



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
W: www.famearchaeology.co.uk

The Worshipful the Mayor of Middlesbrough
Councillor Ray Mallon
Middlesbrough Council
PO Box 500
Middlesbrough TS1 9FT

27 January 2011

Dear Mr Mayor

Tees Archaeology

The Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers (FAME) is concerned to learn that Middlesbrough Council is proposing to withdraw its financial support for Tees Archaeology.

FAME represents around 50 archaeological businesses providing advice and specialist services to commercial clients and developers throughout the UK. Its members have been actively engaged in archaeological excavation, recording and publication in Teesside for many years.

This work has only been made possible through the advice and expertise of Tees Archaeology in informing local planning decisions, promoting sustainable growth and protecting the historic environment of Teesside.

Through its support for Tees Archaeology, the Council is able to meet its obligations, under both current and proposed national planning guidance, which require it to have access to expert advice and an up-to-date Historic Environment Record.

Access to such advice also enables the Council to implement those historic environment policies set out in its statutory Local Development Framework (LDF), which "is in conformity with national and regional planning policies, and seeks to deliver sustainable development to achieve an urban and rural renaissance, whilst protecting the town's historic and natural heritage, landscape and surrounding countryside" (Middlesbrough Council Local Development Scheme, June 2011, 5).

The Council's LDF Adopted Core Strategy (2008) states that "It is all the more important...to conserve more of what little remains of Middlesbrough's good quality heritage" (2.7), and Policy CS4 *Sustainable Development* that all development "will be required to contribute to

achieving sustainable development principles by, where appropriate, protecting and enhancing Middlesbrough's historic heritage and townscape character".

The Core Strategy, acknowledges (1.24) that "the historic environment can play an important part in the regeneration of an area", and requires development to contribute to the delivery and implementation of green infrastructure that "contributes to the protection, conservation and management of historic landscape, archaeological and built heritage assets" (11.7).

Furthermore, the Council states that its LDF Environment Development Plan Document will identify site specific allocations relating to the built and natural environment, and that it will undertake a Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment.

Implementation of these policies in the LDF depends entirely upon the Council having access to the appropriate specialist advice, supported by an up-to-date Historic Environment Record. The most cost-effective way of providing this is through a shared service, such as that provided by Tees Archaeology, which is both more resilient and less costly to administer than recharging or service level agreements.

We fully appreciate the difficult budgetary choices facing the Council, but we urge you to reconsider your proposal to withdraw totally your support for Tees Archaeology.

If the Council does decide to withdraw, we would like to ask you how you intend to implement the policies set out in your statutory LDF and to meet your obligations under current and proposed national planning guidance?

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Adrian Tindall". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Adrian Tindall MA FSA MIfA
Chief Executive, Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers