Summary Report

Museum Development London and The National Archives Local Authority Programme 2022-23

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Introduction

The National Archives (TNA) and Museum Development London programme delivered support to colleagues managing museum and archive services via a training and network programme 2022-23. The programme was designed with the needs of those working as managers in Local Authority supported Museums and Archives in mind but bookings were also accepted from museums and archives outside that cohort. Four training events were delivered, via Zoom, each of duration 2- 2.5 hours. In addition, we also offered two in-person networking events in order to provide a chance for colleagues to meet and share experiences and support.

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Training programme summary

Training	Date	Trainer	What it covered	No of attendees	No of organisations
Making the case	06 October 2022	Mairead O'Rourke	Making the case 2022 provided delegates with opportunities to consider where their work aligns with the strategic priorities of funders and parent bodies and explored examples of how best make to make a case. It set out to help delegates: • Reflect on the external environment which is having an impact on funding and budgets. • Identify shared priorities among stakeholders and museums and archives. • Explore the ways in which museums and archives respond to these priorities and articulate how they do so.	6	6
Community Engagement: Developing successful approaches	15 November 2022	Chloe Bird and Jane Frederick	This session helped museum and archive managers think about how they can work with communities in a collaborative way so that they remain relevant, address strategic priorities and record experiences. The training also enabled delegates to explore community engagement practice and how they can utilise it to bring	15	14

			people together, and enhance their work through effectively staying connected to and working with the audiences they serve. The session included case studies from London Museums and Archives sharing their current practice.		
Diversity and Inclusion Training for Museum and Archive Professionals	24 November 2022	Jass Theti, Intersectional Glam	This session explored Intersectionality, Diversity and Inclusion, why these are important in the cultural sector and how they can improve the lives of the most underrepresented groups through creating richer understandings of our differences and similarities. The session led delegates through practical steps their organisations can take in order to imbed diversity and inclusion within archival and museum workstreams.	9	8
Emergency Salvage	Scheduled for 16 March 2023. Rescheduled to 20 April 2023 owing to train strike.	Claire Fry	Will be reported on in 2023-24 summary		

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Network events

Two in-person networking events were held in 2022-23: *Managing integrated heritage services within libraries*, on 23 August 2022 at Southwark Heritage Centre & Walworth Library; and *Climate Responsibility for Museum and Archive Managers, Network Event*, 19 January 2023, London Metropolitan Archives, in the Huntley Room.

Managing integrated heritage services within libraries gave delegates a chance to find out more about the new service operating from the Southwark Heritage Centre at Walworth Library. Judy Aitken, Curator and Patricia Dark, Archivist provided delegates with valuable insights regarding development and how museum and archive records were used to complement each other to tell a story of relevance to local residents.

9 people, (of 11 booked), attended the event, along with our hosts, Judy and Patricia and colleagues Philippa Turner (Sector Support Manager, TNA), Helen O'Hara (Museum Development Officer, central & east London) and Yvette Shepherd (MDO Organisational Health).

Climate Responsibility for Museum and Archive Managers, Network Event acknowledged that climate change is affecting us all – both as individuals and as organisations, and that heritage organisations have a clear role to play in raising awareness and exploring related issues. Speakers and case studies were as follows:

Sustainable Steam Project at the London Museum of Water and Steam, Liz Power, Director, London Museum of Water and Steam

Carbon Literacy training and beyond! Helen Wilson, Conservation Scientist, The National Archives

Nature + Love – a Conscious Redevelopment, Carole Destre, Climate and Biodiversity Co-ordinator, Siemma Fazal & Rose Mitchell, Community Engagement Coordinators, Horniman Museums & Garden

The Pursuit of Eco, Alexandra Wade, Assistant Conservator, London Metropolitan Archives

Feeling overwhelmed? You can make a difference, Lorraine Finch, The Caring Conservator.

As well as generously sharing their knowledge and expertise through their presentations our speakers also participated in a question and answer session which enabled delegates to directly participate, before networking over a vegetarian sandwich lunch. A number of delegates also took up the chance of an exclusive private tour and document viewing from the team at the London Metropolitan Archives following the event.

