



heritage
lottery fund



Awarding funds from

The National Lottery[®]

Townscape Heritage Initiative



Charlotte Dodgeon

Programme Manager

Townscape Heritage Initiative

Townscape Heritage Initiative



Background:

£4.7bn awarded to over 32,000 projects since 1994.

- Conserve the UK's diverse heritage for present and future generations to experience and enjoy
- Help more people, and a wider range of people, to take an active part in and make decisions about their heritage
- Help people to learn about their own and other people's heritage

Townscape Heritage Initiative



THI - the last 12 years

- Over £180m to 219 schemes across the UK
- Aimed to direct funds to conservation areas in 'heritage need'
- Became HLF's primary economic regeneration scheme
- Fitted well with the political landscape under New Labour

Oxford Brookes evaluation

- Schemes have worked best where...
- There is a wider strategy and vision for the area
- The area is not too deprived, or on an upward economic trajectory
- The target properties are sufficiently clustered to generate a critical mass
- There is clear leadership and a strong management team

Townscape Heritage Initiative



Glasgow Merchant City

- Phase 1 HLF grant of £1.6m in 1998
- Generated a total investment £36.7m
- Brought 13 buildings back into use and created over 100 jobs



Townscape Heritage Initiative



What schemes have looked like:

- THI tapping into a model of economic growth, led by retail and leisure, driven by consumer and property demand
- If not retail or leisure use, then often public sector
- Predominantly local authority led
- Varied funding sources

Townscape Heritage Initiative



The current political situation - England

- Change in administration has given rise to very different political climate
- Regeneration policy is yet to emerge!
- Localism high on the agenda – government aim to decentralise decision making
- Local Growth White Paper – role of Local Authorities to ensure effective market functions rather than leading development

The current political situation - England

- Regional Growth Fund – identified need for bids to come from private or private/public partnerships, not public lead
- LEPS- focus on transport, housing, planning, infrastructure - NOT place making or investing in property development
- Focus on need to ‘green’ the economy and reach carbon reduction targets

Townscape Heritage Initiative



Political situation in the rest of the UK

- Drive for decentralisation less strong
- Still a clear role for public sector to deliver regeneration schemes in partnership with private sector
- Largely EU funded – until 2013 when structural funds programmes end
- Scottish and Welsh governments announced intention to seek greater leadership and involvement from local communities and private sector in regeneration policy and practice

Townscape Heritage Initiative



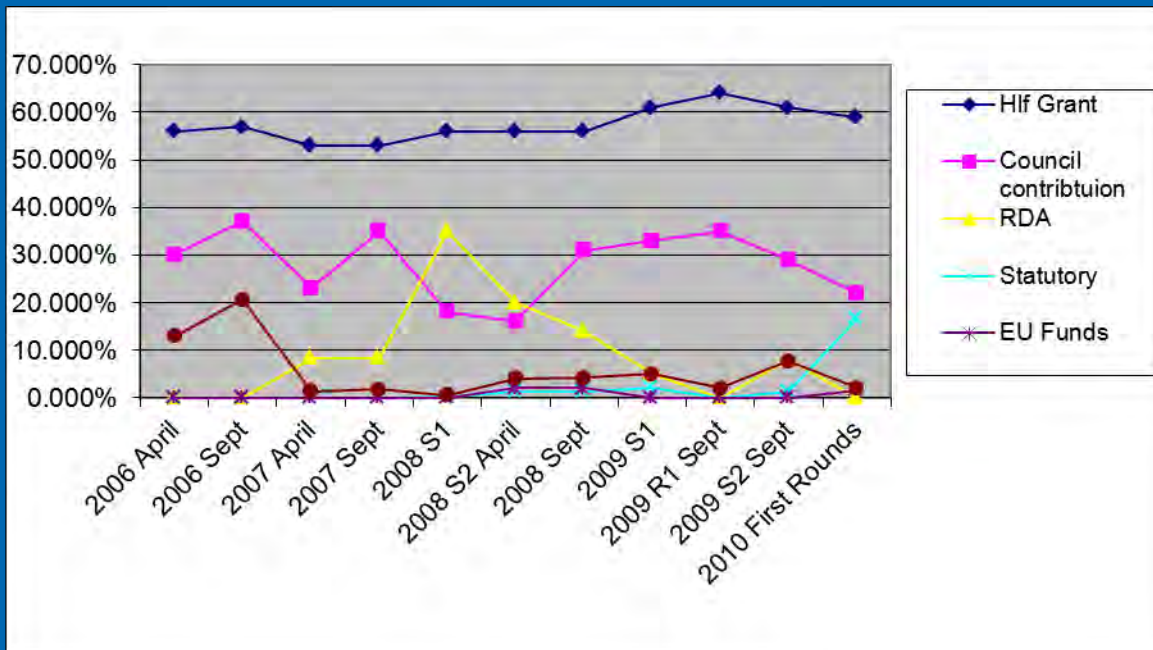
The wider funding picture

- EU funds uncertain
- Loss of RDA funding
- Cuts to council budgets – currently pooling resources from other budgets, but how sustainable?
- Cuts to statutory agencies' budgets
- Ongoing economic situation means less investment from private sector

