

UPDATE 9 May

Please find below the Tourism Alliance updates.

- **Queen's Speech**

The Queen's speech is tomorrow and there are a couple of Bills expected to be announced that have interest to the tourism industry

They are:

- **Levelling up and regeneration bill**

This Bill is aimed at regenerating high streets and will include provisions such as allowing give councils to force landlords to rent out commercial properties and undertake the compulsory purchase of properties. There are also expected to be provisions that will allow councils to double council tax on second homes that are not occupied which will increase the importance of distinguishing between self-catering properties and holiday homes.

- **Brexit freedoms bill**

This Bill will be a Brexit-related "red tape bonfire" which will facilitate the removal of EU regulations retained after Britain's departure from the EU which has the prospect of including measures that will impact on tourism businesses.

- **Animal welfare (animals abroad) bill**

This Bill will impose a ban on the import of hunting trophies and ban the sale and advertising of holidays that involve cruelty to animals so could impact the sales on holidays that include trophy hunting or attending events deemed to involve animal cruelty which could include things like the running of the bulls in Pamplona or even elephant rides in India and Sri Lanka.

- **Higher education bill**

This Bill will include a "lifelong loan entitlement" which will provide people a loan equivalent to four years of university education (£37,000) that they can use over their lifetime to fund technical training. This could provide a significant opportunity to the tourism and hospitality sectors in filling vacancies.

- **Museum Estate and Development Fund (MEND)**

Expressions of interest have opened for the second round of the Museum Estate and Development Fund The online Expression of Interest form will open on Grantium website. The deadline for submitting Expressions of Interest is 12pm (midday) on Friday 17 June 2022.

<https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/funding/museum-estate-and-development-fund-mend-round-2#section-1>

- **Cultural Development Fund**

Similarly, the third round of the Cultural Development Fund will open for expressions of interest on Grantium at 9am on Monday 6 June 2022. The deadline for submitting Expressions of Interest is 12pm (midday) on Friday 29 July 2022.

<https://www.artscouncil.org.uk/funding/cultural-development-fund-round-three#section-1>