



Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers
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Mike Britch

Group Managing Director
NPS Group
Lancaster House,
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18th January 2017

Dear Mr. Britch

NPS Archaeology

As CEO of the Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers, the trade association for commercial archaeology of which NPS are longstanding members, I am writing to offer appropriate support during your review of the viability of your archaeology business.

NPS, and before that the NAU, have carried out some of the most important archaeological projects in the east of England and the possible closure or substantial downsizing of the business would represent a significant loss to archaeological expertise in the region.

FAME exists to represent the interests of employers and managers of archaeological organizations with the primary objective of carrying out commercially-funded and/or grant-aided archaeology. On a day-to-day basis FAME members play an essential role in the protection, enhancement, and increase in understanding, of the historic environment. FAME seeks to:

- Foster, advise upon and promote archaeological policy
- Develop standards of best practice
- Ensure effective management of the archaeological resource

We understand that you are currently in consultation with your staff in respect of potential redundancies and appreciate that no final decisions have yet been taken about the future viability of the archaeological business.

To support this process FAME can offer our considerable knowledge of how commercial archaeology operates in the UK which could be of great help in identifying options for any sustainability of the archaeology business, either within or outside NPS, or for the orderly wind down of activities, the completion of outstanding contractual obligations and the archiving of data and materials.

We fully appreciate that there will be sound commercial reasons behind the decision to review archaeology within NPS. Our focus in this is to continue to provide support to a member, provide an independent and informed viewpoint, and help to ensure that any changes that do take place cause

minimal harm with regards to commercial practice, competition, supplier base, archaeological information and public benefit.

I would welcome the opportunity to discuss this with you soon and will be contacting you again in due course.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nick Shepherd', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nick Shepherd
CEO