

ICOMOS-UK

Terms of Reference

**For the re-launched
ICOMOS-UK Education, Training & Events Sub-Committee**

Adopted ETE Sub-Committee: 24 May 2021

1. ICOMOS-UK

ICOMOS-UK is the UK National Committee of ICOMOS (the International Council on Monuments and Sites). Active in over 130 countries, ICOMOS develops best practice in the conservation and management of cultural sites and has a special role as adviser to the UNESCO World Heritage Committee on cultural World Heritage sites.

ICOMOS-UK was established as a Charitable Incorporate Organisation in 2017. ICOMOS-UK remit is to:

- Act as a focus for innovation in cultural heritage conservation, policy and practice and to facilitate the conservation and promotion of monuments, buildings and landscapes for public benefit;
- Raise awareness and encourage a wider understanding of the scope, value and public benefit of cultural heritage, by engaging with the public in all matters relating to its conservation and preservation;
- Facilitate a multi-disciplinary international network of professionals of all ages and disciplines that allows the exchange of good practice in the development of conceptual ideas, scientific understanding and creative solutions;
- Harness the skills and technical capabilities of members for reflection, evaluation, changes in doctrine and technology in the fields of cultural heritage, tangible and intangible, as defined within the framework of International Charters and Conventions;
- Foster exemplary approaches to the selection, conservation and management of World Heritage Sites, in line with the UNESCO World Heritage Convention 1972;
- Promote international good practice and UK engagement in international heritage matters through research and publications, lectures, seminars, workshops and conferences;
- Organise education, training and capacity building programmes in the fields of conservation, preservation and management.

ICOMOS-UK undertakes much of its work through sub-committees, made up of ICOMOS-UK members, who operate on a voluntary basis.

2. Aim of the ICOMOS-UK Education, Training & Events Sub-Committee

To develop, deliver, disseminate and promote conservation practice standards and related education, understanding and awareness through events and activities supporting the full diversity of stakeholders - such as public cultural heritage sectors, private industries, individual practitioners, educators and the wider society engaged in the conservation of tangible and intangible heritage in the UK – while taking particular account of ICOMOS' international models of good practice.

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Aims reflect both the work of the ICOMOS International Scientific Committee on Training¹ and the key purposes of ICOMOS-UK's training philosophy and initiatives such as:

- Keeping abreast of and engaging with key emerging trends and issues;
- Climate change;
- Contested heritage;
- Equalities (diversity and inclusivity); and
- Community and People-centered approaches.

2.1 Objectives

The objectives of the ETE Sub-Committee include:

- Facilitate and deliver education, training and capacity building programmes in the fields of conservation, preservation and management in local, national and international contexts, using events and other resources that reflect the needs of all engaged in or relevant to conservation practice – including individuals and communities engaged in conservation across all cultural heritage sectors, practitioners and educators in public and private sectors and diverse local and marginalised communities, and encouraging beneficial outcomes that include capacity building, multidisciplinary and interdisciplinary practice, inclusion and equality, and environmental impacts and responsibilities;
- Acknowledge and address the changing needs and priorities in education and training policy and practice – including evolving practice challenges such as those generated by the COVID-19 pandemic and changing learning needs, from apprenticeships to internships – while also serving as a sounding-board and guide;
- Gather and disseminate international perspectives - including the international doctrines and good practice standards produced and held by ICOMOS international – as well as opportunities and lessons and explore how they should or might interact with more local ones, as well as *vice versa*;
- Foster linked support through collaborative and partnering initiatives with relevant organisations involved with conservation training and education, in particular those in current and future partnerships with ICOMOS UK;
- Promote and advance ICOMOS Principles and Guidance in practice, including professional, craft and trade skills; career support that can extend from apprenticeships, scholarships; tools that encompass the full breadth of resources from the traditional and vernacular to digital and heritage-related design, as well as training and education linked to interdisciplinary and multidisciplinary practices and methodologies, notably leading on agreed ICOMOS-UK training modules, research *etc.* in partnership with appropriate bodies and establishments;

¹ See <https://icomos-uk.org/committees>.

