

**Press Release**

**20th December 2013**

**PRT awarded Heritage Lottery Fund grant to empower communities to save heritage sites**

The Prince's Regeneration Trust (PRT) has been awarded a £421,500 Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) Catalyst Umbrella grant for its new and ambitious national learning and support programme, Building Resources, Investment and Community Knowledge (BRICK). The three year programme will start in 2014.

An important part of PRT's work has always been to equip individuals and community groups to carry out their own heritage regeneration projects. BRICK will allow the charity to make its expertise available to a much wider audience and to promote the sustainable reuse and regeneration of heritage sites across the UK.

The BRICK programme will include national talks, regional workshops and targeted mentoring support. It will be supported by an innovative digital platform for peer-to-peer learning, allowing projects from all over the UK to communicate with each other and attract support from volunteers and potential donors. The programme will cover nine learning topic areas, from governance and creative options development, to project promotion and fundraising. In its first year BRICK will also include a mediation pilot, led by partner Locality, which will help unlock heritage projects where communities are working in partnership with private sector development partners.

Ros Kerslake, Chief Executive of PRT said, "We see so many individuals and groups with the ambition to preserve heritage sites and reuse them for the good of the community. While it

**President** HRH The Prince of Wales

14 Buckingham Palace Road, London, SW1W 0QP  
T 020 3262 0560 F 020 3262 0570 [E info@princes-regeneration.org](mailto:info@princes-regeneration.org) [W www.princes-regeneration.org](http://www.princes-regeneration.org)

is impossible for us to directly work with each one, with this grant we will be able to engage and share our heritage expertise with many groups through training and the new digital platform BRICKwork. Not only that, the programme will be the channel through which the groups will learn from each other and market themselves to potential funders and volunteers. We are looking forward very much to launching the programme in 2014.”

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### Notes To Editors

Photo Caption: PRT workshop in September 2013. In the past PRT has been able to share its expertise with individuals and groups through educational publications and workshops, but the BRICK programme will allow it to reach a much wider audience.

For further information please contact:

Claire Thompson, The Prince's Regeneration Trust

T: 0203 262 0567 M: 07564 544487

E: [claire.thompson@princes-regeneration.org](mailto:claire.thompson@princes-regeneration.org)

Marcus Stanton, The Prince's Regeneration Trust

T: 020 8617 0210 M:07900 891287

E: [marcus\\_stanton@btopenworld.com](mailto:marcus_stanton@btopenworld.com)

**The Prince's Regeneration Trust** supports and strengthens communities by rescuing and reusing important British buildings at risk of being lost forever through demolition or decay. Our priority is to work in areas of deprivation; places which will benefit most from the economic regeneration and growth we deliver. [www.princes-regeneration.org](http://www.princes-regeneration.org)

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**Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF)** Using money raised through the National Lottery, the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF) aims to make a lasting difference for heritage, people and communities across the UK and help build a resilient heritage economy. From museums, parks and historic places to archaeology, natural environment and cultural traditions, they invest in every part of our diverse heritage. HLF has supported almost 35,000 projects with more than £5.3bn across the UK. [www.hlf.org.uk](http://www.hlf.org.uk)

**Locality** is the leading nationwide network of development trusts, community enterprises, settlements and social action centres. Locality assists people to work together to create and capture local wealth for the benefit of communities. Locality is running the [My Community Rights support service](#) and runs the [Community Organisers](#) programme. Find out more about Locality– how we can support you and how to become a member. [www.locality.org.uk](http://www.locality.org.uk)

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