to enable universal access.

Investment Aim 2 – PRESERVATION

Prevent deterioration and loss of screen heritage materials within significant collections so that they can be made accessible now and in the future.

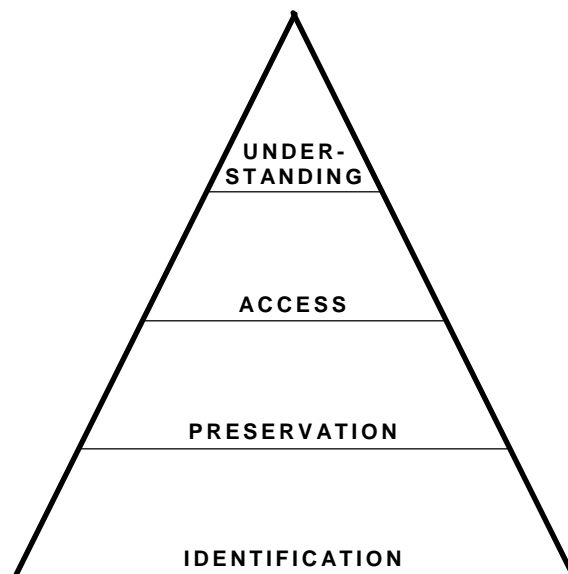
Investment Aim 3 – ACCESS

Enable the public to see and use screen heritage materials irrespective of where they live or where the materials are held.

Investment – Aim 4 UNDERSTANDING

Interpret and curate screen heritage materials in formal and informal learning contexts to promote their appreciation, thereby increasing public demand.

These investment aims are intended to build on one another as illustrated below:

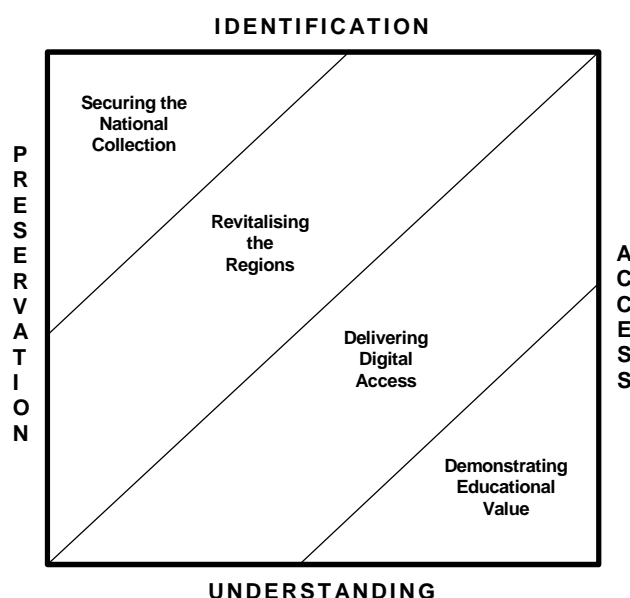


UK FILM COUNCIL

The business case identifies a preferred way forward for the programme constituting investment in the following four strands:

1. **Securing the National Collection:** Capital works to extend and improve BFI storage facilities with appropriate conditions to safeguard the collection.
2. **Revitalising the Regions:** Nomination of key collections in the English Regions, leading to improved plans for their preservation and access.
3. **Delivering Digital Access:** Extending online access to the Nation's screen heritage, through collection cross-searching and digitisation.
4. **Demonstrating Educational Value:** Identifying, developing and evaluating effective use of screen heritage material within learning environments.

The relationship between the four programme investment aims and the four programme strands is as follows:



Steering the Strategy

A Screen Heritage UK Programme Office is in place and is located at the BFI, coordinating the four teams established to steer and deliver each of the individual programme strands. Work is currently underway on developing the various detailed business cases required to secure the release of funds from DCMS. The programme is subject to a high level of scrutiny and has recently undergone the first in a series of Office of Government Commerce Gateway Review processes to ensure that it is aligned with best practice.

