

Charterhouse Great Chamber Project

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- The project underlines the Charterhouse's commitment to sharing its heritage assets with the public in a way that maximises public engagement and enjoyment.
- The project has a twin focus: developing new heritage content relating to the Great Chamber with our Restoration portraits; and developing audiences. The project brings these two areas together to work in combination.
- The project will transform the Charterhouse's Great Chamber by making the space more gorgeous, thereby providing a setting for our stunning collection of portraits. These depict some of the most famous aristocratic-politicians of their day and our interpretation will bring out the drama of their life-stories.
- The project will enable us to extend our offer to schools, particularly through providing new resources related to 'British Values', which will help pupils understand the historical roots of the four fundamental values schools are required to promote - democracy, the rule of law, individual liberty and religious tolerance.
- The project will be accompanied by a new community engagement programme, designed to target two groups: local non-visiting residents and young people under the age of 30. This programme will include the appointment of young consultants to help enhance our online and social media presence.
- The new Great Chamber will create space for temporary exhibitions – at present the Charterhouse lacks such a space, which inhibits our ability to encourage repeat visits.
- This project is central to our long-term heritage strategy. It consolidates the work begun with the HLF-funded *Revealing the Charterhouse* project, and prepares us for the future, by adding to our visitor offer, our schools offer, our online presence and our audience development activities. It allows us to significantly develop our repertoire of heritage activities and to improve fundraising possibilities in support of the estate and collections.
- This project also contributes to our financial sustainability by increasing the expected income from venue hire of the Great Chamber in the evenings.