Townscape Heritage Initiative



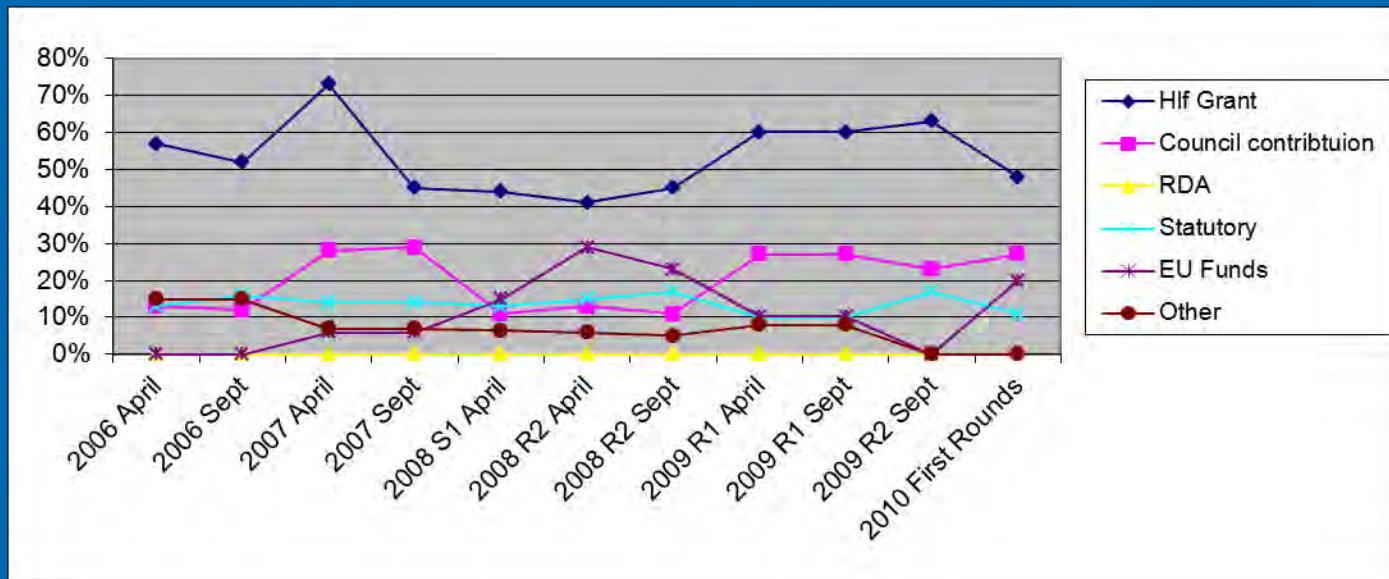
Changes to partnership funding in England...



Townscape Heritage Initiative



....and the rest of the UK



What this means for THI

- Pattern of THIs being retail and leisure focused, at odds with demands of low-carbon Britain
- Other delivery models may need to be explored.

Townscape Heritage Initiative



How HLF has responded

- Asked to carry out 'blue-sky thinking' by Trustees in October 2010
- Commissioned New Economics Foundation (nef) to carry out research, via interviews and workshops
- Alongside this, asked in our consultation 'To what extent do you agree that heritage-led regeneration should continue to be a focus for HLF?'

Townscape Heritage Initiative



What we heard back

- Consultation responses showed strong support - 65% positive
- Results of nef's work showed wide variety of opinions but main areas of feedback
- **Against** a THI without economic or social aims beyond improving sense of place
- **For** a programme that set out to generate commercial income
- **Wide support** for a 'THI+' that puts greater emphasis on creating new end-uses and generating commercial income through that new use

Townscape Heritage Initiative



What we heard back

- **General support** for greater involvement of private sector as both developers and end users
- **Recognition** that local authorities will need to work with a wider range of partners to deliver THI projects – take on more of a facilitating role, rather than that of the developer.
- The need to make it easier for private/civic society organisations to apply
- **Support** for continued focus on areas of need
- **Acknowledgement** that may be looking at a focus on individual heritage buildings or coherent complexes, not necessarily conservation area-based.

Townscape Heritage Initiative



Middleport Pottery

- Awarded first round pass of £1,053,700 + development funding of £107,300.
- Princes Regeneration Trust project to acquire, conserve & restore the site to provide range of sustainable uses.
- Eventually to be leased back to Denby Ltd



Townscape Heritage Initiative



Where next?

- July Board – Trustees gave go ahead to explore options for a scheme with a focus on heritage-led regeneration.
- Currently exploring whether there are more appropriate models for stimulating economic growth
- Continuing discussions with devolved governments to ensure we develop a scheme that is flexible enough to accommodate different economic conditions and public policies across the UK.

Townscape Heritage Initiative



- Considering flexibility around funding of private owners – including mutuals, BPTs, co-operatives, that have had limited involvement up until now
- Will be exploring opportunities to greatly simplify the THI model
- Proposals to go to Trustees in October
- Further year to develop scheme
- Will be consulting with wider sector – heritage partners, commercial developers, local authorities and other government agencies with an interest in regeneration.



heritage
lottery fund



Awarding funds from

The National Lottery[®]