



## Annual Report of the West of Scotland Archaeology Service 2004/05

### Summary

This annual report covers the period from 1 April 2004 to 31 March 2005.

### New Casework 2004/05

Council Area	Total New Casework Items	Weekly lists	Planning Applications	Other
Argyll & Bute	613	53	345	215
East Ayrshire	198	49	82	67
East Renfrewshire	85	50	24	11
Glasgow	165	48	38	79
Inverclyde	58	48	6	4
North Ayrshire	172	46	81	45
North Lanarkshire	105	45	30	30
Renfrewshire	139	51	56	32
South Ayrshire	138	45	29	64
South Lanarkshire	306	52	146	108
West Dunbartonshire	124	50	52	22
West Lothian	167	49	74	44
National Park Authority	77	46	17	14
General/More than 1 Council	23			23
<b>Total</b>	<b>2370</b>	<b>632</b>	<b>980</b>	<b>758</b>

During the report period the West of Scotland Archaeology Service dealt with 2370 new casework items (this compares with 2028 in the previous year) and carried out work on a further 383 casework items registered in previous years. Work was therefore carried out on a total of 2753 separate casework items over the year (2374 in the previous year). 632 of the new work items were weekly lists of planning applications received from the 12 Councils and the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority, which were monitored in order to identify planning applications raising archaeological issues.

Altogether 980 planning applications were identified as potentially requiring archaeological advice across the area covered by the Archaeology Service, an increase of 15.5% on the previous year when only 847 applications were so identified. More than half of this increase was a direct result of West Lothian Council joining the Archaeology Service. Since the

Archaeology Service was formally established in 1997, the workload arising from identifying and commenting on planning applications raising potential archaeological issues has more than tripled in size (317 in 1997-98, 980 in 2004-05). 347 of the identified 980 applications raised archaeological issues which required advice from the Service.

### Summary Table of Planning Applications 2001-2005

	Nos. Identified for Comment				Nos. Raising Archaeological Issues			
	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05	01/02	02/03	03/04	04/05
Argyll & Bute	127	210	280	345	45	90	92	87
East Ayrshire	56	68	85	82	27	23	25	27
East Renfrewshire	30	32	42	24	7	11	13	11
Glasgow	37	35	37	39	18	12	20	21
Inverclyde	3	7	12	6	--	2	5	1
North Ayrshire	52	52	60	81	25	31	24	35
North Lanarkshire	30	39	45	30	14	21	15	18
Renfrewshire	46	33	41	56	20	21	11	22
South Ayrshire	50	40	59	29	25	13	15	11
South Lanarkshire	123	158	133	146	49	66	48	70
West Dunbartonshire	36	38	48	52	9	12	10	13
West Lothian	--	--	--	74	--	--	--	23
National Park	--	4	5	17	--	3	1	8
<b>Total</b>	<b>590</b>	<b>717</b>	<b>847</b>	<b>980</b>	<b>239</b>	<b>305</b>	<b>279</b>	<b>347</b>

In addition to the weekly lists and planning applications a further 758 items of new work were processed by the Service in 2004/05 (see table below - figures for previous year in brackets).

Pre-planning application enquiries	194 (115)
Development Plan consultations	11 (15)
Permitted development enquiries	77 (36)
Agri-Environment Scheme audits and other matters	343 (184)
Woodland Grant Scheme advice	5 (6)
Forest Design Plans	2 (2)
Other Archaeological Consultations (includes notification of new site information)	41 (40)
Sites and Monuments Record information management matters	65 (110)
Systems development and support matters	0 (5)
General or SMR enquiries	12 (54)
Policy liaison matters	1 (3)
Other (includes items sent in error)	7 (12)
<b>Total</b>	<b>758 (582)</b>

The total number of separate casework items processed by the Service in 2004/05 at 2751 (2370 new casework items plus 383 old casework items) represents an increase of 15.9% in overall caseload when compared with the previous year. Altogether the Service's total caseload has increased by 80.4% since the computerised logging of casework was begun in April 2000. There has been no increase in the permanent staffing complement of the Service

to handle this increase in workload, although a temporary member of staff, recruited in 2003, continues to be employed.

During the report period 368 new records were added to the Sites and Monuments Record database mainly by the Archaeology Service staff and by volunteers (1220 the previous year), and 1981 (2177 the previous year) existing records were amended.

