

Northern Ireland: committee decisions March 2025

12/05/2025

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Schedule of decisions for The National Lottery Heritage Fund committee for Northern Ireland meeting on 12 March 2025.

[Funding decisions](#)

SP3 grant increase

Maritime Museum and Archive Centre

Applicant: Derry and Strabane District Council

Project description: The project is the consolidation of the Council's museum collections into a new Maritime Museum and Archive by repurposing listed buildings on the scheduled Ebrington Barracks site. The new museum will be known as Derry ~ Londonderry on the North Atlantic (DNA) museum reflecting the city's social and maritime heritage and links to global stories of migration and war.

Decision: Award a grant increase of £400,000

National Lottery Heritage Grants £250,000 to £10million delivery round

A Future for Thatch

Applicant: CITB NI

Project description: The project aims to safeguard the future of thatch and to preserve the associated skills of thatching – a skill that is facing a rapid decline in Northern Ireland. The project aims are to deliver a skills development programme with the purpose to safeguard traditional thatching skills. The project will also raise awareness with a wider public activity and community programme.

Decision: Award delivery grant of £739,878 (89%)

National Lottery Heritage Grants £250,000 to £10million development round

The People's Hall

Applicant: St Columb's Hall Trust

Project description: St Columb's Hall is a Grade A listed former temperance hall, which opened in 1888. It is located just outside the City Walls in Derry and is considered a community asset of the city's built heritage. The hall remains on the Heritage at Risk Register and – while it has remained open – due to emergency repairs in its present condition, access remains a key issue both for audiences and production companies. The activity and engagement plan will promote equal opportunities and engagement with new audiences.

Decision: Award development grant of £243,202 (71%) with potential delivery grant of £3,755,926 (52%)