

# UNESCO 41<sup>st</sup> SESSION WHC KRAKOW 2017

## LIVERPOOL - Maritime Mercantile City WHS

Esteemed Members of the World Heritage Committee: thank you for this opportunity to address you.

75% of the people of Liverpool in a recent poll felt that World Heritage Site designation was a status worth fighting for. Civil society actors and members of the academic community are already engaged in the struggle.

The people of Liverpool have calmly waited for the outcomes of negotiations between UNESCO and the State Party to reach a successful conclusion. Only recently has it become clear to them this wasn't going to happen and they have therefore decided that there is no alternative but to launch a belated campaign to do everything possible to hold onto this prestigious designation.

The same problems encountered in Liverpool are also found in Kiev, Vienna, Westminster and Lahore to name but a few sites. The relationship between development and conservation, between progress and heritage is still being worked out by everyone and so we humbly request that you promote more widely discussion and debate around constructive conservation.

Please support the efforts of the 75% of people in Liverpool who want to retain their much admired and respected World Heritage Site status. The struggle is formidable but with your help we can win.