

Overall objective

To support the [RPS Strategic Plan Photography for Everyone](#) 2021-2026 and to enhance the relevance for **Documentary Photography** by engaging more diverse audiences and ensuring our activities self-fund.

Inspiration – showcase inspiring photography and to shed new light on subjects of importance

These activities are focussed around showcasing and celebrating high quality photographic work and thinking:

1. **Engagement Talks** - range of talks by established and upcoming photographers working on long-term projects and visual storytelling. *Target: at least 5 Talks per year (free to Doc members, others pay a fee or donation)*
2. Develop our **Decisive Moment** (DM) magazine, currently published quarterly and on-line (via *issuu*), with themed approach and ca. 120 pages to enable high quality documentary projects to be given sufficient 'space'. Promote DM distribution and readership outside the RPS to increase visibility and relevance. *Target: increase external readership by 20%.*
3. **Documentary Photography Awards** (DPA) – For 2025/2026, run another entry submission and selection in 2025. Categories: open (paid), student (free) and member (free). *Target: run next DPA in 2025-2026*
4. **DPA Touring Exhibition** – complete current DPA exhibition tour in early 2025 in Bristol. Next tour in 2026. *Target: at least 5 venues around UK for exhibition in 2026.*

Skills and Knowledge - encouraging a deeper understanding of photography and providing resources for photographic education and Recognition (such as distinctions and awards)

To develop the range and reach of our educational activities. We want to help photographers develop their practice, and also educate non-photographers about what is current in documentary photography:

1. **Workshops** – build on our successful documentary series of workshops and education with a new workshop 'What's the Story'. *Target: one new workshop series starting in 2025, 25% discount for members*
2. **Engage University courses** - following on from 'education' focussed editions of Decisive Moment and DPA. Show-case exceptional student work in Decisive Moment. *Target: increase student entry to DPA.*
3. **Resources and Support individual development** – maintain our Resources Page providing online information and links and provide ongoing support to selected workshop attendees and DPA Awardees (e.g. mentorship).
4. **Distinction Support** – work with Distinctions and Regions to host documentary-focussed Advisory days or equivalent support for distinctions. Continue to work with Distinctions to develop advice and supportive articles (e.g. in DM) for documentary projects. *Target: one event or article per year (discount for members)*

Community – promote belonging and inclusivity, by supporting and engaging widely

To engage with more people and connect with other communities, including those who are not photographers, to appreciate the value of documentary photography:

1. **Work with groups outside RPS** to put on documentary focussed events. *Target: one event per year*
2. **Regional and local activities** – continue to promote, support and help fund our local/regional teams (e.g. help with room hire or specific funding requests) and expand to cover new regions. *Target: Work with other Subject Groups or a Region and locations with no local Documentary/Contemporary groups.*
3. **Website and social media** – develop our RPS website, social media (member-only FB, public FB) to better engage younger and more diverse documentary photographers. *Target: increase social media 'hits' by 20%*
4. **On-line competition** – look to restart our online competition (member only) with documentary-focused books as prizes. *Target: re-assess value and re-start in 2025*
5. **Newsletter** – continue to publish a regular (member only) Newsletter covering information, links and events.

Schedule of Events 2024-2026 – see RPS Events for details and up to date information.