**#67MillionVoices make culture, use yours now**

Our country’s diversity is our greatest strength. The UK have always held a firm ‘at arms length’ stance and it is the job of cultural charities to reflect on our past and enrich this heritage.

Freedom of expression is critical to the arts.

✔ Keep culture at arm's length

✔ Protect the Human Rights Act

✔ Protect freedom of expressions

#67MillionVoices make culture. Use yours today:

**1. Write to your Mp, using the sample letter below**

**2. Amplify** #67MillionVoices on social media using these social media graphics

**3. Get Informed** – read the online timeline of events so far

1. **Write to your MP**

*MPs need to know that constituents feel strongly on an issue and that their involvement will have public support. Writing to your MP can be a great way for them to hear about your concerns and take steps to support the causes you care about. You can find your MP and their contact details by typing your postcode into parliament’s website.*

*A sample letter has been provided below, however the more personalised you make your letter, the much better chance it has of getting a response.*

*Include your contact information. It is parliamentary protocol that MPs respond to their constituent.*

***SAMPLE LETTER***

I am writing to you to express my concern about the proposed changes to the Policing, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill and the Human Rights Act Reform consultation process.

The proposed adoption of a modern ‘bill of rights’ to replace the HRA alongside restrictions to protest risk:

* censoring the diverse perspectives that make up UK culture today
* criminalising individuals and professionals for campaigning for legitimate causes
* limiting individual freedom of expression and the ability of ordinary people to challenge institutions
* curbing the creative and curatorial freedoms of UK arts and heritage institutions.

The UK have always held a firm ‘at arms length’ stance and it is the job of cultural charities to reflect on our past and enrich this heritage through recontextualising in the present day. The presentation of narratives counter to those that we may be more familiar with is not about, ‘doing Britain down’. Instead, this provides us with an enriched learning environment and builds a more accurate picture of what it means to be British today.

In addition, the consultation process around changes to the HRA is, as the Ministry of Justice states, “complex” and “technical”. This does not meet government the Code of Practice for Consultation Criteria around accessibility of consultation exercises, which states “consultation exercises should be designed to be accessible to, and clearly targeted at, those people the exercise is intended to reach.”

Our country’s diversity is our greatest strength. We hope that you will support the upholding of the HRA, artistic and curatorial freedom of expression and keep culture ‘at arms length’.