



NEWS RELEASE

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Sheffield Environmental Movement **has received 9,574 National Lottery support to help address the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on heritage**

Sheffield Environmental Movement has received £9,574 from The National Lottery Heritage Fund to support Build links to a variety of BAME groups and implement environmental projects promoting mental and physical well-being such as access to green spaces, education on environmental heritage, promotion of environmental action.

Since the Covid-19 pandemic and lockdown began the practical work with BAME groups has not been possible. However since the lockdown Sheffield Environmental Movement has been;

- supporting BAME groups maintain links via phone/WhatsApp,
- making sure our website has the latest information enabling greater BAME inclusion in environmental opportunities,
- Engaging with local and national debates on BAME inclusion and maintaining an active social media presence,
- helping environmental organisations connect with BAME community groups.

Maxwell Ayamba, Lead Project Manager at Sheffield Environmental Movement said: “Thanks to the National Lottery and its players we can now swiftly adapt to a post-COVID era and continue our work across South Yorkshire, linking with regional inclusion and wellbeing priorities. We’re grateful that The National Lottery Heritage Fund is supporting us at this crucial time – it’s a lifeline to us and others who are passionate about sustaining heritage for the benefit of all.”

The funding, made possible by National Lottery players, was awarded through The National Lottery Heritage Fund’s *Heritage Emergency Fund*. £50million has been made available to provide emergency funding for those most in need across the heritage sector.

The UK-wide fund will address both immediate emergency actions and help organisations to start thinking about recovery.

Ros Kerslake, Chief Executive of The National Lottery Heritage Fund, said: “Heritage has an essential role to play in making communities better places to live, supporting economic regeneration and benefiting our personal wellbeing. All of these things are going to be even more important as we emerge from this current crisis.



“Thanks to money raised by National Lottery players we are pleased to be able to lend our support to organisations such as Sheffield Environmental Movement during this uncertain time.”

Like Sheffield Environmental Movement, other charities and organisations across the UK that have been affected by the unprecedented impact of the coronavirus outbreak are being given access to a comprehensive package of support of up to £600 million of repurposed money from The National Lottery. This money is supporting some of the most vulnerable people in our communities and span the arts, community, charity, heritage, education, environment and sports sectors.

Thanks to National Lottery players, £30 million is raised every week for good causes, including heritage of local and national importance. By playing The National Lottery, people up and down the country are making an amazing contribution to the nationwide-response to combatting the impact of COVID-19 on local communities across the UK.

The National Lottery Heritage Fund is currently open to applications for its Heritage Emergency Fund. To find out more visit: <https://www.heritagefund.org.uk/responding-coronavirus-covid-19>

To find out more about the National Lottery Good Causes , visit: www.lotterygoodcauses.org.uk/coronavirus-pandemic-response

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Notes to editors

For further information about Sheffield Environmental Movement, images and interview opportunities, please contact: **Maxwell Ayamba** via email maxwell@semcharity.org.uk or mobile: 07791614433

About Us

Sheffield Environmental Movement is passionate about the environment and we work with BAMER community groups, Environmental organisations, Heritage organisations and schools to encourage wider engagement with the countryside and local green spaces.

About The National Lottery Heritage Fund

Using money raised by the National Lottery, we inspire, lead and resource the UK's heritage to create positive change for people and communities, now and in the future. www.heritagefund.org.uk
#NationalLotteryHeritageFund

The Heritage Emergency Fund remains open for applications for grants ranging from £3,000 to £250,000 until 31 July 2020. Extra advice and support and longer-term skills and capacity building initiatives has also been made available for the heritage sector. [Read more about The National Lottery Heritage Fund's response to the Covid-19 emergency.](#)

About the National Lottery

- Since The National Lottery's first draw took place on 19 November 1994, more than £40 billion has been raised for good causes in the areas of arts, sport, heritage and community.



- National Lottery players contribute around £30 million to good causes every week.
- The National Lottery has made more than 5,500 millionaires but its primary purpose is giving to good causes - over 565,000 individual grants have been awarded across the UK, that's the equivalent of 200 life-changing projects in every UK postcode district.