

Supporting Internal Funding or Approval Requests

Decision-Making Under Constraint in Collections Care

Risk, Projects, and Human Behaviour in Heritage Collections

Course Information

Delivery: Online

Region: Asia-Pacific Cohort / USA, Europe and UK Cohort

Dates: July 2026 (Asia-Pacific) / October 2026 (USA, Europe and UK)

Format: Small professional cohort programme

Course Style: Structured professional learning combining practice-informed scenarios, facilitated discussion, and reflection grounded in real collections practice

Price: USD 695 / AUD 960 / NZD 1177 + GST

Course Overview

Most collections work today takes place under constraint. Resources are limited, priorities compete, information is often incomplete, and ideal solutions are not always available.

This course starts from that reality.

It explores how professional judgement shapes collections care decisions when responsibility is high and choices involve unavoidable trade-offs.

The programme examines:

- judgement and decision-making under constraint
- prioritisation and trade-offs
- preparedness and organisational capability
- risk-informed decision-making
- the human and ethical dimensions of collections work
- how pressure and uncertainty affect thinking, coordination, and responsibility

The course is grounded in collections-based scenarios drawn from collection management, preparedness, heritage collections projects, emergency response, and organisational change.

Sample Funding or Approval Justification

Decision-Making Under Constraint in Collections Care supports professional development in an area that underpins many aspects of collections work: making sound decisions when resources, time, information, or organisational capacity are limited.

The course develops practical approaches for exercising professional judgement, prioritising work, communicating uncertainty, and making transparent, defensible decisions under pressure. It also explores how organisational structures, team dynamics, and human responses influence decision-making in practice.

Participation in the course may help strengthen organisational capability by improving the quality, consistency, and transparency of collections care decision-making through:

- more transparent and defensible decision-making
- more effective prioritisation when resources cannot address every identified need
- greater consistency in decision-making across teams and projects
- stronger communication of risk, uncertainty, priorities, and organisational responsibilities
- improved preparedness through clearer decision-making and organisational coordination
- greater confidence discussing difficult trade-offs with colleagues, managers, and decision-makers
- more sustainable approaches to managing responsibility, pressure, and complex collections work
- a shared understanding of how professional judgement, technical risk assessment, and organisational decision-making work together to support long-term stewardship

The course is particularly relevant for organisations responsible for heritage collections, including museums, libraries, archives, galleries, and historic houses. It supports staff involved in collection management, conservation, collection moves, building projects, emergency preparedness, organisational change, and collection risk management.

Additional Information

Further information, course details, and registration are available via the Heritage Collections Care Consultancy website:

www.heritagecollectioncare.com

Course Leader

Andor Vince

Andor Vince is a collections care advisor with over 20 years of experience working across the heritage sector. He specialises in helping teams navigate complex decision-making, risk management, preparedness, and organisational pressures within everyday heritage practice.

In addition, he provides advisory support for collections care projects, helping organisations navigate coordination, prioritisation, uncertainty, and decision-making across complex projects and organisational structures.

With a background in positive organisational psychology, he brings together practical heritage experience with insights into resilience, team dynamics, and sustainable professional practice.

His teaching combines practical insight with structured professional reflection grounded in the realities of collections work.