

UN Human Rights Council 44: UK Statement for the Interactive Dialogue with the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict

World news story

UK's Political and Human Rights Counsellor, Matthew Forman, delivered the statement during the Interactive Dialogue with the Special Representative for Children and Armed Conflict



The Human Rights Council takes place in Geneva.

Thank you, Madame Chair,

The United Kingdom thanks Special Representative Gamba for her report. We are a staunch supporter of and contributor to her mandate.

2020 marks an important year in the global commitment to protect children affected by conflict; it is the 20th anniversary of the UNCRC Optional Protocol and the 15th anniversary of the UN's Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism and Security Council Working Group. These mechanisms have contributed to significant achievements for children on the ground.

However, children continue to suffer the brunt of war.

The UK sees reintegration programming as critical for building sustainable peace. We find it troubling that only a small fraction of children released or separated from parties to conflict in 2019 have benefitted from such programming.

We are concerned by the high levels of children deprived of liberty for their real or alleged association with armed groups. We support the Special Representative's call on Member States to treat these children primarily as victims, prioritising their reintegration into society, and to establish or

strengthen juvenile justice mechanisms. Special Representative,

What new measures and policies might Member States and child protection organisations consider to improve recovery and reintegration of child survivors of sexual violence, and to support access to justice?

Thank you.

Published 3 July 2020

Last updated 6 July 2020 [+ show all updates](#)

1. 6 July 2020

Change in the title and substantial edits to text.

2. 3 July 2020

First published.

Outstanding Roman figures of Celtic Hounds at risk of export

- Figures are valued at £2 million and thought to be more than 1,800 years old
- Excavated from the villa of the Emperor Antoninus in the 1790s

Culture Minister Caroline Dinenage has placed a temporary export bar on two marble figures of Celtic Hounds carved during the Roman period.

The figures, thought to have been completed in the 2nd century AD, are one of two surviving sets from the period and have been valued at £2,000,000 plus VAT. They are at risk of being lost abroad unless a UK buyer can be found.

The figures depict a male and female celtic hound and are made of white marble, possibly north Italian or Greek. The male hound is seated upright with his head tilted upwards, tail between his legs and wearing a studded collar. The female is seated and wearing a wide studded collar with her right foreleg raised. Parts of both figures bear signs of historic restoration in the 18th century.

The figures are outstanding examples of ancient sculpture. The Committee noted the exceptional craftsmanship and remarkable, fine carving on the female figure. The inclusion of collars on both sculptures implies that they may have been household pets which offers a valuable insight into and understanding of the display of sculpture in antiquity, especially in Roman imperial villas.

The figures were excavated from the villa of the Emperor Antoninus in 1795 – 1796 and became part of the collection of Thomas Hope, who formed one of the most renowned art and antiques collections in the country.

Culture Minister Caroline Dinenage said:

These exquisite figures show that even nearly 2,000 years ago, dogs held a special place in people's hearts. The beautifully carved hounds are two rare survivors and it would be a great shame to see them lost abroad.

Despite these challenging times I hope that a UK museum or gallery is able to come forward and save these figures for the benefit of the nation.

The Minister's decision follows the advice of the Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art and Objects of Cultural Interest (RCEWA). The committee noted that the figures were outstanding examples of ancient sculpture with significant British provenance.

RCEWA member Stuart Lochhead said:

Excavated from the villa of the Emperor Antoninus in 1795-6 this pair of hounds, naturalistically rendered in marble, were acquired soon after by the great neoclassical collector and decorator Thomas Hope who displayed them in his London home, partly open to the public, for almost 50 years.

The remarkable provenance and the fact there are only two other similar sets of hounds surviving from antiquity make these objects a fascinating and important view into the display and use of sculpture in antiquity and their subsequently profound influence on early 19th century British taste and cultural history. They are interwoven in so many ways to our cultural heritage that their export abroad would represent a great loss to the nation.

