



**Media Statement: Update on restructure of V&A Curatorial teams, as part of the museum's ongoing COVID-19 Recovery Programme**

**For release Monday 17 May 2021**

Following an extensive collective consultation process, final plans for the V&A's curatorial teams have been confirmed. The V&A's long-standing department structure based on material specialisms will be retained with the creation of four new departments: 'Sculpture & Applied Arts'; 'Furniture, Fashion & Textiles, Theatre & Performance'; 'Graphic Art & Design, Photography and Architecture' and 'Asia' (final names TBC). These will sit alongside a combined research department comprised of the V&A Research Institute, the National Art Library and the V&A Archives.

These plans incorporate a range of feedback from staff and retain expertise across every area of V&A collections while helping to meet the challenges of our £10 million annual savings target, necessary to safeguard the museum's future. We have consulted openly and meaningfully throughout the process and would like to thank all our staff and external parties who shared thoughtful and constructive points of feedback during consultation. Sadly, this means a reduction of around 15% headcount – the expertise and institutional knowledge of those staff leaving the V&A will be hugely missed.

-ENDS-

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