



Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers  
40 Queens Road  
Bury St Edmunds  
Suffolk IP33 3EP  
T: 01284 767681  
M: 07715 050318

E: [info@famearchaeology.co.uk](mailto:info@famearchaeology.co.uk)  
W: [www.famearchaeology.co.uk](http://www.famearchaeology.co.uk)

Heritage Consultation  
Suffolk County Council  
St Peters House (CSD)  
FREEPOST NAT18364  
Ipswich  
Suffolk IP1 2BR

3 January 2012

Dear Sir

### **A new heritage organisation for Suffolk: Public consultation**

I am writing to you on behalf of the Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers (FAME), which represents around 50 businesses providing archaeological services to commercial clients in the development industry throughout the UK.

We welcome the proposed formation of a new heritage organisation for Suffolk.

Suffolk Archaeology currently provides an excellent service to the local community through its outreach and learning programmes, and we welcome the potential enhancement of this role through its integration with the Suffolk Record Office and the Museum of East Anglian Life. We feel sure that Suffolk Archaeology will offer an added perspective on early settlement that will perfectly complement the current focus of the museum, and offer great potential for imaginative interpretation and reconstruction.

Suffolk Archaeology's public face is of course founded on an unrivalled knowledge and experience of the county's archaeology, and a comprehensive and publicly-accessible Historic Environment Record (HER). It is vital that both this expertise and the HER which supports it are maintained, developed and, where possible, enhanced in any future arrangements.

There is also a pressing need to provide long-term, sustainable and publicly-accessible storage facilities for Suffolk's important archaeological archives, and we would welcome and support any proposal to the HLF for funding such facilities.

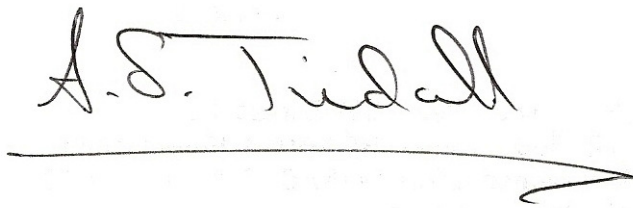
Suffolk Archaeology also has a well-deserved reputation for the quality of its fieldwork, which contributes to sustainable development in accordance with current and proposed planning guidance. The draft National Planning Policy Framework recognises the importance of recording information revealed by development in advancing knowledge and understanding of the past, and of making the results of such work publicly accessible.

It is important that this aspect of the service is maintained and developed, with the necessary safeguards in place to ensure that the service's advisory and contractual roles remain distinct and independent.

Clearly, too, there is a continuing need to invest in the service, to ensure that the employment conditions and career development opportunities of any transferring staff are suitably safeguarded and maintained.

We await further development of these proposals with great interest.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "A.S. Tindall". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal line extending to the right and ending in a small hook.

Adrian Tindall MA FSA MI(A)  
Chief Executive, Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers