



Summary Report

Museum Development London and The National Archives Local Authority Programme 2023–24



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**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**



Contents

Page	
2	Introduction
3	Training programme summary
5	Networking events summary
7	Feedback Summary
12	Appendix: Training survey responses

Introduction

The National Archives and Museum Development London programme delivered support to colleagues managing museum and archive services via a training and network programme 2023-24. 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 and we also offered two in-person networking events in order to provide a chance for colleagues to meet and share experiences and support.

[Back to top](#)

Training programme summary

Training	Date	Trainer	What it covered	No of attendees	No of organisations
Emergency Salvage	20 April 2023. This event was rescheduled from 16 March owing to train strike.	Claire Fry	All aspects of emergency planning from prevention measures, reviewing the emergency plan and salvage equipment to how to protect and rescue collections	10	10
Preparing for the Winter	12 October 2023	Lorraine Finch	The course covered steps to be taken in stores, exhibition spaces and offices to reduce energy costs whilst continuing to care for collections. Current and emerging practices were covered, as well as an overview of environmental standards and practical actions to reduce energy consumption.	8	7
Developing Programmes to support Health and	23 October 2023	Ingrid Abreu Scherer	This session covered the design, delivery and evaluation of	17	12

Wellbeing of Communities			<p>programmes to support the wellbeing of their communities. It considered role of museums and archives in supporting people and communities using evidence from research and case studies from practice.</p>		
Collaborating with artists on co-developed community projects	12 January 2023	Lucy Ribeiro	<p>The session provided an overview of the principles of co-creation and collaboration, emphasising the various roles artists can undertake to enhance audience engagement, collections, archives, programmes, and exhibitions. Attendees gained knowledge on how to effectively work with artists to ensure an enriching collaboration.</p>	17	15

[Back to top](#)

Network events summary

Network event	Date	Venue	What it covered	No of attendees	No of organisations	No of archives	No of archivists
Emergency Salvage	18 Jan 2024	Museum of the Order of St John	This event enabled museums and archives that are undertaking emergency planning to communicate about their planning and helped organisations to facilitate sharing of emergency equipment, green initiatives, collaborative projects, funding applications etc. The event has resulted in the establishment of a new Emergency Response network of x15 founder organisations of which x6 are represented by archivists.	21	18	8	10
Responding to the Climate Crisis	22 Feb 2024	Horniman Museum	London policy makers, including the Greater London Authority, London Councils, the London Borough of Lewisham, and from the Carbon Literacy Trust spoke about their priorities for Climate Responsibility, followed by representatives and from sector lead bodies, including the National Museum Directors Council, The National Archives and the Roots and Branches Programme. Sustainability expert Lorraine Finch, was invited to provide insights into current initiatives with a view to inspiring delegates towards their net	26	20	6	7

			zero targets. The event gave delegates a chance to address questions to the experts, to network and to think about their own approach to developing environmental policies and plans.				
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[Back to top](#)

Feedback Summary

Feedback via the MD London online survey was received from 36 respondents (out of 99 participants). Responses indicate that we've pitched our training at the right level, with most respondents rating the learning expectations as met and that the training is pitched at the right level.

It is pleasing to note that the training is really inspiring delegates to find out more about the topics covered, with a weighted average score of 4.6 and over 80% of respondents note that they will 'do something differently' as a result of the training or event they attended.

Many of those responding indicated that online training works well for them, allowing them to take part despite busy schedules. Although scores indicate overall levels of satisfaction with training there are some important lessons to be learned from the feedback: whilst all of our trainers do plan their sessions to include quite a lot of interactivity it's important to ensure that interactive activities are monitored to ensure that all participants are fully engaged in the process – that can be quite difficult if courses are quite full – so size and number of breakout groups needs to be considered and for some sessions a cap on numbers might be helpful.

It was a very interactive session and slides were helpful

Training online, participation good with breakout rooms and time for discussion.

The fact that the course was virtual enabled me to attend which is fantastic.

The break out groups made up too much of the session and did not work effectively - was in the same one the whole time and nobody really contributed anything so we all felt lost together. If they are going to be relied on so much to bulk out the course, give them tools to actually be of use and mix people up.

Trainers will be sent anonymised summaries of the feedback to help them to refine their practice.

[Back to top](#)

Feedback responses to Networking Events



The inaugural meeting of the network, held at the V&A on 14 March 2024, was well attended.

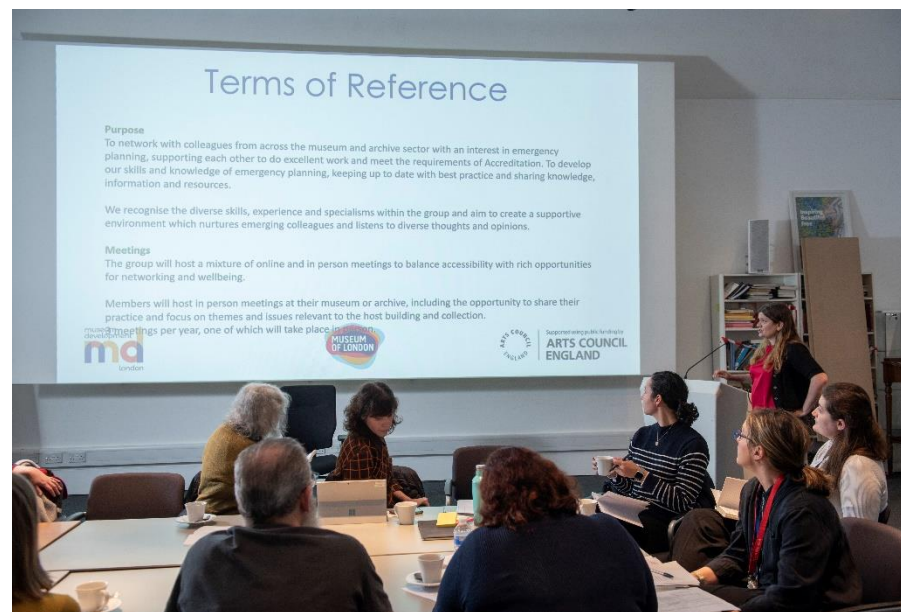
Terms of Reference for the network were agreed and circulated to the membership and a date for the next meeting was selected.

[Back to top](#)

Emergency Planning Network Group

Only 3 responses to the Emergency Planning event held on **18 January** were received, all of which were returned from delegates who had booked onto the event as archivists.

Responses were very positive: all three respondents indicated that their learning expectations had been met and that they had gained understanding and knowledge from the event. All three responses indicated that the delegates will be using their experience to feed directly into updating their organisational emergency plans.





Date of next meeting: Thursday 4 July 2024, 10.00 - 12.30 – online

Chair (next meeting): Erin Messenger, Collections Manager, Kew Gardens

Note Taker (next meeting): Sam Johnson, Cultural Heritage Preservation Lead, V&A



Contact details have been shared among the group and the mailing list has been handed over to Rebecca Raven, Curator at the Museum of the Order of St John, who has agreed to act as membership secretary. The contact details of the Membership role has been sent to organisations who have already expressed an interest in joining and has also been distributed through the MD London eupdate newsletter.



**Membership role Rebecca Raven, Curator, Museum of the Order of St John,
Rebecca.raven@sja.org.uk**

[Back to top](#)



Responding to the Climate Crisis Networking event

We received 11 feedback surveys in response to the Responding to the Climate Crisis networking event held at the Horniman Museum on 22 Feb 2024 and responses and comments were very positive:



I found it rewarding and pleased to have opportunity to think, listen and talk through the wider issues around climate change and what we can do as heritage professionals. I was so impressed by the array of guest speakers too especially given the demands of their day jobs and the time that must take up. Beautiful setting and very appropriate setting too as this is something Horniman are thinking about and are implementing.

[Back to top](#)



I was really pleased to attend this event and be part of a discussion with policy makers and other professionals. I am sure our council are thinking about these issues but given my position within the organisation have not had opportunity to talk about this with people at the top of the organisation/those in charge of thinking through those issues

Delegate responses showed an appetite to implement change within organisations, ranging from sharing presentations and raising awareness within their own organisations to actively reducing organisation footprints, e.g. for exhibitions.

Include element of carbon zero in planned exhibition for 2025, consider carbon cost for exhibitions, using one of the tools.

I will review our uses of energy at the archives and how we might use these more efficiently and use it towards accreditation



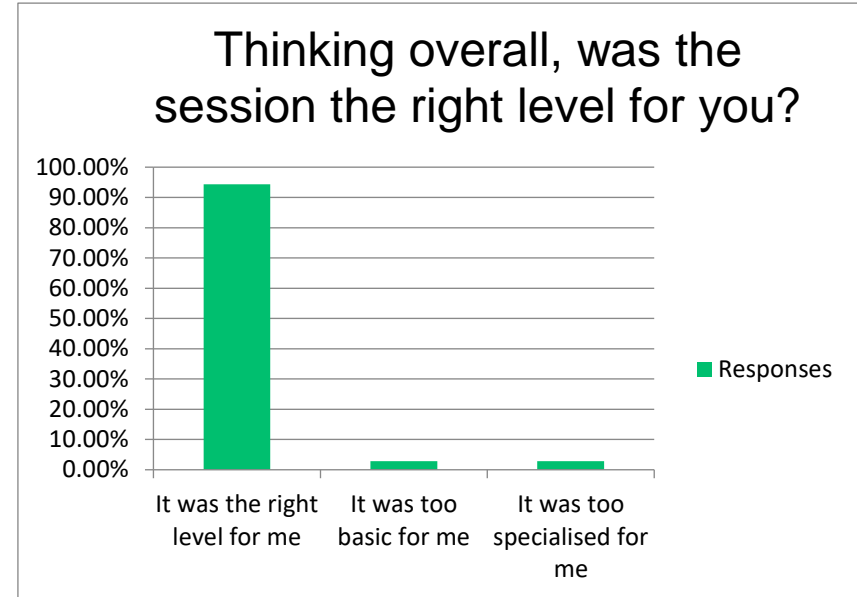
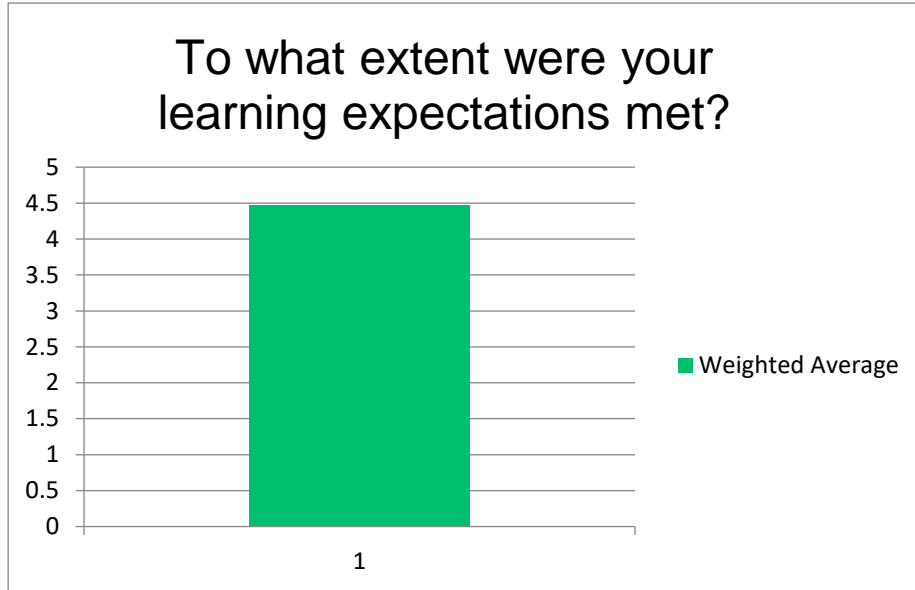
I will engage with our manager of collections to discuss how to reduce the footprint of our exhibitions. I will get in touch with the person at Greater London Authority to ask for help to realise one of our decarbonising projects

Think of carbon use as a budget in the same way as a financial budget

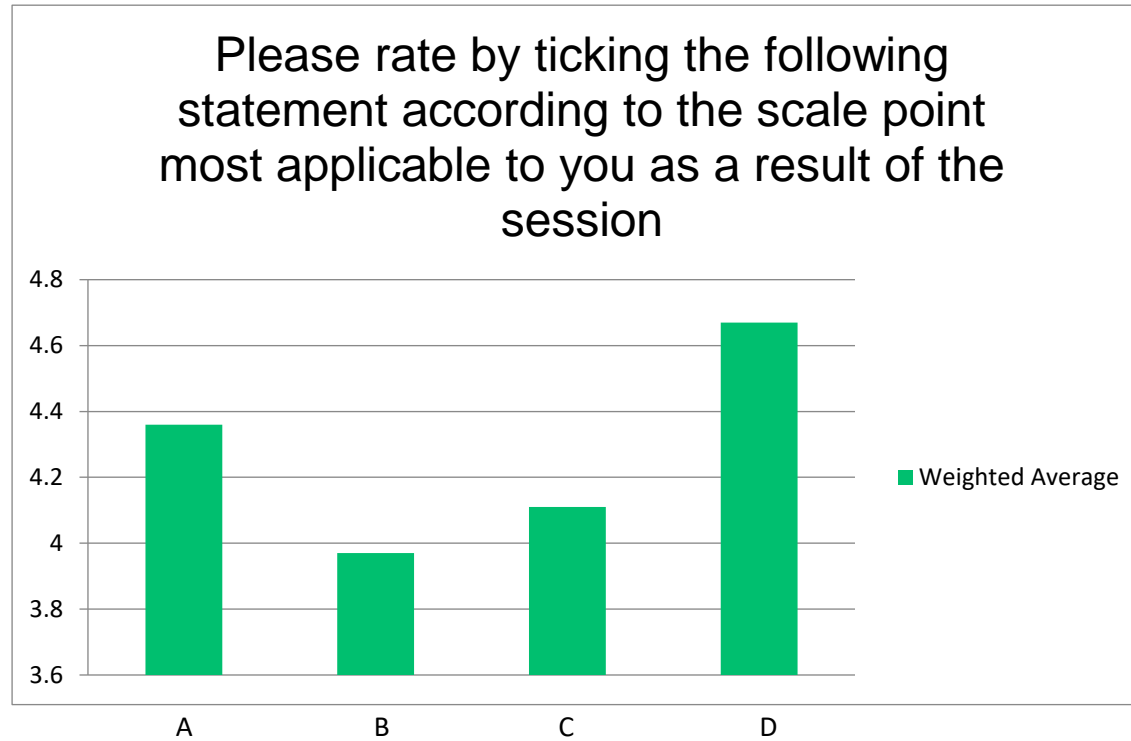
[Back to top](#)

