

United Kingdom

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A. DIGITISATION AND ONLINE ACCESSIBILITY

A1. Progress on the systematic gathering of information about current and planned digitisation of books, journals, newspapers, photographs, museum objects, archival documents, audiovisual material and the availability of overviews of such digitisation in order to prevent duplication of efforts and promote collaboration and synergies at European level.

In January 2008, DCMS published *Supporting Excellence in the Arts* – a review by Sir Brian MacMasters. This identified that «Cultural organisations are waking up to the potential of new technology and particularly the internet, but this is still happening in a haphazard way, with little coordination and knowledge sharing between art forms and organisations.» The report identifies the need for a Knowledge Transfer Network to improve knowledge-sharing, but the need to improve coordination remains.

At a practical level, the MICHAEL service is being used to collect information about existing digitisation projects of all types, and is therefore an important overview of existing and planned projects. Data has been collected in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, ensuring that it reflects activity across the UK. The project has been led by the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council, working with Regional Agencies in England, and a range of organisations in each country in the UK. The portal, at <http://www.michael-culture.org.uk>, is linked to the European portal at <http://www.michael-culture.org>. The Strategic Content Alliance has been created by a range of public sector organisations to build a common information environment where users of publicly funded e-content can gain best value from the investment that has been made by reducing the barriers that currently inhibit access, use and re-use of online content. One strand of activity being taken

forward in 2008 is to develop a strategy for content and service registries at a UK level, which would include identifying relationships between the MICHAEL service and the JISC Information Environment Service Registry, as well as related projects in Scotland. This work will be taken forward during 2008. In Scotland, an important advance is being made with the launch of Digital Access Scotland on 11th March 2008.

A2. Progress on the development of quantitative targets for the digitisation of analogue material in archives, libraries and museums, indicating the expected increase in digitised material which could form part of the European Digital Library and the budgets allocated by public authorities.

There is a range of funding sources available for projects that may include digitisation, particularly from the MLA Renaissance in the Regions Programme, the JISC Digitisation Programme and the Heritage Lottery Fund. However, in most cases, the aim of these funding programmes is to enhance access to collections, rather than to simply increase the amount of content.

In October 2007, the government announced the results of the Comprehensive Spending Review, and this has resulted in the creation of a £25m initiative led by the UK Film Council and the British Film Institute to preserve and make available Screen heritage – which includes the digitisation of moving image material, including that held by regional film archives.

In January 2008, the Technology Strategy Board announced a £10m R&D funding programme, part of the DCMS Creative Economy Programme. The result of these initiatives is therefore that substantial quantities of new content is being made available online, and will therefore be available to the European Digital Library.

A3. Progress on partnerships between cultural institutions and the private sector in order to create new ways of funding digitisation of cultural material.

A number of innovative partnerships have been developed between cultural institutions and private sector partners. Examples include:

- British Library / Microsoft
- The National Archives / Ancestry.com
- Bodleian Library / Google.

In addition, a number of projects in the EnrichUK programme (such as <<http://www.britishpathe.com>>) have combined the concept of public funding for digitisation for access, with a cost recovery business model for commercial licencing of high quality content. This area is being explored also by the Creative Archive Licence Group, which has developed a model licence that releases content for non-commercial use, whilst also enabling the development of licences for commercial re-use of the content.

The area of developing business models is one that is attracting a lot of interest – and is a work package of the Strategic Content Alliance.

A4. Progress on the set-up and sustaining of large scale digitisation facilities.

Large-scale digitisation facilities have already been established in a number of institutions. Examples include the the digitisation of moving image materials by the British Film Institute, the installation of a robotic book scanner at Southampton University and mass digitisation at the British Library.

However, the economies of scale of large-scale digitisation facilities need to be balanced with the ability of smaller institutions to maintain digitisation as part of regular collections management practices. A project has recently been developed which aims to develop more effective relationships between smaller cultural institutions and small and micro-businesses. The website <<http://www.discs-uk.info>> provides practical advice, support and sources of training.