A total of 24 delegates attended the event, (from a total of 26 bookings), 20 of those attending were from our target museum (12) and archive (8) audiences and a further 4 people attended from National Portfolio Organisations – Museum of London and The National Archives. With our cohort of speakers and staff (Philippa Turner (TNA), Helen O'Hara (MDO) and Yvette Shepherd (MDO) a total of 34 people were in attendance.

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Feedback Summary

With only 8 responses from 30 attendees to the online survey monkey survey, it is hard to draw firm conclusions in relation to the training. However from the attached summary (see Appendix), it is evident that for the most part the training has been well received and pitched at the right level. One respondent found the session, *Diversity and Inclusion Training for Museum and Archive Professionals*, to be at far too basic a level. With only 8 responses, this response did skew the feedback results quite markedly but despite this, the majority of respondents gained knowledge and skills and indicated both a willingness to share skills with colleagues and to find out more.

See Appendix for Summary of Training Survey Responses.

Using open text boxes, four respondents listed actions that they will take as a result of the training:

> *"I feel ready to write an advocacy plan for the museum now."*
>
> *"Will speak to my manager about inviting stakeholders to visit the archive and including the archive in induction sessions."*
>
> *"I'll advise other museums in a sector support role, using the resources provided"*
>
> *"We'll do more focus groups"*

Two of the respondents indicated that they would prefer in-person training:

"I would've preferred an in-person session, as I think it would've benefited from networking during/after the event, exchanging details etc. Especially considering the topic of community engagement. I also happened to be disadvantaged by my equipment as electricity was down in my flat this morning, so was attending the training session on my phone using my data. But overall the session was very informative, speakers friendly and engaging and I enjoyed it."

"I prefer in person training but this session did ensure we had time to connect that made up for it."

Findings from the feedback survey will be taken into account in planning next year's programme, so that the training outline sets out clearly the level at which the training will be pitched. Given the level of funding available for the 2023-24 programme it is likely that the majority of training will continue to be delivered online, but trainers will be asked to build in sufficient time for online networking. It is hoped that the in-person networking events will give colleagues an opportunity to meet up, to discuss their work and share experiences.

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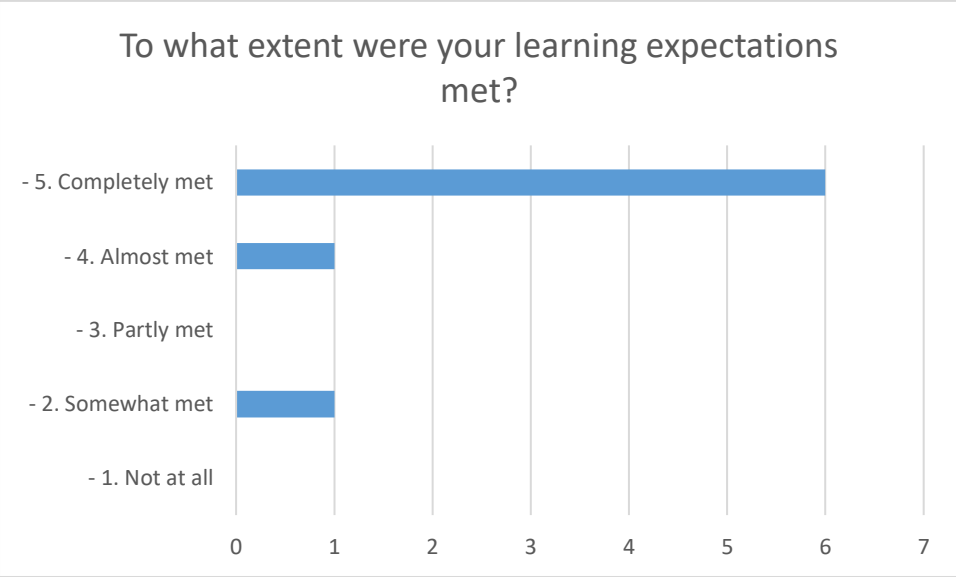
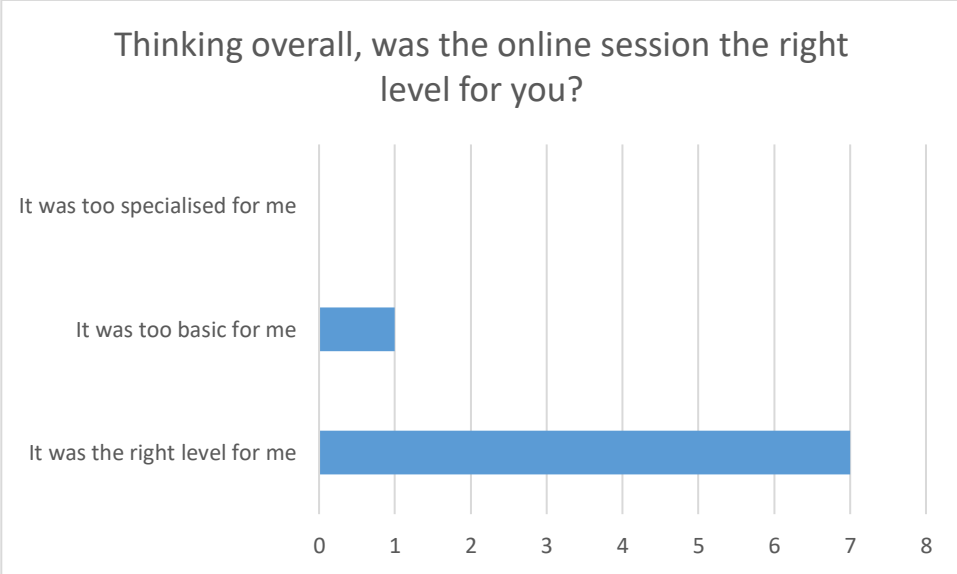
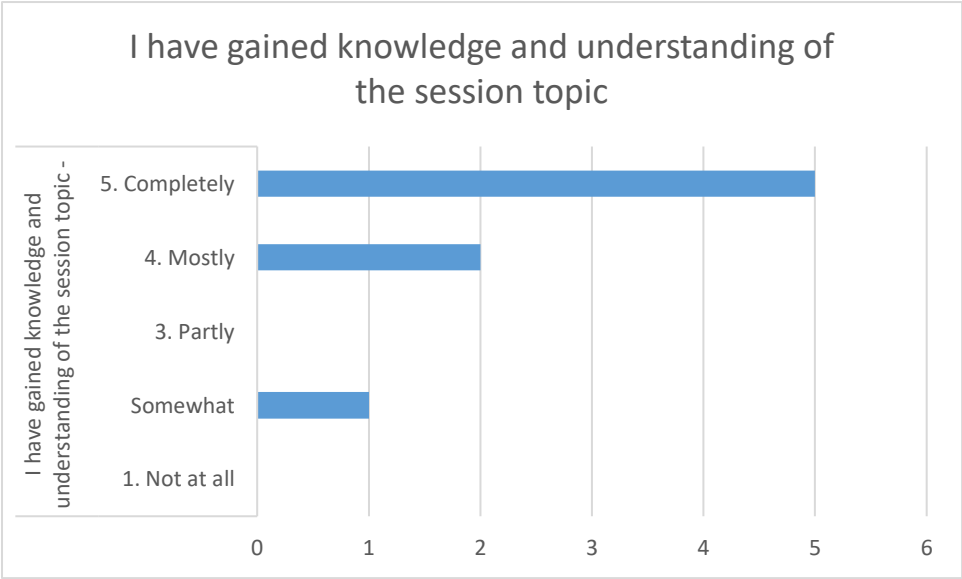
Appendix: Training survey responses

