



Annual Report of the West of Scotland Archaeology Service 2002/03

Summary

This annual report covers the period from 1 April 2002 to 31 March 2003.

New Casework 2002/03

Council Area	Total New Casework Items	Weekly lists	Planning Applications	Other
Argyll & Bute	435	50	210	175
East Ayrshire	183	48	68	67
East Renfrewshire	100	52	32	16
Glasgow	141	51	35	55
Inverclyde	79	48	7	24
North Ayrshire	159	50	52	57
North Lanarkshire	109	50	39	20
Renfrewshire	94	51	33	10
South Ayrshire	116	40	41	35
South Lanarkshire	292	52	158	82
West Dunbartonshire	114	53	38	23
National Park Authority	41	33	4	4
General/More than 1 Council	53			53
Total	1916	578	717	621

During the report period the West of Scotland Archaeology Service dealt with 1916 new casework items (this compares with 1484 in the previous year) and carried out work on a further 305 casework items registered in previous years. Work was therefore carried out on a total of 2221 separate casework items over the year (1755 in the previous year). 578 of the new work items were weekly lists of planning applications received from the 11 Councils, and the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority after 24 July 2002, which were monitored in order to identify planning applications raising archaeological issues. There was a failure in the supply of weekly lists by South Ayrshire Council in late 2002 which led to a 3 month gap in the monitoring of their lists and a consequent reduction in the identified number of planning applications raising archaeological issues in that Council area.

Altogether 717 planning applications were identified as potentially requiring archaeological advice across the area covered by the Archaeology Service, an increase of 21% on the previous year when only 590 applications were so identified. Since the Archaeology Service

was formally established in 1997, there has been a 125 % increase in the workload arising from identifying and commenting on planning applications raising archaeological issues. There is still no indication that the planning application workload of the Service has peaked and most Scottish Councils are currently experiencing a 20-30% increase in the number of submitted planning applications. 305 of the identified 717 applications raised archaeological issues which required advice from the Service, an increase of 28% on the previous year.

Summary Table of Planning Applications 1999-2003

	Nos. Identified for Comment				Nos. Raising Archaeological Issues			
	99/00	00/01	01/02	02/03	99/00	00/01	01/02	02/03
Argyll & Bute	91	111	127	210	42	59	45	90
East Ayrshire	35	49	56	68	13	17	27	23
East Renfrewshire	10	15	30	32	3	3	7	11
Glasgow	16	29	37	35	8	13	18	12
Inverclyde	8	11	3	7	6	3	--	2
North Ayrshire	31	39	52	52	16	22	25	31
North Lanarkshire	14	20	30	39	6	10	14	21
Renfrewshire	28	29	46	33	6	11	20	21
South Ayrshire	39	60	50	40	15	30	25	13
South Lanarkshire	57	77	123	158	25	33	49	66
West Dunbartonshire	19	20	36	38	11	8	9	12
National Park				4				3
Total	348	460	590	717	151	209	239	305

In addition to the weekly lists and planning applications a further 621 items of new work were processed by the Service in 2002/03 (see table below - figures for previous year in brackets).

Pre-planning application enquiries	98 (104)
Development Plan consultations	12 (7)
Permitted development enquiries	55 (47)
Agri-Environment Scheme audits and other matters	114 (88)
Woodland Grant Scheme advice (private)	3 (0)
Forest Design Plans (private)	16 (6)
Other Archaeological Consultations (includes notification of new site information)	100 (40)
Sites and Monuments Record information management matters	138 (44)
Systems development and support matters	16 (1)
General or SMR enquiries	56 (41)
Policy liaison matters	1 (9)
Other (includes items sent in error)	12 (8)
Total	621 (395)

The total number of separate casework items processed by the Service in 2002/03 at 2221 (1916 new casework items plus 305 old casework items) represents an increase of 26.5% in overall caseload when compared with the previous year. Altogether the caseload has increased by 42% since the computerised logging of casework was begun in April 2000. There has been no increase in the staffing complement of the Service to handle this increase in workload. The

Service had only managed to sustain the caseload increase up to 2002 by improvements in its operational methodologies, particularly development of digital systems, but it is now unable to sustain the caseload within its existing staff complement. This is demonstrated by the Service's performance in responding to consultations timeously (see Appendix 1). There was a major drive over the report period to improve the overall performance of the Service in respect of response times to planning applications which was achieved (66% response within 21 days as opposed to 47% the year before), but this was done at the cost of the performance level in respect of monitoring the weekly lists and all other areas of work.

During the report period 8907 (183 the previous year) new records were added to the Sites and Monuments Record database and 8942 (2318 the previous year) existing records were amended. The number of records added and amended was a considerable increase on the previous year, largely resulting from the filling of the the Sites and Monuments Record Officer post in May 2002 and the integration of a new download of data from the National Monuments Record for Scotland. The Sites and Monuments Record Officer continues to be vital to the efficient running of the Archaeology Service, as without the efficiency of its digital data systems the Service would not have been able to sustain the continual annual increases in its caseload. Regrettably the Sites and Monuments Record Officer post is currently filled on a three year fixed term contract because of an underlying financial instability in the Service. This situation needs to be addressed as soon as possible and the post filled on a permanent basis.

The Service prepared 20 briefs or terms of reference to control developer funded archaeological work, 14 for the Councils in connection with evaluation prior to determination of planning applications, or for discharge of conditions on planning consents, 5 for Scottish Water, and 1 for a forestry agent on a chargeable basis. Some of these briefs originated from planning applications or consultations considered first in previous years. Because of the increase in the caseload over the years, the Service now actively avoids time consuming preparation of formal briefs, relying instead on telephone briefing of archaeological contractors acting for developers. This is not an ideal situation and has led to disputes over the details of the Service's requirements for the discharge of conditions.

1 Running the Service

- 1.1 During the report period the Planning Service Level Agreement, which had been under discussion the previous year, was approved by the Joint Committee. The Service Level Agreement sets out the work items covered by the Archaeology Service for the Councils. Any casework falling outside the terms of the agreement is subject to the Service's charging policy. It also sets out the parameters of the performance to be achieved by the Service in dealing with the planning and archaeology remit for the Councils. The Service's performance statistics for the report period are appended for information at the end of the report (Appendix 1). These statistics are exchanged on a regular basis with the West Yorkshire Archaeology Service for comparative purposes. The Archaeology Service consistently performs worse than its benchmark partner in England because it has fewer staff. This matter is currently being addressed using part of the Service's substantial surplus year end (Appendix 2) to employ an assistant archaeologist for a temporary period of 12 months.
- 1.2 The Service's Steering Group met twice throughout the year to consider various matters in connection with the running of the Service, and the Service's Joint Committee once to consider the annual report from the previous year and the 3 year rolled forward financial programme.
- 1.3 Stuart Jeffrey was appointed to the vacant Sites and Monuments Record Officer post in May 2002, initially on a fixed three year term because of the Service's longer term budget position. This is currently under review.
- 1.4 The Service's accounts were in substantial surplus at the end of the report period (see Appendix 2).

2 Sites and Monuments Record Maintenance and Development

- 2.1 Work on the maintenance and development of the Sites and Monuments Record was resumed in the report period with the appointment of the new Sites and Monuments Record Officer. 8907 new site records were added to the Sites and Monuments Record database and 8942 existing site records were amended. Much of this resulted from a new download of data from the National Monuments Record for Scotland (NMRS). It is intended that in future there will be a regular exchange of data with the NMRS.
- 2.2 During the report period the Sites and Monuments Record Officer made a start on clearing the Service's considerable data backlog. This is still ongoing with the help of student volunteers over the summer period and considerable progress is being made.

3 Advice to Argyll & Bute Council

Development Plan Advice

- 3.1 No development plan advice was sought by the Council during the report period.

Development Control Advice

3.2 Over the report period 50 weekly lists were monitored for the Council and 210 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff. In addition further advice was provided in respect of 38 planning applications submitted in previous years. Argyll & Bute Council remained the largest Council user of the development control advice service over the report period.

3.3 The 210 new planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in National Planning Policy Guideline 5 and Planning Advice Note 42:

Refusal of planning application recommended	4
Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required	13
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	14
Archaeological watching brief condition required	50
Avoidance/protection within or to side of development	1
Other condition	1
Refer to Historic Scotland (scheduled monument)	7
No issue or no action possible or necessary	115
Not received	6

Altogether 90 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains. During the period the Archaeology Service prepared 4 briefs or terms of reference to aid the implementation by developers of archaeological conditions attached to planning consents by the Council.

3.4 The four recommendations of refusal of planning consent were all made in connection with simultaneous applications for separate single dwellinghouse plots at Torran Farm, Ford. The recommendations were made on the basis of the direct effects of the proposed developments on known archaeological sites in the area, or the impact the developments would have on the setting of other archaeological sites. In the event the Council decided to grant consent for the proposals notwithstanding this recommendation from the Service, subject to conditions securing archaeological work.

3.5 There continue to be difficulties in securing archaeological work in Argyll & Bute even where the Council has attached archaeological conditions to consents, or where prior evaluation by trial trenching is advisable prior to determination of the planning application as per the advice set out in Planning Advice Note 42. The Service spends considerable amounts of time having to justify why the archaeological work needs to be implemented and why the developer has to pay for it. This can be a problem throughout the area which the Service covers but it is particularly acute on the Argyll islands where the necessary archaeological work adds to the already high cost of development, but where the archaeological heritage is also of a particularly high quality and very well preserved. There has been bad press for the Service on this matter in Argyll for theoretically “stopping” development, although the Service is not aware that any development in Argyll has not proceeded because of archaeological costs. The Service is sympathetic to the difficulties applicants face in meeting the costs.

of archaeological work, and tries hard to find ways and means of minimising the archaeological costs, particularly to single house developers. In cases where the applicants remain aggrieved, they are advised to take the issue up with the Council or the Scottish Executive via Historic Scotland as it may be that thought has to be given to other means of funding necessary archaeological work where there is genuine financial hardship. Unfortunately Historic Scotland has recently issued a circular to the Council archaeologists stating that they will only provide funding for developer led archaeological work in very exceptional circumstances as follows:

- where no party could have reasonably foreseen the extent/quality of the archaeology
- where adequate financial provision including proper contingency/insurance was made
- where the newly identified archaeology is of national importance.

Other Advice within the Council's Area

- 3.6 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 175 other items of casework.
- 3.7 There continue to be a large number of enquiries from private individuals, but sometimes also from Planning Department staff, re proposed development of modern single houses on “ruins”. Some, although not all, of the ruins are part of Argyll’s medieval townships. The Service seeks to provide as good advice as it can regarding the potential archaeological significance of the ruins based on historical map data either held by the Service, or available via the worldwide web from the National Map Library of Scotland. It remains difficult for the Service to judge in many cases whether or not there is an issue, in the absence of adequate documentary or archaeological evidence, and therefore it frequently still recommends archaeological work at the developer’s expense to demonstrate there is not an issue, unless there is clear documentary evidence to the contrary. Little or no active archaeological research is taking place on this type of site in Scotland and it will remain an issue in the medium to longer term. A solution sometimes suggested by the Service is to locate the modern house off, or to the side of, the ruins, but this is sometimes at variance with planning policy which encourages development on older settlement sites.
- 3.8 The Service provided advice to the Council during the report period on proposals for improvements to the airstrips and airport facilities on Coll, Colonsay, and North Connel. All of the proposals raised some degree of archaeological issues with Colonsay being the most acute.

4 Advice to East Ayrshire Council

Development Plan Advice

- 4.1 No development plan advice was sought by the Council during the report period.

Development Control Advice

- 4.2 Over the report period 48 weekly lists were monitored and 68 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the

Archaeology Service or by Council staff. In addition further advice was provided in respect of 25 planning applications submitted in previous years.

- 4.3 The 68 new planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in National Planning Policy Guideline 5 and Planning Advice Note 42:

Refusal of planning application recommended	1
Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required	9
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	6
Archaeological watching brief condition required	7
No issue or no action possible or necessary	42
Not received (requested too late, non material amendments etc)	3

Altogether 23 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains. During the period the Archaeology Service prepared 2 briefs or terms of reference to aid the implementation by developers of archaeological conditions attached to planning consents by the Council.

- 4.4 Refusal of planning consent was recommended in respect of a proposal for a police radio communications installation on Cairnduff Hill, Stewarton, which was directly adjacent to a Bronze Age burial cairn, a prominent local landmark. The Service was first alerted to the planning application by local objectors. Refusal of consent for the installation was recommended on the grounds of impact on the landscape setting of the cairn, and on potential sub-surface, associated archaeological evidence in the area. In the view of the Service the proposal was contrary to the development plan policies for the area which protect archaeological resources.
- 4.5 The Service recommended prior evaluation by trial trenching of an area of ground at Laigh Newton near Loudon Hill proposed as an extension to the sand and gravel works in the area. The sand and gravel works are already known to have removed in the past a Roman fort and an Iron Age palisaded enclosure. The latter was excavated in 1993 prior to its destruction with funding from the quarry operator, Strathclyde Regional Council and Historic Scotland. This was before the advent of National Planning Policy Guideline 5 and Planning Advice Note 42 which make clear that it is the developer's responsibility to fund the archaeological work arising from his proposed development. The recommended evaluation at Laigh Newton took place just after the end of the report period and found a series of pits containing pottery dating to the Neolithic period (that is, about 3000BC). Following an extension of the evaluation trenches to characterise these finds, the Service subsequently recommended the attachment of a variation of the negative suspensive condition contained in Planning Advice Note 42 to secure further excavation of the wider area, should the application be granted.
- 4.6 During the report period there were several planning applications within the historic settlement of Kilmaurs which was erected a burgh of barony in 1527 and which is likely to have existed as a settlement well before that date. The Service provides outlines of the areas of potential archaeological significance within the historic

settlements it covers to all member Councils as part of its digital archaeological consultation trigger maps. Such an area exists for Kilmaurs and the Service recommends the need for archaeological evaluation by trial trenching prior to the Council's determination of planning applications within this area. During the report period there were two such evaluations in Kilmaurs - in the Main Street and in Fenwick Road. Neither produced significant archaeological results in areas close to the site of the market cross and the tolbooth, the latter known to have existed in 1667. The results at the Main Street site, which was in the backland of a plot, have been interpreted as demonstrating that early settlement in Kilmaurs may have been confined to the street frontages with little development in the backlands as was common in larger medieval burghs. The Fenwick Road site is thought to demonstrate that early Kilmaurs did not extend as far north as was first thought and that development in this area did not take place until the 18th century. Once there is more evidence from further evaluations within the archaeological consultation trigger area, the Service will be able to refine the area so that it is more closely targeted, as for example, it has already done for the settlement of Kilbarchan in Renfrewshire following documentary and archaeological work arising from a planning consent.

Other Advice within the Council's Area

- 4.7 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 67 other items of casework.
- 4.8 The Service was contacted during the report period by the developer of a housing site at Mauchline Road, Catrine, who had just discovered the tail race of the lade of the Catrine Mills, most of the waterworks of which are a scheduled ancient monument. The tail race did not form part of the scheduled area and development was well underway. The stone built tail race and lade within the housing site were very well preserved and were causing a severe engineering issue in respect of the foundations of two of the houses. The Service tried hard to reach agreement with the developer re the preservation of the tail race by infilling of the void with aerated concrete which would preserve it *in situ* for the future without damaging the structure, and contacted Historic Scotland re the provision of financial assistance for this. The developer was very sympathetic, but in the event agreement was not reached because of a delay in the offer of financial assistance whilst the developer continued to suffer financial loss through delays to the building programme. Regrettably the tail race and lade were not saved (the roof was breached and infilled with no special material) despite the best efforts of the Service. This is a great pity as much of the rest of the waterworks are preserved, although the mill buildings were demolished in the 1960s.

5 Advice to East Renfrewshire Council

Development Plan Advice

- 5.1 No development plan advice was sought by the Council during the report period.

Development Control Advice

- 5.2 Over the report period 52 weekly lists were monitored and 32 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the

Archaeology Service or by Council staff. In addition further advice was provided in respect of 8 planning applications submitted in previous years.

- 5.3 The 32 new planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in National Planning Policy Guideline 5 and Planning Advice Note 42:

Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required	3
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	4
Archaeological watching brief condition required	3
Other condition	1
No issue or no action possible or necessary	20
Not received (requested too late, non material amendments etc)	1

Altogether 11 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains. During the period the Archaeology Service prepared no briefs or terms of reference to aid the implementation by developers of archaeological conditions attached to planning consents by the Council.

- 5.4 There continued to be large scale greenfield development proposals in East Renfrewshire, mainly for residential development. The Service routinely requests that such proposals within the area it covers, are subjected to prior evaluation by trial trenching, as the absence of recorded archaeological sites cannot be taken to mean there are no such sites. The archaeological record for much of the area, particularly around the conurbation, is very poor through lack of previous work. The sample size of trial trenching that the Service recommends was raised from 2% to 5% of the planning application area during the report period, following a national seminar on the subject at Historic Scotland in October 2002. Studies in England had demonstrated that the optimum sample size is 8% of the application area, but the Service decided to set the sample size at 5% because proposed development areas in Scotland tend to have rolling topography compared with the flat lands of England, and archaeological remains rarely exist on steeper slopes which are normally excluded from archaeological trial trenching. During the report period evaluation of this kind found a prehistoric site at the Mallots Rise development at Newton Mearns, the third find of this kind in two years in East Renfrewshire in advance of development, demonstrating the efficacy of the greenfield evaluation policy. The site at Mallots Rise was the remains of a round house of probable Bronze Age/Iron Age date (that is, any date between about 1500 BC and 500BC). Post-excavation analysis, funded by the developer, is still in progress. Once this is completed, there will be more accurate radio-carbon dates for the house.

Other Advice within the Council's Area

- 5.5 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 16 other items of casework.
- 5.6 The Service continued to provide advice and assistance on a charging basis to the ASH Consulting Group who are the agents for East Renfrewshire and South Lanarkshire Councils in respect of the development of the Glasgow Southern Orbital

road. Arrangements were put in place during the report period for an archaeological watching brief on certain areas of the proposed new road, pre-identified during an earlier evaluation phase by archaeological trial trenching.

6 Advice to Glasgow City Council

Development Plan Advice

- 6.1 Development plan advice was sought by the Council on two separate occasions – in connection with the Strategic Environmental Planning Study of the Potential Development Options of the Gartloch-Gartcosh Study Area, and in connection with an individual archaeological site depicted on the City Plan.

Development Control Advice

- 6.2 Over the report period 51 weekly lists were monitored and 35 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff. In addition further advice was provided in respect of 22 planning applications submitted in previous years.
- 6.3 The 35 new planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in National Planning Policy Guideline 5 and Planning Advice Note 42:

Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required	3
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	3
Archaeological watching brief condition required	3
Standings Buildings Survey condition	1
Avoidance/protection within or to side of development	1
Refer to Historic Scotland (scheduled monument)	1
No issue or no action possible or necessary	8
Not received	15

Altogether 12 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains. During the period the Archaeology Service prepared 3 briefs or terms of reference to aid the implementation by developers of archaeological conditions attached to planning consents by the Council.

- 6.4 During the report period there was archaeological evaluation of a site at 293 Gallowgate where the remains of the Auld Pighoose, or Maxwell's Pighouse pottery and a later infantry barracks were thought to have existed. The barracks, which existed in the late 18th century, gave its name to Barrack Street leading off the Gallowgate. The Auld Pighoose was a pre-modern pottery production site referred to in a legal case during the eighteenth century for which there is documentary evidence. It went out of use before accurate plans of the area were drawn up by the Ordnance Survey. The area was also subject to major change in the late Victorian period with the advent of the railway. The pottery was known to have occupied part of the College lands on, or near, The Butts - the archery practice field later occupied by the infantry barracks shown on Fleming's 1807 survey of the city and on the 1st Edition Ordnance Survey map of the area. The People's Palace Museum has on display three post-medieval green-glazed

storage jars or "pigs" which were found in trench digging works near Barrack Street in the nineteenth century. The evaluation established that most of the footings of the pottery site survive beneath the surface within the proposed development area, along with part of the barracks. The prospective developer of the site has options which include either excavating the site of the pottery, which is likely to be an expensive undertaking, or redesigning his proposals to accommodate its preservation within the development site beneath modern surfaces.

- 6.5 At the very end of the report period arrangements were put in place for archaeological work in the Albion Street/Shuttle Street/College Lane area in fulfilment of an archaeological condition attached to planning consent for a mixed use development. The site was known to be within the area occupied by the Grey Friars in the medieval period. The convent of Franciscan (Grey) Friars in Glasgow was founded in 1473-6, its church being dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary in 1477. It is suggested that the friary was destroyed in the autumn of 1559 during the Reformation, but little is known about its history. The archaeological finds at the site gave rise to considerable press interest, as the practically complete burial ground of the friars was found along with intact burials. Post-excavation analysis of the skeletons will tell us a great deal about the friars and their lives. It is astonishing that the burial ground had survived, in view of the comprehensive demolition of the friary buildings at the Reformation, and the fact that most of the area surrounding the burial ground had been heavily reduced by the cellars of Victorian buildings. A well and fragments of tiles and pottery were also found.

Other Advice within the Council's Area

- 6.6 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 55 other items of casework.
- 6.7 The Service provided information and assistance to the local Councillor in respect of the proposed Bishop's Estate project at Easterhouse which includes the site of the medieval summer palace of the Bishop of Glasgow on Lochwood Farm and the 17th century Provan Hall which is in the ownership of the National Trust for Scotland. The local community would like to have an archaeological excavation of the palace site but this would be a fairly costly undertaking.

7 Advice to Inverclyde Council

Development Plan Advice

- 7.1 No development plan advice was sought by the Council during the report period.

Development Control Advice

- 7.2 Over the report period 48 weekly lists were monitored and 7 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues by the Archaeology Service. In addition further advice was provided in respect of 2 planning applications submitted in previous years.

7.3 The 7 new planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in National Planning Policy Guideline 5 and Planning Advice Note 42:

Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	2
No issue or no action possible or necessary	4
Not received	1

Altogether 2 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

7.4 During the period the Archaeology Service prepared no briefs or terms of reference to aid the implementation by developers of archaeological conditions attached to a planning consent granted in a previous year. The Council's area continues to be quiet in respect of developer funded archaeological work, although during the report period archaeological conditions were requested in respect of proposed major waterfront redevelopment at Gourrock, which was erected a burgh of barony in 1694 and which may well have existed prior to that date. Waterfront redevelopment may reveal traces of earlier wharfage and harbours.

Other Advice within the Council's Area

7.5 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 24 other items of casework.

7.6 The Service provided information and advice to the agents for a developer pursuing the development of a wind farm on Devol Moor behind Greenock. The area proposed for the wind turbines includes the scheduled Roman fortlet on Lurg Moor and the wind farm is therefore likely to raise issues in respect of impacts on the setting of the scheduled monument.

7.7 There continues to be interest in their heritage from members of the public within Inverclyde. For example, the Service provided advice and assistance in respect of a claimed covenanters' well (White's Well) and pulpit on the hillside behind Gourrock, and a stone lined well discovered in Trafalgar Street, Greenock. The exact date of the former is still not clear, and the latter, which is located in the 19th century extension of Greenock, was judged to be pre-modern in date.

8 Advice to North Ayrshire Council

Development Plan Advice

8.1 Requests for comments were received in respect of the preparation of development briefs for four housing sites.

Development Control Advice

8.2 Over the report period 50 weekly lists were monitored and 52 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff. In addition further advice was provided in respect of 23 planning applications submitted in previous years.

8.3 The 52 identified planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in National Planning Policy Guideline 5 and Planning Advice Note 42:

Refusal of planning application recommended	1
Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required	6
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	11
Archaeological watching brief condition required	11
Avoidance/protection within or to side of development	1
Other condition	1
No issue or no action possible or necessary	17
Not received	4

Altogether 31 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains. During the period the Archaeology Service prepared 2 briefs or terms of reference to aid the implementation by developers of archaeological conditions attached to planning consents by the Council.

8.4 Refusal of planning consent was recommended in respect of an application to vary a condition on an earlier consent requiring an archaeological investigation in the High Street, Irvine in advance of development. This case has been ongoing for a number of years with the developer not wishing to have to fund the necessary archaeological work. Irvine is a medieval burgh and this commercial developer is not being required to do any more than all similar applicants in medieval burgh areas throughout Scotland. Irvine is suspected to have well preserved archaeological evidence beneath its modern buildings, as is the case in Ayr.

8.5 During the report period the Service was involved in discussions re the proposed wind farm on Busbie Muir which would affect the setting of Knock Jargon hillfort, a scheduled ancient monument. The Service was able to suggest amendments to the developer's landscape architects in respect of turbine locations which would mitigate the landscape effects on the hillfort, leading to the production of a more acceptable layout for the turbines. The Service was also able to assist in a similar case involving the proposed development of 30 dwelling units adjacent to the scheduled Montfode motte in Ardrossan. A motte is an earth and timber castle of medieval (Norman) date. The difficulty in this case was not only impacts on the setting of the motte but also its intervisibility with the later Montfode Castle to the north, which had superseded the earthwork castle. The Service was able finally to agree with the prospective developer an acceptable compromise layout, which in the Service's view addressed some of the setting objections and advised the Council that, although in principle there was still a case for refusal, the amended application could be approved with the attachment of suitable archaeological conditions to mitigate direct effects on potential sub-surface archaeological evidence surrounding the scheduled monument.

8.6 Archaeological work secured by condition attached to consent for rehabilitation of properties in Eglinton Street and The Cross, Beith identified the remains of a 16th/17th century building embedded in later buildings. Little is known about the history of Beith, although the church is known to date back at least to the 16th century. The

finding of parts of such an early standing building, still intact within later buildings, is unusual, but not unknown in other historic settlements in Ayrshire.

Other Advice

- 8.7 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 57 other items of casework.
- 8.8 The Service continues to receive new archaeological information from members of the public in North Ayrshire for addition to the Sites and Monuments Record, for example, a carved wooden object (unidentified) found near Lamlash, Arran, and a possible reference in a Spanish masonic document to a chapel in Benslie Wood, Kilwinning. The Service has no record of such a chapel but there is a placename Chapelholm Wood, half a mile to the west.

9 Advice to North Lanarkshire Council

Development Plan Advice

- 9.1 No development plan advice was sought by the Council during the report period.

Development Control Advice

- 9.2 Over the report period 50 weekly lists were monitored and 39 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff. In addition further advice was provided in respect of 11 planning application submitted in previous years.
- 9.3 The 39 identified planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in National Planning Policy Guideline 5 and Planning Advice Note 42:
- | | |
|---|----|
| Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required | 11 |
| Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation | 3 |
| Archaeological watching brief condition required | 4 |
| Other condition | 1 |
| Refer to Historic Scotland (scheduled monument) | 2 |
| No issue or no action possible or necessary | 14 |
| Not received | 4 |

Altogether 21 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains. During the period the Archaeology Service prepared 1 brief or terms of reference to aid the implementation by developers of archaeological conditions attached to planning consents by the Council.

- 9.4 There have been a number of greenfield development proposals in North Lanarkshire, where the Service has requested a 5% trial trenching approach prior to determination of the applications by the Council. Where such prior evaluation has taken place, it has not produced the archaeological results which have been the case in East Renfrewshire. It remains to be seen whether this is a factor of different ground conditions, topography, and soils which made parts of North Lanarkshire less

attractive for prehistoric settlement and land use in the past. There have been too few evaluations as yet to judge.

Other Advice within the Council's Area

- 9.5 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 20 other items of casework.
- 9.6 The Service was asked to provide archaeological and historical information on the Monkland Glen by the local community policeman who was planning a school visit. The Service was also involved in discussions re research being conducted by Glasgow University Archaeology Department on industrial heritage sites in Old and New Monkland. The research is being funded by Historic Scotland and is expected to produce geographical information on significant surviving sites for inclusion in the Sites and Monuments Record.

10 Advice to Renfrewshire Council

Development Plan Advice

- 10.1 No advice was sought from the Service in respect of Local Plan preparation within the report period.

Development Control Advice

- 10.2 Over the report period 51 weekly lists were monitored and 33 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff. In addition further advice was provided in respect of 12 planning applications submitted in previous years.
- 10.3 The 33 new planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in National Planning Policy Guideline 5 and Planning Advice Note 42:
- | | |
|---|----|
| Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required | 5 |
| Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation | 8 |
| Archaeological watching brief condition required | 5 |
| Standings Buildings Survey condition | 3 |
| No issue or no action possible or necessary | 11 |
| Not received | 1 |

Altogether 21 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains. During the period the Archaeology Service prepared 1 brief or terms of reference to aid the implementation by developers of archaeological conditions attached to planning consents by the Council.

- 10.4 During the report period there was substantial archaeological work in connection with a condition attached to planning consent for the demolition and rebuilding of the retaining wall of the burial ground attached to Kilbarchan West Parish Church. Although the building of the present church was begun in 1897-8, it is thought to occupy the site of a much earlier chapel and burial ground.. The curving wall of the

existing cemetery is taken to be an indicator of the presence of a pre-Reformation graveyard, possibly dating back to the early medieval period, when circular or sub-circular graveyards were normal. The placename Kilbarchan is also indicative of a much earlier church site. The demolition and substantial disturbance occasioned by the partial collapse of the graveyard wall provided an opportunity to ascertain whether there was any evidence of an earlier church or early burials. The necessary archaeological work was funded by the Council as developer in this case. In the event large numbers of burials had to be archaeologically excavated and reburied elsewhere in the churchyard. None proved to be earlier than the 18th century and no archaeological evidence to substantiate an early church or burials was found. However the documentary research associated with the excavation produced evidence which allowed a re-examination of the extent of the area of potential archaeological significance associated with the early church and settlement of Kilbarchan. The archaeological consultation trigger zone for Kilbarchan has subsequently been redrawn and will be re-supplied to the Council in the next download of digital map information from the Service.

Other Advice within the Council's Area

- 10.5 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 10 other items of casework, most of it pre-application enquiries in respect of proposed development or in respect of permitted developments or statutory undertakings.

11 Advice to South Ayrshire Council

Development Plan Advice

- 11.1 No development plan advice was sought by the Council during the report period.

Development Control Advice

- 11.2 Over the report period 40 weekly lists were monitored and 41 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff. In addition further advice was provided in respect of 24 planning applications submitted in previous years. A failure in the provision of weekly lists of planning applications to the Service for a 3 month period reduced the number of applications requiring archaeological advice from the Service. It is likely that some significant archaeological issues were missed because of this failure.
- 11.3 The 41 new planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in National Planning Policy Guideline 5 and Planning Advice Note 42:
- | | |
|---|----|
| Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required | 4 |
| Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation | 4 |
| Archaeological watching brief condition required | 3 |
| Avoidance/protection within or to side of development | 1 |
| Refer to Historic Scotland (scheduled monument) | 1 |
| No issue or no action possible or necessary | 18 |
| Not received (requested too late, non material amendments etc) | 10 |

Altogether 13 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains. During the period the Archaeology Service prepared no briefs or terms of reference to aid the implementation by developers of archaeological conditions attached to planning consents by the Council.

- 11.4 During the report period substantial archaeological investigation took place in response to an archaeological condition attached to planning consent for the extension to the Kyle Centre in the High Street in Ayr. The extension is to be built on the site of the former Carrick Halls located at the rear of several early burgage plots fronting the High Street. Before archaeological work began it was thought that the site was located on the edge of the oldest parts of the medieval burgh of Ayr – the Sandgate and the north part of the High Street, and that the excavation would prove that development of the High Street, south of Carrick Street had taken place in the later part of the medieval period, or the post-medieval period. The excavation demonstrated that there had in fact been 13th century occupation of the burgage plots, pushing back the previous understanding of the date of occupation in this area by three centuries. Substantial number of small finds were made, including a preserved leather shoe, and there was also well preserved timbers due to the waterlogged nature of the site. There will be a requirement for substantial post-excavation analysis of the finds from the site, which the developer will be expected to fund before the condition attached to the consent will be considered to have been discharged. The results of this excavation are extremely important and have radically altered understanding of the growth of the burgh of Ayr in the medieval period, which is now known to have been more extensive a settlement than previously thought to have been the case.
- 11.5 Archaeological investigations continued at Ailsa View, Doonfoot, Ayr, which had been begun the previous year by a recommendation from the Service of the need for archaeological evaluation by trial trenching prior to determination of the planning application for this greenfield residential development. The full excavation, required as a subsequent condition of planning consent, discovered a range of on-site activity from brief, and intermittent, Mesolithic Hunter-gatherer visits (c 6-7000BC) to Iron Age settlement (c500BC) in the form of the remains of a roundhouse.
- 11.6 Agreement was reached with the developer of a single dwellinghouse at Doonbrae, Alloway, Ayr re suitable foundations to avoid the need for major archaeological excavation of features which had been found during a prior archaeological evaluation the previous year. A radio-carbon date from a ditch crossing the site had produced a date in the 7th century AD, the so called period of the Dark Ages, for which there is little or no historical or archaeological evidence for the west of Scotland. The modification of the house foundation design has avoided the costs of the excavation for the developer, and although no further archaeological information is forthcoming as a result, remaining archaeological evidence on the site has been preserved *in situ*, as per the policy set out in National Planning Policy Guideline 5 on Archaeology and Planning.

Other Advice in the Council's Area

- 11.7 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 35 other items of casework, most of it pre-application enquiries in respect of proposed development or in respect of permitted developments or statutory undertakings.

12 Advice to South Lanarkshire Council

Development Plan Advice

- 12.1 Initial contact was made with the Archaeology Service re the preparation of the Hamilton District Local Plan.

Development Control Advice

- 12.2 Over the report period 52 weekly lists were monitored and 158 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff. In addition further advice was provided in respect of 38 planning applications submitted in previous years.

- 12.3 The 158 identified planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in National Planning Policy Guideline 5 and Planning Advice Note 42:

Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required	14
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	10
Archaeological watching brief condition required	40
Other Condition	2
No issue or no action possible or necessary	78
Not received	14

Altogether 66 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains. During the period the Archaeology Service prepared 1 brief or terms of reference to aid the implementation by developers of archaeological conditions attached to planning consents by the Council.

- 12.4 Archaeological excavation took place at the proposed extension to Annieston sand and gravel quarry near Thankerton in response to an archaeological condition attached to the planning consent. The remains of houses and pits dating to the Neolithic period (c3000BC) were found, plus a fine stone handaxe dating to the same period. As is usually the case in respect of archaeological remains on sand and gravel, there was heavy truncation of the buried archaeological layers as a result of the millennia of later ploughing on the light soils associated with sand and gravel.
- 12.5 It is notable that although South Lanarkshire is the second largest user of the Service in terms of advice on planning applications, it has not been so productive in respect of archaeological results, for example when compared with North and South Ayrshire, East Renfrewshire, or Argyll & Bute, despite being one of the richer archaeological areas of the west of Scotland. There are likely to be several reasons for this – the differing nature and locations of developments, different emphases in respect of

planning policies, differing nature of the soils, and differential degrees of archaeological preservation.

Other Advice within the Council's Area

- 12.6 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 83 other items of casework.
- 12.7 The Service was asked for guidance by the local Councillor and a Community Group in respect of a possible excavation at Lickprivick Castle, East Kilbride. Very little is known about the castle, which is now little more than a grass covered mound, but it is thought to have been pre-17th century in date. The Community Group had managed to obtain some funding and wished to video an excavation. It was explained that such an excavation would be a costly and complex undertaking, but the Service offered instead to assist with a video about the history of the Greenhills area (a member of staff of the Service was interviewed on film), which was duly completed after the end of the report period. The Community Group is now pursuing a bid for possible Time Team excavation of the castle

13 Advice to West Dunbartonshire Council

Development Plan Advice

- 13.1 No development plan advice was sought by the Council during the report period.

Development Control Advice

- 13.2 Over the report period 53 weekly lists were monitored (including one from the previous reporting period) and 38 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff. In addition further advice was provided in respect of 5 planning applications submitted in previous years.

- 13.3 The 38 new planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in National Planning Policy Guideline 5 and Planning Advice Note 42:

Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required	3
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	2
Archaeological watching brief condition required	5
Refer to Historic Scotland (scheduled monument)	2
No issue or no action possible or necessary	22
Not received (requested too late, non material amendments etc)	4

Altogether 12 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains. During the period the Archaeology Service prepared no brief or terms of reference to aid the implementation by developers of archaeological conditions attached to planning consents by the Council.

- 13.4 Archaeological work took place in response to the attachment of an archaeological condition to planning consent for a residential development on the site of the former

Denny Social Club, Woodyard Road, Dumbarton. The site of the proposed development is located on the west side of the River Leven, where it is postulated there may have been a suburb in the medieval period at the end of the bridge from the medieval royal burgh of Dumbarton on the east bank of the river. In the event only modern deposits were found at the site above fluvioglacial sand and gravel, with some intervening soils which were probably traces of the woodland/garden soil around Levensgrove House. The excavation has not disproved the existence of a medieval suburb of Dumbarton west of the Leven and it will require further investigation in the area before the possibility can be finally dismissed. The manor of King Robert I (Robert the Bruce) at Cardross is reputed also to have been located on the west side of the Leven, possibly close to the route from Dumbarton, and this strengthens the case for some form of settlement at the time on this side of the river.

Other Advice within the Council's Area

- 13.5 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 23 other items of casework.
- 13.6 There were a number of requests for Sites and Monuments Record information from members of the public in West Dunbartonshire, including one from a student undertaking Ph.D research on Neolithic sites (that is, dated to about 3000BC) in West Dunbartonshire. There has been little recent archaeological research in the area and survey work of this kind may produce information on unknown sites.

14 Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority

- 14.1 During the report period the new National Park was established and the Service continued to provide development control archaeological advice under interim arrangements agreed with Argyll & Bute and West Dunbartonshire Councils. A chargeable service level agreement is currently being negotiated with the National Park Authority in respect of continuance of advice from the Service.

Development Plan Advice

- 14.2 No development plan advice was sought by the National Park Authority during the report period.

Development Control Advice

- 14.3 Over the report period 33 weekly lists were monitored (from July 2003) and 4 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues by the Archaeology Service or National Park Authority staff.
- 14.4 The 4 new planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in National Planning Policy Guideline 5 and Planning Advice Note 42:
- | | |
|--|---|
| Archaeological watching brief condition required | 3 |
| No issue or no action possible or necessary | 1 |

Altogether 3 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains, none of which was implemented within the report period.