As notified in last year's annual report, the Service no longer spends valuable time preparing formal briefs for archaeological work required by the planning process, but proceeds by amendment of Written Schemes of Investigations (WSIs) prepared by private archaeological consultants on behalf of developers. The developers are required by the wording of their planning conditions to submit these WSIs for the approval of member Councils, following agreement to them by the Service. There were 116 recorded archaeological events (excavations, surveys, watching briefs etc) arising from developer funding during the report period, according to precise date information provided to the Service in site reports. There were a number of other developer funded events where no exact date information was provided in reports, but only calendrical year information. In total the Service has records of 171 archaeological events taking place in calendar year 2004, of which 147 were developer funded.

The major developer funded excavation in advance of the construction of the Mid Ross golf course on the west side of Loch Lomond continued over the report period, finally finishing at the end of June 2005. It turned out to be the longest running developer funded excavation ever monitored by the Service, running for a total of 13 months. A lengthy period of post-excavation analysis will now take place before the results of the excavation can be published, all of the funding secured by a Section 75 planning agreement negotiated by the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority.

The most significant excavation during the report period in the areas of the member Councils took place in South Ayrshire in advance of further development of the Craig Tara Holiday Park, Dunure Road, Heads of Ayr, which discovered a multi-phase Bronze Age cist cemetery, comprising of 15 burial features, sealed by the formation of a scrape barrow, into which eight later cist burials had subsequently been inserted. This significant discovery highlights once again the potential of the Ayrshire raised beach for the recovery of buried prehistoric archaeological remains.

## **1 Running the Service**

- 1.1 The Service's Steering Group met once throughout the year to consider various matters in connection with the running of the Service prior to the Service's Joint Committee meeting in October 2004. It was not felt necessary to hold a second meeting in February 2005, as there were no relevant items connected with the running of the Service.
- 1.2 West Lothian Council joined the Service on 1 April 2004 and advice continued to be provided throughout the report period to the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority.
- 1.3 The temporary staff member recruited in October 2003 continued to be employed by the Service throughout the report period. The effect of the additional staff member can be seen in the improved performance statistics for the processing of comments on planning applications (Appendix 1).
- 1.4 The Service's accounts were still in substantial surplus at the end of the report period (see Appendix 2), because of an unexpected increase in external income, largely arising from an increased number of requests for agri-environment scheme audits (see section 17 below). It is still intended that the Service's annual income and expenditure should be brought into balance by 2009-10, with the surplus being gradually reduced by funding the Service's fifth post to assist with the greatly increased workload as long as there is external income to cover its costs. The costs of the temporary post are more than adequately covered by external income at present, but it is essential for the stability of the Service that by 2009-10 the costs of the four permanent Service posts should be met by the member Councils through the planned increases in annual member contribution levels. The planned financial programme to 2009-10 has been agreed in principle by the Service's Joint Committee, but is subject to annual adjustments in the light of pertaining circumstances.

## **2 Sites and Monuments Record Maintenance and Development**

- 2.1 Work on the maintenance and development of the Sites and Monuments Record was continued during the report period. 368 new site records were added to the Sites and Monuments Record database and 1981 existing site records were amended.
- 2.2 The Service continued to benefit from work by student and graduate volunteers to clear the backlog of Sites and Monuments Record data entry. It is a requirement of the archaeology degree course at the University of Glasgow that students should have several weeks of appropriate work experience as part of their qualification. Work for the Sites and Monuments Record is recognised by the University as appropriate experience.

### 3 Advice to Argyll & Bute Council

#### Development Plan Advice

- 3.1 During the report period the Service provided further comments on the draft Argyll & Bute Local Plan.

#### Development Control Advice

- 3.2 Over the report period 53 weekly lists were monitored for the Council (the extra week may have been an overrun from the previous year) and 345 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff. In addition further work was done in respect of 58 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 345 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	9
Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required	17
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	27
Archaeological watching brief condition required	19
Standings Buildings Survey condition	1
Avoidance/protection within or to side of development	9
Other condition	4
Refer to Historic Scotland (scheduled monument)	1
No issue or no action possible or necessary	251
Not received	7

Altogether 87 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 3.4 Recommendations of refusal on archaeological grounds were made in respect of nine planning applications – a very high number in one Council area in any one year. All except one of the refusal recommendations were in respect of small scale housing applications, either within, or in immediate proximity to, Scheduled Ancient Monuments. Reasons for recommending refusal were either the direct effects on the Scheduled Ancient Monument, or the potential impacts on the setting of the Monument, all contrary to both national and development plan policies. There was a very noticeable increase in applications affecting Scheduled Ancient Monuments in Argyll during the report period with a consequent increase in workload from that source. A factor in the increase in applications is thought to be the inclusion in the draft Argyll Local Plan of areas of land designated as rural development opportunities, encouraging housing applications, particularly single dwellings. The draft Local Plan makes clear that development in these areas must also meet the environmental policies of the Local Plan which protect Scheduled Ancient Monuments and archaeological sites, but the non-inclusion of the locations of the Scheduled Ancient Monuments on the draft Local Plan maps is making it difficult for applicants to reconcile the two

policies. During the report period the Service recommended to the Council as part of its further comments on the draft Local Plan, that information on the locations of Scheduled Ancient Monuments should be made more easily available to prospective planning applicants. The Council has undertaken to find ways of supplying this supplementary information.

- 3.5 During the report period in common with most of the other member Councils, there were several pre-application enquiries and planning applications in connection with proposed PPP new schools projects. Archaeological evaluations by trial trenching took place on the sites of the proposed new Lochgilphead School Campus, the Joint Primary and Secondary School Campus at Rothesay, and the proposed new Hermitage Academy, Helensburgh. Archaeological remains consisting of trenches, pits, postholes, slag, charcoal and animal bone of unknown date were found at the site of the proposed Lochgilphead Campus and further work is to take place.
- 3.6 Significant prehistoric remains were found during an archaeological watching brief during foundation digging in connection with the erection of a new dwelling house on a plot adjacent to Nerabus Cottages, Port Charlotte, Isle of Islay. The remains consisted of an arc of postholes from a round house, a hearth and several stone tools.

#### **Other Advice within the Council's Area**

- 3.7 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 215 other items of casework.
- 3.8 There were an increased number of enquiries in connection with proposed sites for small scale housing developments during the report period. It is thought that this increase is also a result of the inclusion of areas for rural development opportunities in the draft Argyll & Bute Local Plan.
- 3.9 There continued to be contact with Kilmartin House Museum during the report period. The Museum curator requested extract Sites and Monuments Record data for areas which she hopes to survey and has agreed to provide new information to update the record in return. The University of Cambridge, which is undertaking a programme of archaeological work on Lismore each summer, continues to keep the Service aware of its plans.

## **4 Advice to East Ayrshire Council**

### **Development Plan Advice**

- 4.1 No development plan advice was supplied to the Council during the report period.

### **Development Control Advice**

- 4.2 Over the report period 49 weekly lists were monitored and 82 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff. In addition further work was done in respect of 22 planning applications submitted in previous years.

- 4.3 The 82 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	7
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	11
Archaeological watching brief condition required	8
Standings Buildings Survey condition	1
No issue or no action possible or necessary	44
Not received (requested too late, non material amendments etc)	10

Altogether 27 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 4.4 Trial trenching in advance of a proposed residential development on land east of Moorfield Roundabout, Crosshouse Road, Kilmarnock, uncovered the remains of a kiln. Excavation of the kiln and surrounding area demonstrated that the kiln was an isolated feature and had been a cereal, probably corn, drying kiln. Several sherds of pottery recovered from the kiln flue have been preliminarily dated to the late medieval period and appear to have been deposited in the structure after its abandonment. This means that the kiln is potentially earlier than the late medieval period (that is earlier than the 15<sup>th</sup> to the 17<sup>th</sup> centuries). Post-excavation analysis may help to establish a more definite date for the kiln. There should of course be a settlement somewhere in the area associated with the kiln, but this was not discovered within the boundaries of the proposed development.

### **Other Advice within the Council's Area**

- 4.5 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 67 other items of casework.
- 4.6 There continued to be a number of pre-application enquiries re prospective windfarm development in common with other member Council areas.

## **5 Advice to East Renfrewshire Council**

### **Development Plan Advice**

- 5.1 No development plan advice was supplied to the Council during the report period.

### **Development Control Advice**

- 5.2 Over the report period 50 weekly lists were monitored and 24 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff. In addition further work was done in respect of 12 planning applications submitted in previous years.

- 5.3 The 24 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	1
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	8
Archaeological watching brief condition required	2
No issue or no action possible or necessary	12
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.

