

**Yorkshire Sculpture Triangle  
Press Release  
Friday 14 July 2017**

## **Major funding boost for Yorkshire sculpture**

Four world-class art galleries, including two Art Fund Museum of the Year winners, which form the Yorkshire Sculpture Triangle have secured funding of £750,000 for a groundbreaking new project – ‘Yorkshire Sculpture International’.

Thanks to investment from Arts Council England’s ‘Ambition for Excellence’ programme, the Triangle – which brings together Henry Moore Institute, Leeds Art Gallery, The Hepworth Wakefield and Yorkshire Sculpture Park – will deliver its most ambitious collaborative project to date.

‘Yorkshire Sculpture International’ – taking place from July to September 2019 across Leeds and Wakefield – will see collaborative artistic programming, talent and audience development, new outdoor commissions and international commissioning partnerships.

This major project will consolidate Yorkshire’s reputation as the best place to see contemporary and modern sculpture, building on the region’s unique, unrivalled history – as the birthplace of Barbara Hepworth and Henry Moore – and commitment to collecting, commissioning, exhibiting, studying and promoting sculpture.

It will greatly extend the reach and ambition of each organisation, sharing expertise and resources to build new alliances locally and internationally. Long term, the Triangle hopes to establish an international sculpture triennial.

The Leeds and Wakefield-based organisations will now begin phase one of their planning to bring the project to reality with an engagement programme beginning in July 2018.

Sarah Maxfield, Area Director North, Arts Council England said: “Yorkshire has long been celebrated for its wealth of world class sculpture and I’m delighted that we are funding this project through our ‘Ambition for Excellence’ programme. ‘Yorkshire Sculpture International’ will illustrate how the region is a world centre for cultural excellence in sculpture and I’m looking forward to seeing the new commissions”.

Godfrey Worsdale, Director of the Henry Moore Foundation, said: “Since the early twentieth century, Yorkshire has been associated with the development of sculpture. Over recent years, Leeds Art Gallery, Yorkshire Sculpture Park, the Henry Moore Institute and The Hepworth Wakefield have brought collective energy and expertise to the subject through exhibitions, commissions, collections, archiving, and academic research.

“The Yorkshire Sculpture Triangle is now regarded as an unrivalled British centre for sculpture and Arts Council England’s support for a new international sculpture triennial will enable this collaboration to take a very significant step forward and make an increasingly significant contribution to the UK’s cultural landscape.”

**Ends**

**Notes to editors:**

**For images, interviews and press trips please contact Graham Poucher on [graham@poucherpr.co.uk](mailto:graham@poucherpr.co.uk) or call 07587 180005**

**About Yorkshire Sculpture Triangle**

Yorkshire Sculpture Triangle is a partnership between four of the region's most influential visual arts organisations: Henry Moore Institute, Leeds Art Gallery, The Hepworth Wakefield and Yorkshire Sculpture Park. Through an ambitious programme of new commissions, shared exhibitions and events, Yorkshire Sculpture Triangle aims to raise the profile of Yorkshire's unique sculpture heritage as the birthplace of Barbara Hepworth and Henry Moore, and to establish Yorkshire as one of the best places to see contemporary and modern sculpture in the world. Since 2013 Yorkshire Sculpture Triangle has supported major new commissions by internationally renowned artists Thomas Houseago, Martino Gamper and Rebecca Warren and in 2015 realised Anthony Caro's largest ever exhibition in the UK. Visitors can access world-class collections and see some of the UK's most exciting exhibitions of contemporary art and international sculpture, for free. Getting around the Yorkshire Sculpture Triangle is easy, with venues just a 30-minute drive, bus or train ride from each other. Yorkshire Sculpture Triangle is supported by Leeds City Council and Wakefield Council. [ysculpture.co.uk](http://ysculpture.co.uk)

**About Arts Council England**

Arts Council England champions, develops and invests in artistic and cultural experiences that enrich people's lives. We support a range of activities across the arts, museums and libraries – from theatre to digital art, reading to dance, music to literature, and crafts to collections. Great art and culture inspires us, brings us together and teaches us about ourselves and the world around us. In short, it makes life better. We invest public money from government and the National Lottery to help create these experiences for as many people as possible across the country. [artscouncil.org.uk](http://artscouncil.org.uk)