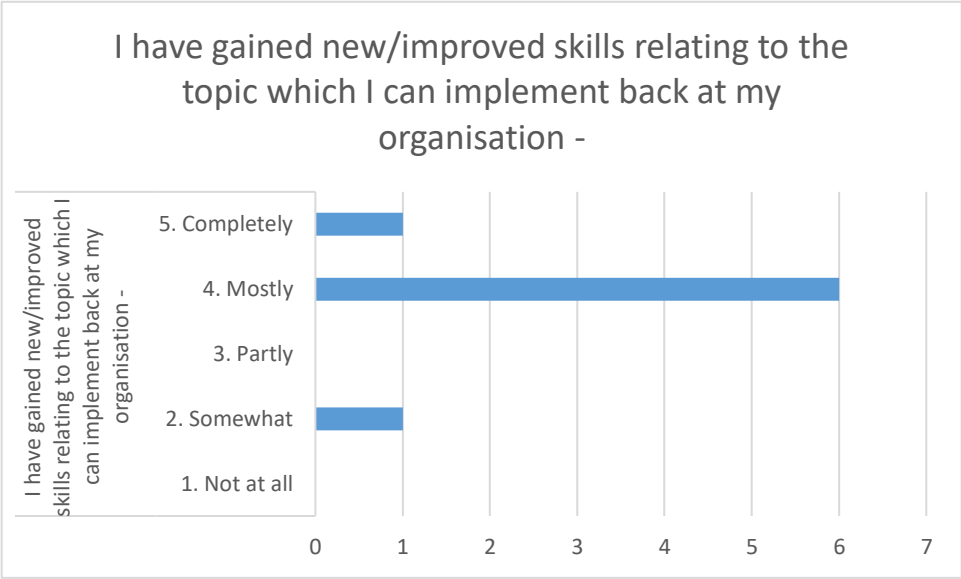
Total participants – 30

Responses to survey – 8






I have gained knowledge and understanding of the session topic
I have gained knowledge and understanding of the session topic -
5. Completely
4. Mostly
3. Partly
Somewhat
1. Not at all
0
1
2
3
4
5
6


I have gained new/improved skills relating to the topic which I can implement back at my organisation -
I have gained new/improved skills relating to the topic which I can implement back at my organisation -
5. Completely
4. Mostly
3. Partly
2. Somewhat
1. Not at all
0
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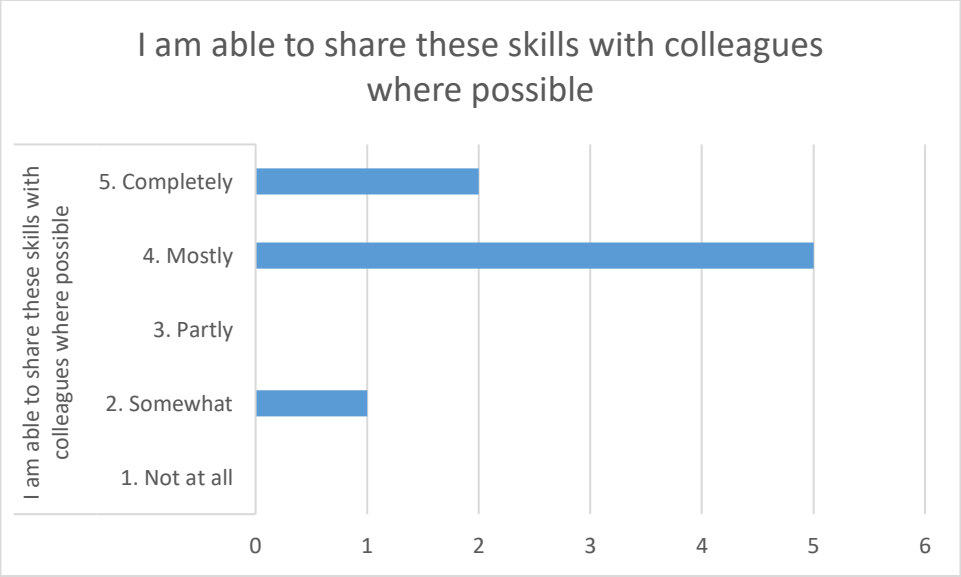
6
7