Appendix: Training survey responses

Ratings scored from 0-5

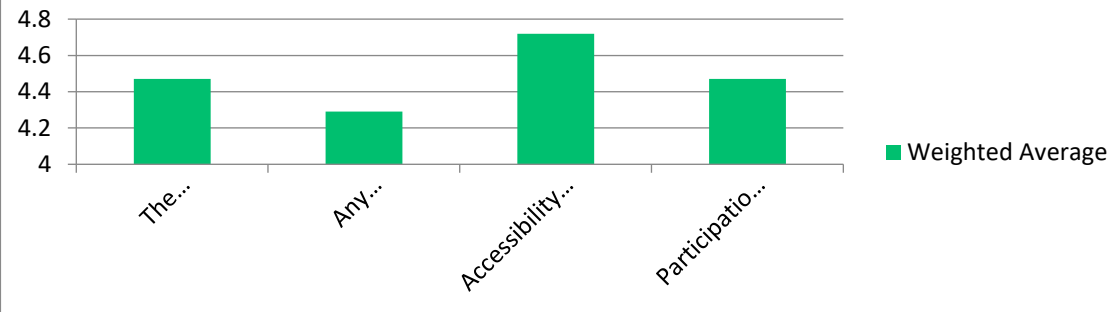


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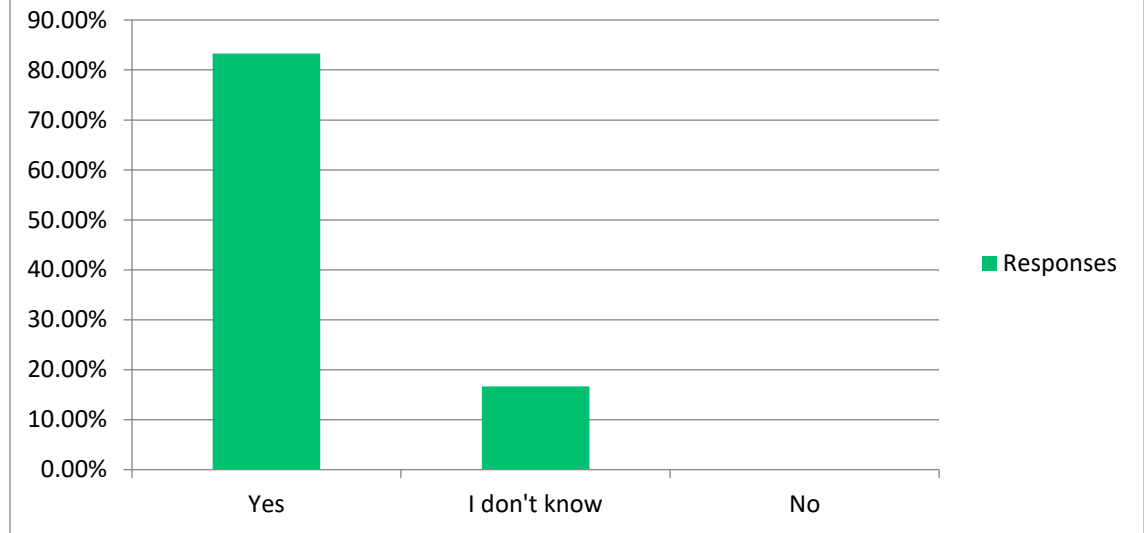


- A I have gained knowledge and understanding of the session topic
- B I have gained new/improved skills relating to the topic which I can implement back at my organisation
- C I am able to share these skills with colleagues where possible
- D I feel inspired to find out more

Thinking about how the training was delivered (online/in-person) and how you learn, did you feel advantaged or disadvantaged by the delivery environment? Please rate the following aspects:



Will you do things differently as a result of today's session?



Please rate the standard of the facilitators/speakers

