



## Press Release

February 3, 2025

### LHBT APPOINTS FIVE NEW TRUSTEES

The London Historic Building Trust (LHBT) has announced a substantial refreshing of its Board with the appointment of five new trustees. The new trustees are Sarah Beacock, Chania Fox, Eleanor van Heyningen, Boryana Ivanova and James Leigh. Their appointments follow the departure of Michael Brooke earlier in 2024 and more recently of Elizabeth Wedmore and Alice Yates. All have stepped down after making valuable contributions to the work and strategic direction of the Trust. Stephen Enthoven, LHBT's long standing Secretary, is also shortly to retire following over 14 years of exemplary service to the Trust.

The appointments come at an important time for LHBT as it continues to expand its capacity to deliver a larger number of sustainable, heritage-led regeneration projects that have a positive social impact on London communities.

**Sarah Beacock** is a trustee of the Crossness Engines Trust in Thamesmead, SE London. Until recently she was the chief executive of the Nuclear Institute and is now combining her volunteer work with a new business in governance. She will take on the role of LHBT's Secretary in due course.

**Chania Fox** works for English Heritage's national youth participation team and has volunteered as a social media manager with LHBT for some time before joining the Trust's Marketing & Development Committee in 2022. Her focus as a new Board member will continue to be on digital communications, employing her particular experience in engaging diverse audiences.

**Eleanor van Heyningen** is Director of Strategy and Innovation at the National Lottery Heritage Fund. In a career that includes roles at the BBC and in the Civil Service, she has over 20 years' experience in the cultural and media sectors focusing on maximizing public value. She brings considerable knowledge and management expertise that will help guide the strategic development of the Trust.

**Boryana Ivanova** is a Conservation Graduate at Alan Baxter Associates and is currently pursuing an MSt in Building History at the University of Cambridge. She also serves as an Early Careers committee member of the Association of Critical Heritage Studies and a Young Advisor for Historic England. Her focus as a new Board member will be on fostering inclusivity and community engagement in the Trust's projects and in LHBT's wider role.

**James Leigh** was a senior audit partner and vice chair at Deloitte in London prior to his recent retirement. In his long career with the firm, including 27 years as a partner, he has managed the audits of some of the largest public and private companies in the UK as well as number of not-for-profit organisations. He will now take the lead

on the Board's oversight of the Trust's financial management and reporting, as well as employing his substantial experience to help guide the future direction of LHBT.

**Georgina Nayler, Chair of LHBT**, said: "I wish to thank Alice, Elizabeth, Michael and Stephen for their tremendous support for the Trust. Their contributions have been varied and significant and each has helped strengthen the Trust to make it what it is today. They will be a tough act to follow, but I'm delighted that we have successfully recruited such high-quality new trustees.

"I'm particularly pleased that, together with our existing trustees, the new Board represents a great range of ages and specialist knowledge. This will help us ensure that the Trust becomes even more relevant and engaged with London communities, successfully delivering more and more successful regeneration projects with real social benefits."

ENDS

**Notes to editors:**

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**Photographs are available on request.**

**The London Historic Buildings Trust** works with Historic England, local authorities and other partners and building owners to develop heritage-led regeneration projects throughout London, putting the needs of local communities at the heart of our work to transform places for local people.

Formerly known as the Heritage of London Trust Operations (HOLTOPs), the Trust has more than 30 years' experience of tackling challenging heritage at risk projects in London.

LHBT also works with key stakeholders to ensure that its projects are informed by the needs of the local community and result in positive social change and sensitive regeneration, as well as training, learning, volunteering and employment opportunities. It also works to support local communities in their aspirations to safeguard local buildings, offering professional guidance through training and consultancy services.

To find out more about LHBT please go to [www.londonhistoricbuildings.org.uk](http://www.londonhistoricbuildings.org.uk).