The Senior Responsible Owner (SRO) of the programme is Alan Bushell from the UKFC and a Programme Board – chaired by Roger Laughton – meets on a quarterly basis to make decisions on investment. As each of the projects goes live a dedicated Project Board is being established within the organisation responsible for delivery. The BFI is leading on Saving the National Collection and along with colleagues from partner organisations is helping to lead both Delivering Digital Access and Demonstrating Educational Value.



Project Progress

Securing the National Collection

This strand is being led by Darren Long, BFI Head of Collections and Information, and managed by the BFI Estates Office. There is also an established collections management advisory board with representatives from across the sector.

The strand comprises three main elements:

- The **Acetate Film Store** project will create a new sub-zero storage facility at the BFI's Gaydon site. This has received approval for an estimated £8.2m investment. Procurement of a Design Team is underway which will enable costs to be firmed up taking this forward to Full Business Case and release of necessary funding.
- The **Nitrate Film Stores** project will make essential improvements and create additional storage at the BFI's Gaydon site. It has provisional approval of an estimated £5.7m investment pending approval of the Outline Business Case expected in spring 2009.
- The **Collections Management** project will enable replacement of the BFI's current CMS, BMS and related equipment, as well as necessary curatorial work to ensure best use of the improved storage facilities. This is currently estimated at £2m and is undergoing a feasibility study to inform the Business Case. Again, this is expected to be ready for approval in spring 2009.

This programme strand is estimated at an overall investment of around £16m, subject to final business case approval.

Revitalising the Regions

This strand is being led by Sue Howard, Director of the Yorkshire Film Archive, with support from Dee Davison of the UKFC. The project team and advisory group provide a range of regional and partnership input, as well as collections expertise.

The strand comprises two main elements:

- **Equal Funding:** Following a consultation process to identify collections of significance each of the 9 Regional Screen Agencies have submitted delivery plans against proposed funding of £275k per region. These plans outline how significant collections will be prioritised for preservation and access through a nominated network of regional delivery partners. The equal funding will also create new strategic partnership working across Regions, helping to focus resources efficiently. This represents a total potential investment of £2.5m.
- **Challenge Fund:** A further £1m central Challenge Fund is expected to be announced to support bids for further funding in cases of particular merit or urgent need, or where there is potential to leverage additional funds to further the delivery of the Strategy. This will be confirmed following submission of the Outline Business Case in Spring 2009.



Delivering Digital Access

This stand is led by Richard Patterson, BFI Head of Strategic Development, with a team bringing a range of technical input from within the BFI. There is also an external advisory group of specialists in information access.

The strand comprises four main elements:

- A **Union Catalogue** project is planned to allow searching across diverse collections. A pilot for this is progressing well and once the concept has been proven over a range of different data sets the main project will get underway.
- A **Digitisation** project is planned to capture and deliver a range of key material not yet in digital form.
- A **Platforms for Access** project is planned to improve means of online public access to the wide range of screen heritage content contained both within and beyond the National Collection.
- A **User Research** project is underway to gain a detailed understanding of the needs of the end-user in relation accessing diverse screen heritage collections.

This programme strand is estimated at an overall investment of around £4m, subject to the business case being approved in spring 2009.

Demonstrating Educational Value

This strand is led by Wendy Earle, BFI Online Education Manger, with a team bringing further specialist input from the regions. There is also a broad advisory group of education experts feeding in.

A detailed Audit has been carried out on the existence and effectiveness of current screen heritage education practice and distribution channels. This is informing a set of options with emphasis placed on projects which can deliver clear and measurable learning outcomes within the lifetime of the programme. An effective distribution and promotion plan is also being drawn up to maximise reach.

An investment in the region of £0.5m is expected to be approved on submission of the business case in spring 2009.

Phase Two

The aim is to demonstrate the public value of screen heritage through the delivery of this first phase of the Strategy in order to secure further funding for phase two.

The second phase is expected to incorporate a wider constituency of stakeholders including other National bodies, the National Collections of the other Home Nations and significant private and commercial collections.