- 5.4 There were four planning applications in respect of the White Cart Flood Prevention Scheme. The Service had been fully consulted in connection with the preparation of the Environmental Statement for the scheme. The Environmental Statement concluded that if consent were to be granted, there would require to be a range of archaeological mitigation works. The negative suspensive archaeological condition was recommended to the Council for attachment to all consents to ensure that all proposed archaeological mitigation works are secured.
- 5.5 Archaeological evaluation by trial trenching of the sites of the proposed new Mearns Castle and Williamwood High Schools (PPP projects) failed to yield either archaeological deposits or artefacts.

### **Other Advice within the Council's Area**

- 5.6 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 11 other items of casework.
- 5.7 Two reports of archaeological survey were received from local amateur archaeological groups in the East Renfrewshire area for inclusion in the Sites and Monuments Record – namely ACFA Occasional Paper No. 6, Blackhouse, Castlehill & Crosslees and Archaeological Survey of lands of Langlee, Bennan and Shieldhill.



## 6 Advice to Glasgow City Council

### Development Plan Advice

- 6.1 During the report period no development plan advice was supplied to the Council. The Service's views were sought in connection with a proposed Masterplan for the Govan area including the area of the church and the former Doomster Hill, both of which date back to the Early Historic period and the British Kingdom of Strathclyde (that is pre-1000 AD).

### Development Control Advice

- 6.2 Over the report period 48 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 work was done in respect of 27 planning applications submitted in previous years.

- 6.3 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	2
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	8
Archaeological watching brief condition required	8
Other condition	3
No issue or no action possible or necessary	14
Not received	3

Altogether 21 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 6.4 During the report period the reburial of the skeletons recovered by the developer funded archaeological excavation on the site of the 15<sup>th</sup> century Franciscan Friary (reported in last year's annual report) took place at the Southern Necropolis, following a service at the Catholic Cathedral conducted by Archbishop Conti. The skeletons are thought to be the remains of the Friary's 15<sup>th</sup> century secular benefactors and were discovered within the area of the former friary cloister. The excavation and the discovery of the skeletons was a catalyst for a decision by the City Council in 2004 to draft a Local History and Archaeology Strategy for the City. A member/officer working group has been created to oversee the task, including 15 City Councillors, one of them the Chair of the Archaeology Service Joint Committee. Two new posts have also been created by the City Council specifically to undertake the work arising from the Strategy, one of which will be hosted by the Archaeology Service (at no cost to the Service) on behalf of the Council's Development & Regeneration Services Department. The post is expected to be filled from November 2005. This is the first time that a high profile developer funded excavation in the Service's area will have led directly to the development and funding of related work in archaeological education, interpretation, and visitor services by a member Council, work which the Service cannot itself undertake as it is excluded from its Service Level Agreement with the member Councils, but with which it is very happy to co-operate at no cost to the other members.

- 6.5 Developer funded excavations at Gallowgate/Watson Street/Bell Street, Glasgow found small islands of surviving archaeology from the early period of the burgh's history, including truncated rubbish pits from the 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> centuries and a later well. The surviving islands of archaeology were between and underneath Victorian cellars.

#### **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 79 other items of casework.
- 6.7 There were 30 requests for information and assistance from Council officers in respect of proposed new school sites. Archaeological evaluation by trial trenching in respect of the proposed new build Drumry Primary School on the site of the Peel of Drumry demonstrated that when the 16<sup>th</sup> century Peel was demolished by the Corporation of Glasgow in 1958, all archaeological deposits had been scraped off the site and no archaeological evidence of the former towerhouse remained.

### **7 Advice to Inverclyde Council**

#### **Development Plan Advice**

- 7.1 No development plan advice was supplied to the Council during the report period.

#### **Development Control Advice**

- 7.2 Over the report period 48 weekly lists were monitored and 6 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues by the Archaeology Service. In addition further work was done in respect of 4 planning applications submitted in previous years.
- 7.3 The 6 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 | 1 |
| No issue or no action possible or necessary      | 5 |

Altogether 1 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 7.4 Archaeological evaluation by trial trenching of some cairns within an area proposed for a short term quarry at Harelaw, by Port Glasgow, demonstrated that they were clearance cairns containing no features or finds of archaeological significance, rather than Bronze Age burial cairns.

#### **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 4 other items of casework.

- 7.6 Advice was sought from geotechnical engineers working on the Gourrock Ropeworks site about a claimed burial ground in the area and the legal position re disturbance or disinterment of human burials. In the event the burial ground in question appeared to be outside the boundaries of the proposed development.

