

HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

Policy Statement

It is the Policy of the British Museum that its operations are conducted in such a way as to ensure, so far as it is reasonably practicable, the health, safety and welfare of its employees, visitors, contractors and others who may be affected by the Museum's activities (affected group).

The Board of Trustees of the British Museum accept the prime responsibility for the health, safety and welfare of the affected group.

The Trustees have a direct concern for the health, safety and welfare of their employees and accord health and safety matters equal priority to all other management and Museum functions.

It is a requirement of the Board of Trustees that the Director, Keepers, Heads of Departments, Managers and Supervisors accord a similar priority to health and safety matters and that all British Museum employees, visitors and contractors ensure that the intent of this policy is observed.

Trustees delegate the duties for Health and Safety to the Director.

The Museum undertakes to comply with the requirements of all relevant European and UK statutory provisions and guidance to meet these obligations.

The principles of this policy apply to all Museum activities in the UK and abroad.

Purpose

This policy aims to ensure, so far as it is reasonably practicable, that the affected group do not suffer accident, injury or ill-health while on the British Museum sites and anywhere that the British Museum staff are located for work purposes.

Practice

This means that:

- no activity is so important or urgent that it will be carried out other than with full regard to all issues of health and safety
- the Museum regards meeting European and UK Health and Safety legislation as a minimum standard and is committed to improving health and safety standards
- the necessary resources must be made available to meet the requirements of this policy
- all employees and volunteers employed by the Museum and contractors appointed by the Museum, are required to pay maximum attention to the health and safety aspects of their work and exercise all care so as to eliminate or suitably control hazards to themselves and others
- the Museum will adopt a planned approach to managing health and safety
- Specific arrangements and roles and responsibilities for health and safety within the Museum are set out in the Health and Safety Protocols and Procedures documents.

Review

This policy document will be reviewed when required as the result of significant change or on a regular basis and in any case within five years.

Richard Lambert
Chair of the Board of Trustees

Date: 30 October 2014