

FRIENDS OF



**Helmshore**  
TEXTILE MUSEUMS

c/o Helmshore Textile Museums, Holcombe Road, Helmshore, Rossendale, Lancashire. BB4 4NF

5<sup>th</sup> April 2017

Dear Friends,

Following my recent letter to the Friends of Helmshore Textile Museums advising you of the sad news from the talks on the Museums future, I am now able to pass on the formal statement, issued by the LCC Museums Service.

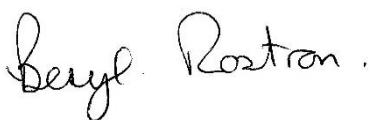
*"We have been working very closely to support English Heritage in considering whether Queen Street Mill and Helmshore Textile Museum could become part of the national portfolio of sites which they own and operate.*

*Their decision not to proceed with this is obviously not what we had hoped for. At the same time, English Heritage has made clear that they and their colleagues at Historic England recognise the great significance of the two mills, and have proposed that we meet with Historic England to see if there may be another sustainable way of keeping the buildings and their machinery safe and open to the public. They have also offered to talk to their counterparts at the Arts Council for England and the Heritage Lottery Fund to see if they may be able to help towards a solution.*

*In the meantime, we will continue our care and maintenance regime for the mills and look forward to meeting with Historic England at the earliest opportunity."* End of Message.

The County Council elections take place on 4<sup>th</sup> May therefore the above contacts cannot be made until it is known who will control the Council for the next four years.

Very Best Wishes.



Beryl Rostron. (Chairman)

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