## **8 Advice to North Ayrshire Council**

### **Development Plan Advice**

- 8.1 No development plan advice was supplied to the Council during the report period.

### **Development Control Advice**

- 8.2 Over the report period 46 weekly lists were monitored and 81 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff. In addition further work was done in respect of 20 planning applications submitted in previous years.

- 8.3 The 81 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	10
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	12
Archaeological watching brief condition required	13
No issue or no action possible or necessary	35
Not received	11

Altogether 35 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 8.4 Archaeological evaluation at the site of the proposed new Arran High School, Lamblash found an oval scoop and pit or post-hole complex. The feature complex contained charcoal, burnt bone and a single nodule of slag. This feature has been tentatively interpreted by the excavator as a fire pit with an associated structure or windbreak, but it is more likely that it is a Neolithic or Bronze Age burial or ritual feature, an interpretation supported by the finding of a Bronze Age cist at the other end of the site during further evaluation after the end of the report period. These finds demonstrate yet again the rich archaeological potential of the Isle of Arran, although archaeological material is not recovered on all proposed development sites. For example, evaluation by trial trenching in advance of a proposed housing development at Glencloy, Brodick failed to find any archaeological evidence.

### **Other Advice**

- 8.5 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 45 other items of casework.
- 8.6 There was an enquiry from a member of the public researching the Jews harp and was interested in Piperhaugh Village in this connection, claiming it as a production site. The Sites and Monuments Record contains no information on this historical matter,

but readily available details, including a copy of the first edition 6 inch Ordnance Survey map were supplied to the enquirer.

## **9 Advice to North Lanarkshire Council**

### **Development Plan Advice**

- 9.1 No development plan advice was supplied to the Council during the report period.

### **Development Control Advice**

- 9.2 Over the report period 45 weekly lists were monitored and 30 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff. In addition further work was done in respect of 17 planning application submitted in previous years.

- 9.3 The 30 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	5
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	8
Archaeological watching brief condition required	2
Other condition	1
Refer to Historic Scotland (scheduled monument)	1
No issue or no action possible or necessary	9
Not received	3

Altogether 18 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 9.4 Refusal of planning consent on archaeological grounds was recommended in respect of a residential development at land to the east of Nethercroy Road, Croy. The proposed development would directly affect the Antonine Wall at this site. The Wall is protected by development plan policy, most of it is a Scheduled Ancient Monument, and Scottish Ministers propose to nominate it in 2007 as a World Heritage Site. The grant of outline planning consent was also opposed by Historic Scotland.
- 9.5 Archaeological evaluation at the Westway Retail Park, Castlecary Road, Cumbernauld (OKI site) discovered a ditch of probable Roman date under 1.5 metres or more of made ground. The site is south of the Antonine Wall and a Roman temporary camp had been recorded in the area, likely to have been a construction camp when the Wall was being built in the early 140s AD. The western half of the camp which lay within the proposed development area of the retail park was thought to have been destroyed by an earlier factory development, which proved not to be the case. The eastern half of the camp, which had been in open fields, had already been tested in advance of a factory development in 1998 when no trace had been found. It is remarkable that the western half of the camp has survived, clearly protected by landfill as part of an earlier development.

### **Other Advice within the Council's Area**

- 9.6 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 30 other items of casework.
- 9.7 Information and advice was sought in relation to a number of proposed wind farm developments and PPP schools projects.

## **10 Advice to Renfrewshire Council**

### **Development Plan Advice**

- 10.1 No development plan advice was supplied to the Council during the report period.

### **Development Control Advice**

- 10.2 Over the report period 51 weekly lists were monitored and 56 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff. In addition further work was done in respect of 10 planning applications submitted in previous years.

- 10.3 The 56 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	10
Archaeological watching brief condition required	6
Standings Buildings Survey condition	1
Other condition	1
No issue or no action possible or necessary	27
Not received	7

Altogether 22 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 10.4 An archaeological watching brief was carried out on ground to rear of 5-7 West Brae, Paisley during the construction of a two storey block of flats. The development area is located south west of the John Nielson Institute, Oakshaw, which is reputed to have been built on the site of a multiple ditched prehistoric hillfort. It was possible that remains of a ditch or other features could have survived in the area. The watching brief identified that the site had suffered from extensive truncation from previous development works and as a result no archaeological features, even if they had been present, would have survived.

