

## NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM: FUNDING AGREEMENT 2008–2011

1. This agreement is between the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) and the Natural History Museum.

### The Natural History Museum

2. The Natural History Museum (NHM) is a Non Departmental Public Body (NDPB) sponsored by DCMS and is governed by the British Museum Act 1963. It is exempt from registration under the Charities Act 1993.

3. The NHM's vision is its aspiration for the Museum, which is: ***To advance our knowledge of the natural world, inspiring better care of our planet.*** The Museum's positioning, the way it wants to be perceived by all its stakeholders and audiences is: ***A voice of authority on the natural world.*** The NHM's mission is a description of why it is here and what it does, which is: ***To maintain and develop the collections, and use them to promote the discovery, understanding, responsible use and enjoyment of the natural world.***

4. The NHM's mission is broken down into seven strands of work, each of which have goals articulated in the Corporate Plan 2007/8 – 2011/12, which has been provided to DCMS. The seven strands of work are:

- generating new knowledge
- maintaining a major science infrastructure
- providing access to existing information
- delivering learning opportunities
- engaging with a larger, diverse audience
- creating engaged and scientifically literate citizens
- inspiring a life-long commitment to the natural world.

5. The three main themes which underpin and guide the NHM's work are:

- people
- financial resources
- master-planning

6. For each year that this agreement covers, the NHM will set a number of corporate priorities that will make the most significant impact on realising its vision. The corporate priorities for 2008/9 have been articulated in the Corporate Plan 2008/9, which has been provided to DCMS. These corporate priorities take into account the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport's priorities for the NHM, detailed in his letter dated 18 December 2007 and the Departmental Strategic Objectives for 2008/11.

7. This agreement recognises that the NHM contributes to a number of other Government Departments' objectives through its front-line delivery as a world-class cultural visitor attraction, centre of learning and scientific research

institute (see Annex 2). The NHM is committed to continual improvement and has set itself the standard of excellence.

### **Financial Allocation**

8. The Secretary of State's letter of December 2007 sets out:

- the NHM's allocations for 2008-9 to 2010-11, including ring-fenced sums to be spent on particular projects;
- the Secretary of State's priorities and the Departmental Strategic Objectives (DSOs) for 2008-11 and the NHM's contribution towards their achievement;

9. The grant in aid allocation is dependent on the NHM maintaining free admission to the permanent collections. The NHM's ability to show measurable improvements in service delivery and its contribution to the delivery of DCMS's DSOs will be factors in the Secretary of State's decisions on future allocations, in addition to any other performance monitoring processes that may be introduced.

### **Compliance**

10. In addition, the NHM has undertaken to:

- comply with all relevant legislation;
- comply with its Management Statement and Financial Memorandum;
- observe the requirements of Managing Public Money.

### **Performance and Monitoring**

11. The NHM will supply DCMS each year with the regular financial information set out in the data collection schedule, as well as returns against 12 performance indicators supplied by DCMS, a return for science income under performance indicator 11, and a further five measures selected by the NHM (see Annex 1).

12. This information, together with NHM's Annual Reports and any further reports that the NHM prepares in relation to progress against its own corporate priorities, will be used to monitor performance year-on-year. DCMS expects the NHM to be able to report in its Annual Report progress against the areas that are of greatest priority to Ministers. These include diversity (of both audiences and those employed by the museum or serving on the board) and actions being taken to promote sustainability and mitigate the effects of climate change.

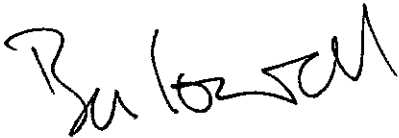
13. The level of scrutiny that DCMS will adopt in monitoring performance during the period of this funding agreement will be commensurate with the outcome of regular joint risk assessment exercises. The NHM's risk rating at the start of the funding period is as follows:

Delivery of DCMS objectives	Low
Systems	Low
External environment	Low

### Supporting Information

14. The documents relevant to this agreement, and against which the NHM will be monitored are as follows:

- Allocation letter
- Performance Indicators
- Risk Assessment
- VFM delivery plan
- Data collection schedule
- MS/FM
- Statement of Internal Control
- Managing Public Money
- Annual Reports and Accounts
- Corporate Plan and reports



Department for Culture, Media & Sport

Date 17/6/08



Natural History Museum

Date 11/06/08

## **Performance indicators**

### **Access**

1. Number of visits to the museum (excluding virtual visitors)
2. Number of unique website visits

### **Audience Profile**

3. Number of visits by children under 16
4. Number of visits by UK adult visitors aged 16 or over from NS-SEC groups 5-8
5. Number of visits by UK adult visitors aged 16 and over from an ethnic minority background
6. Number of visits by UK adult visitors aged 16 and over who consider themselves to have a limiting long-term illness, disability or infirmity
7. Number of overseas visits

### **Learning/Outreach**

#### **8. *Children***

- Number of facilitated and self-directed visits to the museum by children under 16 in formal education
- Number of instances of children under 16 participating in on-site organised activities
- Number of instances of children under 16 participating in outreach activity outside the museum

#### **9. *Adults***

- Number of instances of adults aged 16 and over participating in organised activities at the museum
- Number of instances of adults aged 16 and over participating in outreach activities outside the museum

### **Visitor Satisfaction**

10. % of visitors who would recommend a visit

### **Income Generation**

#### **11. *Self generated income***

- Admissions
- Trading
- Fundraising
- Science

## **Regional Engagement**

12. Number of UK loan venues

## **Science**

13. Number of enquiries to Science Group
14. Number of scientific visitors to collection-holding departments and visitor days
15. Number of PhD students
16. Number of peer reviewed publications
17. Total amount of research grants (value to the NHM)

## Contributions to the work of other Government Departments

The NHM contributes the strategic priorities for a range of Government Departments. These contributions further justify the investment of public funds in the Museum and are consistent with the Museum's own mission.

The Comprehensive Spending Review 2007 set out new Public Service Agreements (PSAs) for the Government in the next spending period (2008-2011). The following are those that the NHM contributes to:

- Sustainable growth and prosperity
  - PSA 4: Promote world-class science and innovation in the UK (DIUS)
    - UK percentage share of citations in the leading scientific journals
    - Income generated by UK Higher Education Institutions and Public Sector Research Establishments through research consultancy and licensing of Intellectual Property
    - Number of UK PhD completers in STEM subjects at UK Higher Education Institutions
    - Number of young people taking A-levels in Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry and Biological sciences
- Fairness and opportunity for all
  - PSA 10: Raise the educational achievement of all children and young people (DCSF)
  - PSA 15: Address the disadvantage that individuals experience because of their gender, race, disability, age, sexual orientation, religion or belief
    - Participation in public life by women, ethnic minorities, disabled people and young people (Government Equalities Office)
- Stronger communities and a better way of life
  - PSA 21: Build more cohesive, empowered and active communities
    - Percentage of people who participate in culture or in sport (DCLG)
  - PSA 22: Deliver a successful Olympic Games and Paralympic Games with a sustainable legacy and get more children and young people taking part in high quality PE and sport (DCMS)
- A more secure, fair and environmentally sustainable world
  - PSA 27: Lead the global effort to avoid dangerous climate change (DEFRA)
  - PSA 28: Secure a healthy natural environment for today and the future (DEFRA)

- PSA 29: Reduce poverty in poorer countries through quicker progress towards the Millennium Development Goals (DFID).

The Government has published a Service Transformation Agreement, which underpins delivery of the new PSA framework, setting out the Government's vision for building services around the citizen and specific actions for each Department in taking forward this challenging agenda. The NHM recognises this vision and will ensure it delivers public value.

