



West Somerset Railway Association

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POLICY TITLE: West Somerset Railway Association Care and Conservation Policy

1. This document details the policy of the West Somerset Railway Association to ensure the care and conservation of its Collection.
2. We recognise that historic artefacts are held in trust for future generations. We take our responsibilities very seriously and aim to ensure that items entrusted to us for the future are cared for to the highest practicable standard. We will use our best efforts to retain the heritage value of the item as far as is possible in today's world. In so doing we balance the needs of the present with those of future generations.
3. We will endeavour to store all objects in the correct environment dependent on the condition and integrity of that object, although we accept that this may not always be possible.
4. It is our policy to continuously improve the conditions in which we care for our collection over the long term. We aim to achieve standards that meet and where possible exceed those recognised as current best practice in the United Kingdom.
5. We will take active conservation action where:
 - An artefact is to be displayed and requires repair, cleaning, or other conservation work
 - Such action is necessary to prevent or reduce deterioration caused by the passage of time
6. Working artefacts require maintenance to keep them in working order. We will keep detailed records of all work carried out on objects.
7. In all cases we will attempt to avoid damage to original components and retain in store samples of any original components (or samples of) any that have to be replaced.

Policy Author	Paul Whitehouse, WSRA Chairman
Sign off	WSRA board of Trustees
Effective Date:	March 2019
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