

The Record: 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games and Cultural Olympiad across the UK

Olympic Legacy

“When the Olympic flag is handed from one host city to the next at the Closing Ceremony, that city begins creating its own chapter of Olympic history. At the same time, the host city is expected to leave a legacy that the Olympic Movement can build upon.” Dr Jacques Rogge, President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), de Coubertin lecture in London.

The National Archives is working with many partners to ensure that records created before, during and after the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games and the Cultural Olympiad are properly managed, permanently preserved, and appropriately shared – wherever these records are held.

With less than a year to go, now is the time for local, county and specialist repositories to start to look at activity across their region or specialism - if they have not already begun. 2012 is generating many initiatives all around the UK in Sport, Culture, the Arts and communities. From venues and host boroughs to local community projects and events, these activities will deliver legacy benefits and create legacy records.

The National Archives is working with central government including the Department of Culture Media and Sport and Olympic Delivery Authority to select and collect government records of 2012, from the bid process through to delivering the cultural and sporting celebrations, and beyond to the ongoing legacy for London and the UK.

Regional, local and specialist archives will select and collect from established and new creators, creating a tangible records legacy of official and unofficial activity. These records are being created by local and regional authorities, by business, education, community, cultural and sporting groups, as activity gathers pace towards summer 2012 and beyond.

Archives across the UK are encouraged to engage with the range of 2012 related activities and projects already underway in their area, to support and establish collecting streams to secure key records and become part of a network of collections of Olympic and Paralympic sporting and cultural endeavour. This is a call to action for archives to consider the range of legacy records which will be deposited with them, documenting the impact and heritage of 2012 for today and the future. It is a time for conversations between archives and key players with stories to tell and records to select.

Colleagues in Archives Sector Development at The National Archives are actively supporting the legacy of 2012, promoting a network of collections across archives all over the UK.

We are keen to hear from you with details of the records and impact in your region and your collecting remit. What projects are emerging?
What records are being created?
How will these be captured by your service?
If you would like us to, we can support the conversations with your stakeholders and encourage a tangible records legacy from 2012 for the whole of the UK.

Our work to secure the legacy record of 2012 is detailed online: *The Record for 2012*
www.nationalarchives.gov.uk/2012

Current activity, developments and emerging collections can be highlighted on our website, to become part of the evolving network of 2012 activity and history across the UK.

So please get in touch:
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