A5. Progress of cultural institutions, as well as publishers and other rightholders to make their digitised material searchable through the European Digital Library. Describe in particular the progress on the application of common digitisation criteria by cultural institutions and, where relevant, private companies, in order to achieve interoperability

with the European Digital Library and to facilitate cross-language searchability.

A number of funders have required the implementation of the MINERVA Technical Guidelines, which mean that content should be suitable for interoperability with the European Digital Library as its technical requirements are identified.

The UK has been developing activities in this area for some time, particularly in the development of cross-domain aggregation and searching mechanisms. In September 2007, this activity was brought together as a partnership between MLA, the Museum Documentation Association (shortly to become the Collections Trust) and Culture24. The jointly developed Information Architecture Project will join together developments such as People's Network Discover Service, the MLA Institution Server, Cornucopia, and MICHAEL, with the Culture24 family of websites, allowing information from and about museums, libraries and archives to flow freely between organisations and their users. It has two main aims:

- 1) Ensuring audiences throughout the UK and worldwide have access to high-quality content and up-to-date information about, and from, UK museums, galleries, archives, libraries and heritage sites.
- 2) Reducing duplication in expenditure on web infrastructure: giving the sector easy-to-use and sustainable publishing tools to help get culture optimised for search and in front of digital audiences everywhere.

The Integrated Architecture Project will make over 500 000 digital objects from 30 different institutions available to the European Digital Library, and more will be added during 2008.

A6a. Progress on mechanisms to facilitate the use of orphan works.

The UK Government has reviewed Copyright legislation, and has accepted all the recommendations of the Gowers Review. This proposes recommending an 'orphan works' provision to the European Commission. The UK Government Intellectual Property Office is considering how to implement this provision, and is monitoring the work of the EDL High Level Group Copyright Group work on developing due diligence guidelines for Orphan Works. A number of key UK stakeholders are also participating in this activity.

A6b. Progress on mechanisms to facilitate the use of works that are out of print or out of distribution.

The model licence developed by the EDL High Level Group is known by the major libraries, and is available for negotiation with rights holders.

A6c. Progress on the availability of lists of known orphan works and works in the public domain.

Substantial progress in this area will follow from the work of the EDL Working Group on due diligence for Orphan Works.

A6d. Progress on the identification of barriers in your legislation to the online accessibility and subsequent use of cultural material that is in the public domain – and the steps taken to remove them.

The on-going work on the implementation of the Gowers Review by the Intellectual Property Office will tackle a number of existing barriers. A formal consultation on copyright exceptions currently under way, is expected to lead to legislation being introduced at the end of 2008.

B. DIGITAL PRESERVATION**B1. Progress on national strategies for the long-term preservation of and access to digital material. Describe the organisational approach, indicating the roles and responsibilities of the parties involved as well as the allocated resources. Describe the specific action plans outlining the objectives and a time-table for the specific targets to be met.**

This is an area where progress remains to be made. Significant work is being undertaken by a range of organisations, including the National Archives, the British Library, the National Library of Wales and the National Library of Scotland. The Digital

Preservation Coalition continues to provide an effective mechanism for sharing good practice and encouraging the policy development.

B2. Progress on exchange of information with other Member States on your strategies and action plans.

The Digital Preservation Coalition continues to encourage the development of similar initiatives across other Member States, and the Humanities Advanced Technology and Information Institute of the University of Glasgow is coordinating the Digital Preservation Europe initiative.

B3. Progress on legal provisions for multiple copying and migration of digital cultural material by public institutions for preservation purposes.

The implementation of the Gowers Review, outlined above, includes provisions to enable copying of materials for preservation purposes.

B4. Progress on policies and procedures for the deposit of born-digital material. Please note how you are taking into account developments in other Member States in order to prevent a wide divergence in depositing arrangements.

The Legal Deposit Advisory Panel, established by DCMS, is considering this area – following a report published in November 2006 and the extension in March 2007 of the terms of reference of the Panel to include regulatory and non-regulatory options for the deposit of non-print materials.

B5. Progress on legal provisions for the preservation of web-content by mandated institutions.

This area is under consideration by the Legal Deposit Advisory Panel, and the exceptions proposed by the Gowers Review may also apply in this area.

