



WELWYN GARDEN CITY  
SOCIETY



**PRESS RELEASE:** Issue from 24 January 2020

## **Title: Welwyn Garden City Town Trails and Poster Booth Project**

### **Welwyn Garden City Society secures National Lottery support**

The Welwyn Garden City Society has received £29,600 of funding from the National Lottery Heritage Fund for the Town Trails and Poster Booth Project it was announced today. Thanks to National Lottery players, the project aims to provide greater focus for the town centre and local history.

This project will restore two iconic poster booths situated at a key intersection of Welwyn Garden City's town centre.



They were designed by the town's architect, Louis de Soissons, to celebrate the Festival of Britain in 1951 but have fallen into disrepair and now blight the town centre.

The Society will refurbish them replacing their hoardings with panels where the town's heritage can be highlighted. It now intends to move ahead quickly to acquire the land on which the booths are located and then to refurbish them. It is planned to complete this work by late Spring.

This proposal includes a programme of town centre walks for all primary school children in the Welwyn Garden City area feeding in to National Curriculum key stages 1, 2 and 3 which provide for local studies. The Society hopes to ensure that teachers, many of whom do not live in the town, know about the town and why it is so important internationally.

Commenting on the award, Shaun O'Reilly, the project leader said: "We are delighted that we've received this support thanks to the National Lottery and all its players. These poster booths have blighted the town centre for far too long and we are a step closer to making them serve a useful purpose again. Their refurbishment will be the Society's contribution to the town's centenary."



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## Notes to editors

### About the Welwyn Garden City Society

The Welwyn Garden City Society is a voluntary group of members who are concerned to ensure that the ideals of the garden city are preserved and enhanced. See [wgcsoc.org.uk](http://wgcsoc.org.uk)

### About The National Lottery Heritage Fund

Using money raised by the National Lottery, we **Inspire, lead** and **resource** the UK's heritage to create **positive and lasting change** for people and communities, now and in the future. [www.heritagefund.org.uk](http://www.heritagefund.org.uk).

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### Further information

For further information, images and interviews please contact Shaun O'Reilly (Project Leader) at the Welwyn Garden City Society by email through the Society web site at [wgcsociety@live.com](mailto:wgcsociety@live.com)