15 Advice to the Scottish Water

- 15.1 There were 63 requests for assistance in connection with Scottish Water proposals over the report period. Most of these were in connection with the upgrading of reservoir security, the provision of stormwater facilities, or the development of renewable energy installations at existing treatment works, rather than more conventional new infrastructure proposal enquiries. The Service continued to provide on behalf of Scottish Water detailed archaeological advice, detailed monitoring of proposals, meetings and discussions as required, terms of reference and briefs (5 in the report period), and monitoring of archaeological contractors in the field. In addition further advice was provided in respect of 14 casework items submitted to the Service in previous years.

16 Agri-Environment Audits

- 16.1 Archaeological audits were supplied on an hourly charging basis to agricultural advisers for 114 agri-environment scheme applications. The sum of £4733 was received from Historic Scotland to help cover the costs of providing the audits, mainly for necessary Sites and Monuments Record work to allow audits to be efficiently prepared, but it also covers requests from agricultural advisers for on-site archaeological management advice. This was a decrease on the previous year when the sum of £6110 was received from Historic Scotland.

17 Public and Professional Relations

- 17.1 During the report period the Service provided one lecture on “Medieval Glasgow” to the Lennox Heritage Society and provided an archaeological input to a seminar on the architecture of Glasgow held at The Lighthouse. The Service is continuing its policy of much less involvement in liaison and publicity matters, because of the pressure of its casework. It is however seeking to react to social inclusion matters as much as possible, for example, by agreeing during the report period to take a student over the summer from Glasgow’s Diverse Groups Student Programme 2003 which aims to give work experience to students with disabilities or from different ethnic backgrounds. This proved to be a great success both for the student, who thoroughly enjoyed her placement although she is not studying archaeology but sociology, and for the Service which got 10 weeks of substantial work on its Sites and Monuments Record data backlog.

Appendix 1

Annual Performance Statistics 2002-2003 (figures for previous year in brackets for comparison)

Weekly lists

The performance standard in the WoSAS Service Level Agreement for this area of work is 90% to be monitored and actioned within 14 calendar days of receipt.

Performance **73.7%** **(81.8%)**

Planning and Listed Building Consultations

The performance standard in the WoSAS Service Level Agreement for this area of work is 80% to be actioned within 21 calendar days of receipt.

Planning Applications

Argyll & Bute	69.8%	(53.4%)
East Ayrshire	68.3%	(49.1%)
East Renfrewshire	74.2%	(41.4%)
Glasgow City	41.7%	(56.3%)
Inverclyde	28.6%	
North Ayrshire	61.2%	(42.9%)
North Lanarkshire	71.9%	(20.8%)
Renfrewshire	64.5%	(44.2%)
South Ayrshire	61.3%	(45.2%)
South Lanarkshire	61.9%	(46.8%)
West Dunbartonshire	75.8%	(50%)
Loch Lomond & Trossachs	75%	
Overall Planning Application Performance	65.8%	(47%)

Listed Building Applications **75%** **(57.1%)**

Other Work Areas

The performance standard agreed with the West Yorkshire Archaeology Service (benchmark partner) for this area of work is 80% to be actioned within 21 calendar days of receipt.

Agri-Environment Scheme Audits	61%	(83.1%)
Pre-Application Enquiries	72.9%	(63.9%)
Permitted Dev/Statutory Undertakings	62.2%	(52.4%)
Forest Design Plan	61.5%	(71.4%)
Woodland Grant Scheme	33.3%	-----
Other Archaeological Consultations	91.1%	(84.2%)
General/SMR Enquiries	82.3%	(89.5%)
Other	71.4%	(85.7%)
Policy Liaison	-----	(75%)
SMR Information Management	33.3%	(78.6%)
SMR Systems Support & Development	87.5%	(100%)
Development Plan Consultations	16.6%	(100%)
Overall Other Work Performance	61.2%	(80.3%)

(SMR Information Management is incoming information for integration to the SMR. In addition there is an ongoing programme of enhancement of SMR data).

Appendix 2
WEST OF SCOTLAND ARCHAEOLOGY SERVICE
REVENUE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2003

	ACTUAL
	2002/03
	£
INCOME	
-DEFICIT/SURPLUS BROUGHT FORWARD	44,920
CORE FUNDING	156,315
Glasgow City Council	11,985
Argyll & Bute Council	22,440
East Ayrshire Council	11,220
East Renfrewshire Council	7,140
Inverclyde Council	7,650
North Ayrshire Council	11,220
North Lanarkshire Council	11,220
Renfrewshire Council	11,220
South Ayrshire Council	11,220
South Lanarkshire Council	15,300
West Dunbartonshire Council	11,220
West of Scotland Water	24,480
OTHER INCOME	23,145
Interest Received	2,496
Fees & Charges	12,107
Other Public Bodies	4,733
Miscellaneous	3,809
	224,380
EXPENDITURE	
EMPLOYEE COSTS	118,221
Salaries - Basic	98,540
Salaries - Superannuation	12,836
Salaries - National Insurance	6,821
Salaries - Allowances	24
PROPERTY COSTS	8,355
Rent & Rates	8,355
SUPPLIES & SERVICES	12,239
Equipment - Purchase and Maintenance	12,239
TRANSPORT & PLANT	4,327
Car Allowances	4,327
ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS	7,564
Printing & Stationery	289
Postages	425
Travel & Subsistence	1,365
Courses, Conferences	485
Host Council Management Charge	5,000
PAYMENTS TO AGENCIES	73
Subscriptions	73
	150,779
SURPLUS CARRIED FORWARD	73,601

The Archaeology Service of the Councils of Argyll & Bute, East Ayrshire, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City, Inverclyde, North Ayrshire, North Lanarkshire, Renfrewshire, South Ayrshire, South Lanarkshire and West Dunbartonshire.