I am able to share these skills with colleagues where possible
I am able to share these skills with colleagues where possible
5. Completely
4. Mostly
3. Partly
2. Somewhat
1. Not at all
0
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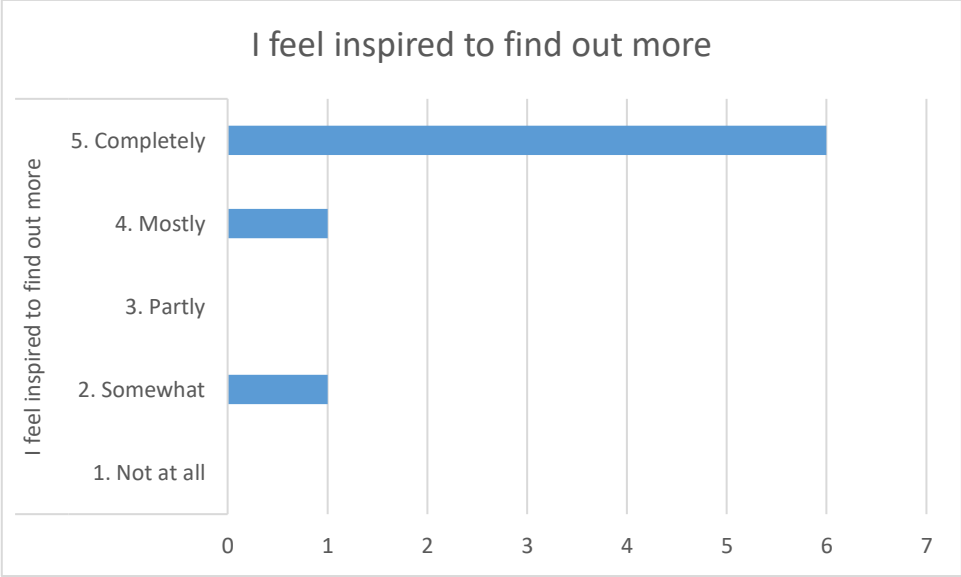
I feel inspired to find out more
I feel inspired to find out more
5. Completely
4. Mostly
3. Partly
2. Somewhat
1. Not at all
0
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2
3
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6
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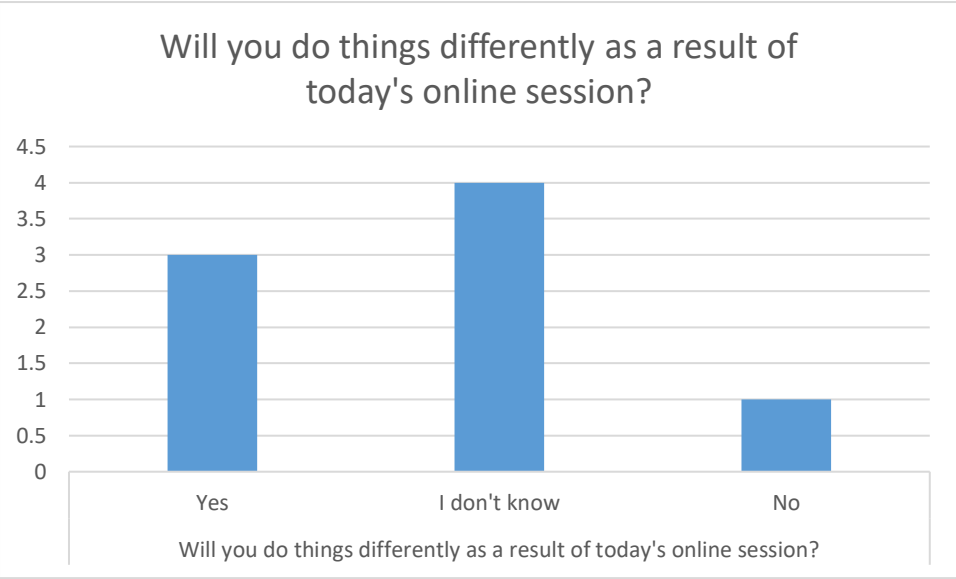
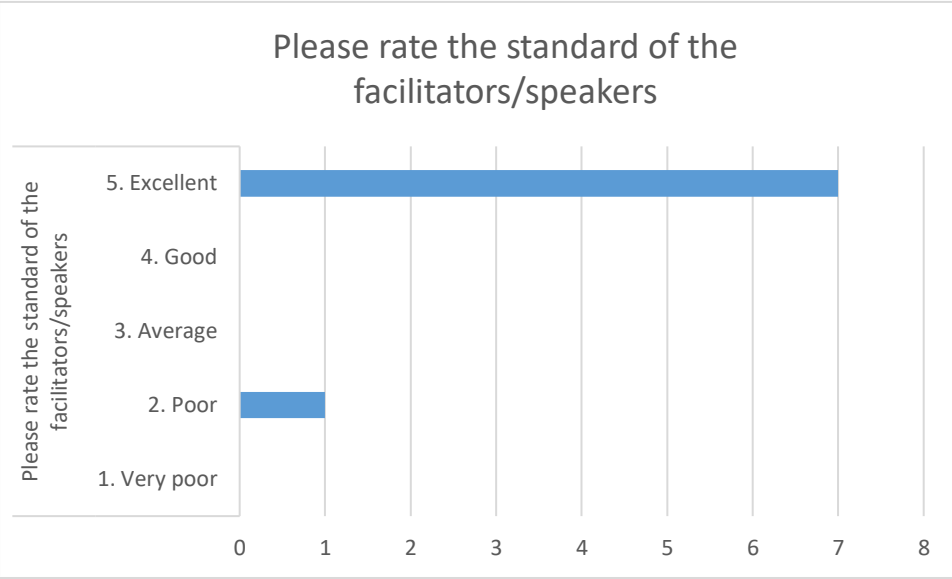