The RCEWA made its recommendation on the grounds of the figure's outstanding significance to the study of the history of collecting in the UK and their display and use in antiquity.

The decision on the export licence application for the figures will be deferred until 2 October 2020. This may be extended until 2 February 2021 if a serious intention to raise funds to purchase it is made at the recommended price of £2,000,000 plus VAT .

ENDS

Notes to editors

Organisations or individuals interested in purchasing the figures should contact the RCEWA on 0845 300 6200.

[Download an image of the two Roman figures of Celtic Hounds](#)

Details of the figures are as follows:

- The objects consist of two roman marble figures of Celtic hounds, dated around the 2nd century AD. They are made of white marble, possibly north Italian white marble, but also possibly Greek (Thassian or Parian), exact provenance of marble cannot be easily surmised.
- The male hound is seated upright with his head tilted upwards, wearing a studded collar, its body with a visibly defined ribcage, seated with its tail between his legs on a base.
- The female Celtic hound is shown seated wearing a wide studded collar, the slender body naturalistically carved, with her right foreleg raised, her hips and left paw resting on an integral arch-shaped base. Her muzzle, ears, part of the neck and the lower half of the raised right foreleg bear signs of historic restoration (probably conducted in the 18th century).
- The objects are 74.5cm and 68cm high respectively. The sculptor or school that produced the hounds is unknown.

Provenance:

- Found among the ruins of Antoninus Pius' Laurentine Villa, by Prince Chigi, at Torre Paterno, circa 1795-6, as recorded by C. M. Westmacott, British galleries of Painting and sculpture, London, 1824.
- Thomas Hope (1769-1831) collection, acquired in Italy circa 1795-1803; and thence by descent to Lord Henry * Francis Hope Pelham-Clinton-Hope (1866-1941). Originally displayed as a pair in the statue gallery, Duchess Street, London, 1804-1849. The hounds were subsequently moved to Deepdene House, Dorking, Surrey, where Adolf Michaelis recorded them in the Gallery of the Entrance Hall.
- Catalogue of the Celebrated Collection of Greek, Roman & Egyptian Sculpture and Ancient Greek Vases, Being a Portion of The Hope Heirlooms; Christie's, London, 23-24 July 1917, lots 226 and 227.
- Purchased from the above sale by a UK collector, for 720 gns and 280 gns each; and thence by descent.
- Sold at auction to the present owner 3 July 2019
- Bonham's, 3 July 2019, lot 151 where sold to the present owner

The Reviewing Committee on the Export of Works of Art and Objects of Cultural Interest is an independent body, serviced by The Arts Council, which advises the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport on whether a cultural object, intended for export, is of national importance under

specified criteria.

The Arts Council champions, develops and invests in artistic and cultural experiences that enrich people's lives. It supports 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.

www.artscouncil.org.uk.

Don't rely on temperature screening products for detection of coronavirus (COVID-19), says MHRA

Press release

Warning that thermal cameras and other such "temperature screening" products, some of which make direct claims to screen for COVID-19, are not a reliable way to detect if people have the virus.



The Agency is telling manufacturers and suppliers of thermal cameras that they should not make claims which directly relate to COVID-19 diagnosis, and is reminding businesses to follow Government advice on safe working during COVID-19.

Graeme Tunbridge, MHRA Director of Devices, said:

Many thermal cameras and temperature screening products were originally designed for non-medical purposes, such as for building or site security. Businesses and organisations need to know that using these products for temperature screening could put people's health at risk.

These products should only be used in line with the manufacturer's original intended use, and not to screen people for COVID-19 symptoms. They do not perform to the level required to accurately support a medical diagnosis.

We are reminding anyone selling these products not to make claims which directly relate to COVID-19 diagnosis. If they fail to comply, we will take formal enforcement action.

Products which the manufacturer claims are intended for screening for COVID-19, or fever-like symptoms, would be regarded as medical devices and regulated by the MHRA.

