



Consortium Membership – Executive Overview

Purpose of this document

This document provides a high-level overview of the Heritage Collections Care Consortium membership model. It is intended to support initial organisational and governance-level understanding of how membership works and what it offers.

A more detailed scope document outlining the full range of services, deliverables, and commitments is available for organisations seeking further information to support planning, governance, or procurement processes.

The Heritage Collections Care Consortium

The Heritage Collections Care Consortium provides structured, ongoing professional support for organisations responsible for the care of heritage collections.

Membership is designed to:

- strengthen collections care practice
- improve risk awareness and decision-making
- support emergency preparedness and recovery
- assist organisations in planning for long-term sustainability and resilience

The Consortium operates on an annual membership basis, combining expert advice, tailored reviews, practical training, and strategic guidance.

Membership levels at a glance

Consortium support is structured across three membership levels, reflecting different stages of organisational maturity, complexity, and risk exposure.

Level	Primary focus	Typical organisational context
Level 1 – Foundations	Establishing sound collections care and preparedness	Small or developing organisations
Level 2 – Integration	Embedding collections care across teams and systems	Established organisations
Level 3 – Strategy & Leadership	Governance, leadership, and long-term resilience	Complex or high-risk institutions

Organisations may draw on elements from more than one level, depending on their needs.

Summary of membership levels

Level 1 – Foundations

Focuses on establishing sound collections care practice, basic risk awareness, and emergency preparedness. This level supports organisations in building a clear baseline and addressing priority risks.

Level 2 – Integration

Supports organisations in embedding collections care, risk management, and emergency planning across teams, systems, and resources, strengthening coordination and organisational alignment.

Level 3 – Strategy & Leadership

Designed for organisations requiring strategic oversight in collections care, governance alignment, and long-term planning, including leadership in emergency response, organisational resilience, and advocacy for resources.

How organisations typically use Consortium membership

Organisations typically engage with Consortium membership to support informed decision-making, capacity-building, and long-term resilience.

Organisations engage with the Consortium to:

- clarify collections care priorities and risks
- strengthen emergency preparedness and recovery capability
- support evidence-based funding and resourcing decisions
- build staff confidence and leadership capability
- improve long-term organisational resilience in collections care

Membership is reviewed annually, allowing scope and focus to evolve as organisational needs change.

Next steps and contact

Organisations interested in Consortium membership are encouraged to make contact to discuss their context and needs.

Contact

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