Will you do things differently as a result of today's online session?
4.5
4
3.5
3
2.5
2
1.5
1
0.5
0
Yes
I don't know
No
Will you do things differently as a result of today's online session?


Please rate the standard of the facilitators/speakers
Please rate the standard of the facilitators/speakers
5. Excellent
4. Good
3. Average
2. Poor
1. Very poor
0
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5
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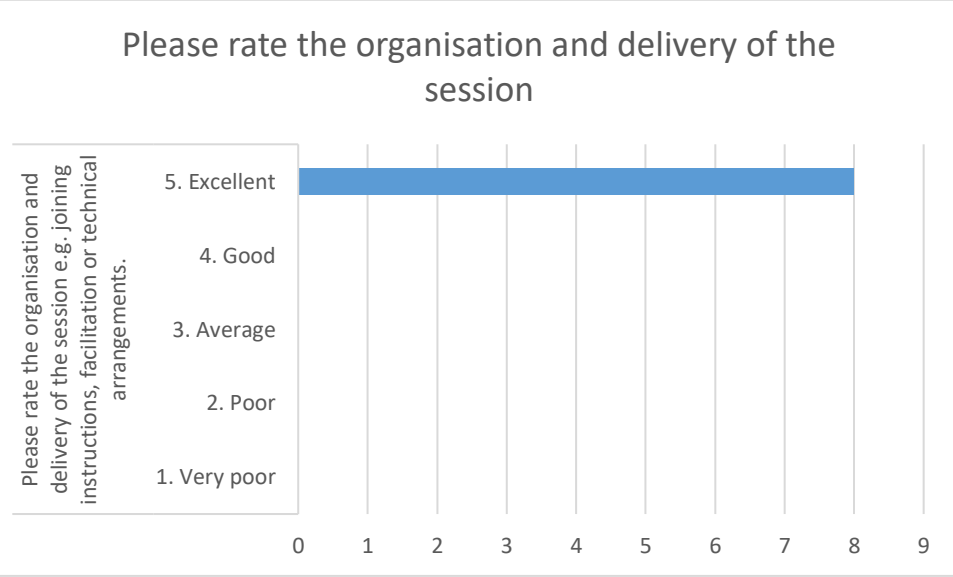
Please rate the organisation and delivery of the session
Please rate the organisation and delivery of the session e.g. joining instructions, facilitation or technical arrangements.
5. Excellent
4. Good
3. Average
2. Poor
1. Very poor
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