

museum
development
md
south west



**Programme
Prospectus
2024 – 26**



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

How to get involved



Investment

Apply to our accessible small grant programmes for funding to develop your practice and test new ideas.

Our new grant opportunities include:

- Capacity Building to support individuals, teams and collaborations
- On Display! to help museums conserve and share the stories of beloved objects
- Talking Nature; connecting museum collections and children and young people in celebration of local nature and biodiversity
- Our open grant programme responsive to the priorities and opportunities of museums across the South West

Guidance and support resources are published on our website alongside further support provided by your local Museum Development Officer (MDO) and our Specialist Officers in Conservation and Collections Care and Sustainable Volunteering to help develop and deliver successful project outcomes.



Skills and networking

Attend our **SW Museum Skills** programme.

We provide sector training to increase your confidence, skills and wellbeing to support you in your role.

You can join subject specific **Forums** led by specialist officers in Accreditation, Conservation and Collections Care and Volunteering.

Meet us at museum **County Networks**, connect with your local MDO, our team, sector peers and specialists.



Organisational development

Your first point of contact is your local place-based **Museum Development Officer** providing development advice, fundraising support and connecting you to specialist expertise in your local area, across the South West and nationally.

Get support with Accreditation; we run the **Technical Accreditation Advisory Service** in partnership with the national Accreditation team at Arts Council England.

Delivered in collaboration with your local MDO, the **Organisational Health Check** is a diagnostic tool, developed by Museum Development England, to inform your forward planning and progression and celebrate your achievements.



Specialist support

Collections Development expert advice and support for collections care and management to support you to improve your practice, develop new ways of working and support increased investment in collections care, conservation and collections management.

Volunteering Fit for the Future programme will support your museum to review its volunteering systems and opportunities to attract and engage a wider range of people.



Additional projects and investment

We secure further investment from funders to deliver **collaborative projects** with museums and heritage organisations across the South West. Together we will increase and diversify the range of development opportunities available and build our practice through these projects.



Communications

We share key sector information and promote museum practice through our regular **e-news, socials, website and team** ensuring you have access to the latest information, inspiration and opportunities.

Contact us

Visit our **website** southwestmuseums.org.uk and;

- Complete our **Get in Touch** form
- Sign-up to our **e-newsletter**
- Connect with your local **Museum Development Officer**

Email us at museum.development@bristol.gov.uk



Working together for inclusive and inspiring museums relevant to the lives of the diverse communities you serve.

Our strategic aims

- **Connected and networked** for greater impact and positive change
- **Building capacity** through skills development
- **Communicating and amplifying the value of heritage** through sector intelligence and insights
- To acknowledge the **climate emergency** and take an active role in the green recovery
- To prioritise opportunities that **increase inclusion** and **tackle inequality**

Our team

Museum Development Officers in Cornwall, Devon, Dorset, Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole, Somerset, West of England, Gloucestershire, Wiltshire, and Hampshire Solent.

Specialist Officers in conservation and collections care, and volunteering.

Programme team who lead, develop and coordinate our delivery, including national, area and local partnerships, Technical Accreditation advice, skills development and training, grants, communications, advocacy and data insights.

Governance our work is steered by diverse and experienced members of our Strategic Advisory Board.

Our funders and support organisations

Arts Council England, Art Fund, Bath and North East Somerset Council, Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council, Bristol City Council, Budleigh Salterton Town Council, Cornwall Council, Dorset Council, East Devon District Council, Gloucester City Council, Hampshire Cultural Trust, North Devon Council, Plymouth City Council, Sidmouth Town Council, Somerset Council, South Gloucestershire Council, South Hams District Council, Stroud District Council, Torridge District Council, Wiltshire Council.