



Department
for Culture,
Media & Sport

Baroness Twycross
Minister for Gambling
1st Floor
100 Parliament Street
London SW1A 2BQ

E: enquiries@dcms.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/dcms

23 January 2025

Lord Wigley
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

INT2025/00835/DC

Dear Lord Wigley,

I am writing to address the question you raised in the House of Lords on Tuesday 14th January during oral questions on listed historic buildings. You asked me for the number of sites on the Heritage at Risk Register that are World Heritage Sites, and the number of those that are therefore in danger of losing their World Heritage status.

Historic England published the most recent version of the Heritage at Risk Register in November 2024. World Heritage Sites range from buildings to whole landscapes. None of the entries on the Heritage at Risk Register are themselves a World Heritage Site.

A number of World Heritage Sites such as The English Lake District or Dorset and East Devon Coast cover large areas, and within them are individual buildings that do appear on the Register. Of the 4,891 entries on the Heritage at Risk Register (as of 2024) Historic England calculates there to be 162 cases where an entry lies within a World Heritage Site and / or its buffer zone.

For a site to lose its World Heritage status, it first has to be on UNESCO's List of World Heritage in Danger. The UK does not currently have any sites on the List of World Heritage in Danger.

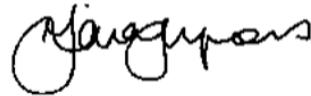
DCMS works closely with World Heritage Site coordinators and heritage agencies across the UK to monitor the condition of all sites, provide updates to UNESCO as and when required, and ensure a site's Outstanding Universal Value and therefore its World Heritage status is maintained.



DCMS also works closely with the sector and our ALBs to protect our most 'at risk' heritage. Historic England has a dedicated grant programme to support repair works to buildings on the Heritage at Risk Register. Three quarters of the 'at risk' sites on the register when it was first published in 1998 have since been rescued, thanks to the dedicated support of government, local communities, private owners and philanthropists.

I will deposit a copy of this letter in the libraries of both Houses.

With best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Baroness Twycross', written in a cursive style.

Baroness Twycross
Minister for Gambling