

Norman Baker MP
(LibDem MP for Lewes)



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Carole Souter
Director
Heritage Lottery Fund
7 Holbein Place
LONDON
SW1W 8NR

18 February 2015
Our ref: LB180216

Dear Ms Souter,

Re: The Edward Reeves Studio Archive

I have recently been contacted by members of the Edward Reeves Studio Archive project. I understand that the project is applying for Heritage Lottery Funding to digitise the archive, and I am writing to express my support for their bid.

The Reeves archive was first presented in Lewes last October, in 55 various shop front windows along the High Street, one of them being my own. I can personally attest to the popularity of the exhibition locally, and indeed it was so well received that it will return in August 2015 as part of Lewes Artwave Festival. The Edward Reeves Studio has approximately 105,000 glass plates in their archive, and is the oldest continuous family photographic business in the world.

They are now looking to broaden their audience to the general public, as well as to an academic audience, by digitising the information, to be accompanied by copies of some of the plates. Once this has taken place the people of Lewes will be invited to help to match the archive material with local people and events. The archive contains portraits of local people and reproductions of their life in the town and on the surrounding Downs and will be a great opportunity for the people of Lewes to reflect on the area's history.

As such I would be grateful if my support for the project's bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund could be noted, and the bid considered sympathetically.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Norman Baker'.

Norman Baker MP

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