

Outreach and Learning Strategy

Purpose:

Our archives, records and statistics can tell us fascinating stories about the past and the present while offering a glimpse into the future. Our Outreach and Learning services set out to connect and engage everyone with Scotland's history, heritage and culture. Together we can learn about and be inspired by Scotland's people, places and history and inform present and future generations.

Aims:

- To increase awareness of NRS and its Outreach and Learning services.
- To promote access to the national archives of Scotland to the widest possible audience in order to increase the usage and understanding of Scotland's history.
- To improve and support the use of NRS' archives as a national learning resource for learners in schools, colleges, universities and for adult and community learning.
- To coordinate NRS' involvement in external projects and exhibitions, in collaboration with relevant institutions with similar aims to Outreach and Learning's function.
- To build partnerships with education and heritage organisations to develop a programme of events and materials for users of all ages and stages of learning using NRS materials.
- To create inspiring and accessible online and onsite learning experiences.

Key activities:

In order to facilitate access to NRS' archives and services, both onsite in our search rooms and online, and further users' knowledge of Scottish history and our organisation:

- Exhibitions and displays that highlight NRS' archives.
- Learning workshops, public talks and events.
- Written articles, features and resources.

Evaluation:

Quantitative and qualitative data is maintained for all contacts made during the course of learning activities and these contribute to NRS' annual returns. Evaluation of learning events is routinely carried out and used to help enhance and develop the service.

Evaluation questionnaires are issued to all participants at learning workshops and collected for analysis. Evidence, including feedback from exhibitions, outcomes of workshops and photographs, is also collected.

Strategy Review:

This strategy will be reviewed annually.

Tessa Spencer and Jocelyn Grant, Outreach and Learning Services.

Last Review: March 2022