There is little scientific evidence to support temperature screening as a reliable method for detection of COVID-19 or other febrile illness, especially if used as the main method of testing.

Temperature readings from temperature screening systems will measure skin temperature rather than core body temperature. In either case, natural fluctuations in temperature can occur among healthy individuals. These readings are therefore an unreliable measure for detection of COVID-19 or other diseases which may cause fever. Furthermore, infected people who do not develop a fever or who do not show any symptoms would not be detected by a temperature reading and could be more likely to unknowingly spread the virus.

The MHRA recommends that businesses and workplaces follow the [government advice on safe working during COVID-19](#), as well as implementing scientifically reliable methods of testing for COVID-19.

Health Minister Lord Bethell said:

As pubs and restaurants begin to reopen, it's important businesses do not rely on temperature screening tools and other products which do not work.

The best way to protect customers and minimise the risk of catching the virus is to always follow social distancing guidelines, wearing a face mask on public transport and enclosed public spaces, and regularly washing your hands.

Notes to editor

1. [The Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency](#) is responsible for protecting and improving the health of millions of people every day through the effective regulation of all medicines and medical devices in the UK by ensuring they work and are acceptably safe. All our work is underpinned by robust and fact-based judgements to ensure that the

benefits justify any risks.

2. The [MHRA](#) is a centre of the Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency which also includes the [National Institute for Biological Standards and Control \(NIBSC\)](#) and the [Clinical Practice Research Datalink \(CPRD\)](#). MHRA is an executive agency of the [Department of Health and Social Care](#).
3. The [Yellow Card scheme](#) is MHRA's system of monitoring the safety of medicines and medical devices in the UK and it acts as an early warning system to identify new, and strengthen existing, safety information about medicines, medical devices, falsified or defective healthcare products, and e-cigarettes.

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[New app launched by Veteran owned UK](#)

News story

Veteran Owned UK is the UK's largest online business directory, exclusively supporting companies owned by members of the Armed Forces Community.



Veteran Owned logo. MOD Crown Copyright 2020.

In addition to [Veterans Owned UK](#) online portal of over 1204 businesses, they have now launched an app, making it easier than ever to choose veteran owned businesses.

Scott Johnson, founder of Veteran Owned UK, is a former Royal Engineer and launched the website in 2017. He already knew first-hand that applying military skills and ethos to a civilian workplace was a recipe for success. After having seen a United States based website promoting veteran owned businesses, he recognised the potential for a UK site offering a similar service.

Coming from a military background has a huge advantage. If you have served, you have had huge amounts of money spent on your development and those skills set you up very well for life after the military.

Android users can now easily download the free app from the google play store and iOS users can add the Veteran Owned UK website directly to their home screen. For more information visit the [Veteran Owned UK website](#).

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Broadmarsh retail partnership in liquidation

News story

Nottingham shopping centre redevelopment enters compulsory liquidation



On 3 July 2020 the partners of the Broadmarsh Retail Limited Partnership petitioned to wind the partnership up. Petitions were also presented against related companies and these have also entered compulsory liquidation. The Official Receiver has been appointed as liquidator.

The partnership had been redeveloping the Broadmarsh shopping centre in central Nottingham. The entities wound up do not have any employees or customers.

The Official Receiver has issued a notice disclaiming the companies' interest in the lease to the site. The effect of this notice is to hand control of the site back Nottingham City Council as freeholder. The Official Receiver continues to manage the liquidation of the companies wound up by the High Court.

Entities involved in the liquidation:

- The Broadmarsh Retail Limited Partnership (company number: LP006804)
- Broadmarsh Retail General Partner Limited (company number: 03929726)
- Intu Nottingham Investments Limited (company number: 04423998)
- Broadmarsh Retail (Nominee No 3) Limited (company number: 08293548)
- Broadmarsh Retail (Nominee No 4) Limited (company number: 08293573)

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1. 4 July 2020

Updated notice following the Official Receiver disclaiming the site lease.

2. 3 July 2020

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