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- Foster and cultivate links with ICOMOS International to maximise the potential benefits to be gained from proactive engagement with its International Scientific Committees network of 110 nations and 10,000 professionals, from all disciplines engaged in conservation in five UNESCO regions (Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Arab States, Europe and North America, Latin America and the Caribbean) in global north and south.

3. Activities

All activities of the Sub-Committee will be consistent with the goals and objectives of ICOMOS-UK.

The Committee aims to:

- Develop an Action Plan that reflects ICOMOS-UK's Strategic Plan;
- Agree on a programme of priorities - commensurate with capacity and recognising all sector players - to include:
 - Scoping of issues, including needs and priorities;
 - Responses and plans, including potential partners;
 - Learning and support strategy;
 - Adaptation of ICOMOS international's training models for application in the UK;
 - Dissemination of International standards and practice;
 - Agree *ad hoc* operations, such as events (partner and otherwise) and other outreach activities, including:
 - Case studies, examined 'in the round' (including especially, but not only the full diversity of players/stakeholders and practice areas);
 - *Ad hoc* partnerships or promotion with other leads in relevant events;
 - Open discussions of aspects of conservation practice, including 'virtual' and otherwise as circumstances permit;
 - Topic-based discussions and debates.

4. Membership

NB: All sub-Committee members must be members of ICOMOS-UK and by extension, of ICOMOS.

The collective profile of the ETE sub-Committee should represent the full breadth of conservation activities and practice relevant to ICOMOS's core mission, to the changing needs in education and training, and to all aspects of processes and players that deliver conservation outcomes.²

² Changing needs in education and training across conservation may be understood in the context of 'conservation projects' for 'monuments and sites', *i.e.* 'fabric' and 'areas'. Such projects need skills that include, for example, project identification and investigation, development, management, engagement and execution, and cover environmental, economic and social sectors and interests, as well as cultural.

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Individual Committee members should be agreed on the basis of a formal commitment to pro-actively represent one or more aspects of those conservation processes.

In line with ICOMOS' 1993 *Guidelines*, activities of sub-Committee members should recognise that 'the practice of conservation is inter-disciplinary' and that consequently learning 'should also be multi-disciplinary'. Additionally sub-Committee members must demonstrate a current knowledge base that ensures they are able to inform the Committee on the specific needs of one or more aspects of conservation projects not appropriately covered there, and assist in proactively addressing those needs.

Appointment to the Committee is for a renewable three-year term.

Members are expected to attend meetings on a regular basis. If a member does not attend three consecutive meetings, their continued membership should be reviewed, led by the Chair.

Membership will be kept under constant review by the Chair in order to identify and remedy any perceived gaps in geographical representation, backgrounds, professions, expertise and skill sets. It should be noted that failure to secure a place on the committee is not a reflection on the skills set of any applicant, but on the skills balance and priorities of the committee as a whole.

5. Committee Governance

Management and governance of the Committee will be in accordance with ICOMOS and ICOMOS-UK statutes of association and governance.

The sub-Committee will appoint a Chair who will be confirmed by the ICOMOS-UK Executive Committee, and at least one Vice-Chair.

6. Meetings

Sub-Committee meetings will be held quarterly as a preferred minimum.

Generally, meetings may be held at ICOMOS-UK's offices in Cowcross Street, London and may also be held virtually.

Meetings will be arranged by the Chair, Vice-Chair or other delegated agreed authority as required.

Meeting reports (minutes) will be distributed to members of the Committee and the Secretary.

7. Resources:

The Sub-Committee will operate on a voluntary basis. ICOMOS-UK will not reimburse any costs incurred from venue hire for Committee meetings, or for travel to meetings.

8. Documents

All Committee members will be asked to conform to the following documents:

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- *ICOMOS Ethical Guidelines*
- *ICOMOS-UK Register of Interests*
- *ICOMOS Charters, Guidelines, Resolutions and Declarations*
- *Policy for the Implementation of the ICOMOS World Heritage Mandate*
- *ICOMOS Guidelines for Education and Training In the Conservation of Monuments and Sites*

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