### **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 32 other items of casework.
- 10.6 A member of the public expressed concern to the Council about roadworks to at St Andrews Cross, Renfrew with possible disturbance to the cenotaph which she claimed was an old construction with connection to the Knights Templar. The Service was able

to reassure her that the Cenotaph which is in the form of a mercat cross and was unveiled in 1921, is a recent construction with no medieval connections.

## **11 Advice to South Ayrshire Council**

### **Development Plan Advice**

- 11.1 No development plan advice was supplied to the Council during the report period.

### **Development Control Advice**

- 11.2 Over the report period 45 weekly lists were monitored and 29 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff. In addition further work was done in respect of 21 planning applications submitted in previous years.

- 11.3 The 29 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	1
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	3
Archaeological watching brief condition required	6
Other condition	1
No issue or no action possible or necessary	14
Not received (requested too late, non material amendments etc)	4

Altogether 11 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 11.4 Archaeological excavation in advance of further development of the Craig Tara Holiday Park, Dunure Road, Heads of Ayr, discovered a multi-phase Bronze Age cist cemetery, comprising of 15 burial features, sealed by the formation of a scrape barrow, into which eight later cist burials had subsequently been inserted. In total 11 cremation deposits were recovered from the various contexts, as well as seven intact food vessels and a flint knife. The quantity of archaeological information recovered during the excavations at Dunure Road was both extensive and potentially highly significant for enhancing the understanding of Bronze Age Scotland. This significant discovery highlights once again the potential of the Ayrshire raised beach for the recovery of buried archaeological remains. Several important prehistoric sites have now been found in this topographical context.

### **Other Advice in the Council's Area**

- 11.5 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 64 other items of casework, most of it pre-application enquiries in respect of proposed development or in respect of permitted developments or statutory undertakings.
- 11.6 There were a number of requests for information and advice in connection with proposed wind farms and road improvements.

## 12 Advice to South Lanarkshire Council

### Development Plan Advice

- 12.1 During the report archaeological information was supplied to consultants acting for the Council in respect of Strategic Environmental Assessment of the South Lanarkshire Local Plan.

### Development Control Advice

- 12.2 Over the report period 52 weekly lists were monitored (two possibly a carry over from the previous report period) and 146 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff. In addition further work was done in respect of 72 planning applications submitted in previous years. South Lanarkshire Council remained the second largest Council user of the Archaeology Service during the report period.

- 12.3 The 146 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	25
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	19
Archaeological watching brief condition required	22
Standings Buildings Survey condition	1
Other Condition	1
Refer to Historic Scotland (scheduled monument)	2
No issue or no action possible or necessary	68
Not received	8

Altogether 70 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 12.4 Archaeological recording was commissioned by New Lanark Conservation Trust in a discrete area of Mill Number Two in response to a planning condition attached to consent for the building of a swimming pool within the mill building. Excavation for the pool afforded the opportunity to examine the evidence for the survival of features relating to the original 1788 configuration. Most evidence came from sectional information only, but demonstrated the sequence of construction and modifications.
- 12.5 Archaeological excavation at High Parks Farm, Cleghorn prior to housing development uncovered the line of a Roman road in the area and also found some medieval and post medieval pottery in the topsoil. No other finds were found surrounding the road and no evidence of its Roman date.
- 12.6 An archaeological watching brief was undertaken in the proximity of the site of Annieston Tower, Annieston Grange, Symington prior to residential development. Only one moderately significant archaeological feature was observed. This comprised a shallow curvilinear ditch. While the base of a moulded green glass bottle was recovered from the top layer of this ditch, no secure dating evidence was recovered. It was evident that the feature was heavily plough truncated and was shallow as a

consequence. It is frequently the case that buried archaeological features have been slighted by ploughing, particularly modern deep ploughing, destroying their archaeological evidence, unless there are specific local conditions which have contributed to a build up of soil over the feature.

#### **Other Advice within the Council's Area**

- 12.7 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 108 other items of casework.
- 12.8 The Service was contacted by the Council's roads department after Transco had found a well during ground-breaking works for renewal of the gas main in the road outside St Nicholas Church, Bloomgate, Lanark. Transco was advised to obtain the services of a private archaeological consultant to record the well before further pipework took place. The well was revealed to be 5m in depth and partially filled with water. The remains of a timber circle and an iron plate and fastenings were found. It was recorded in situ before being capped and in-filled with hardcore. Nothing is known about the date of the well but it may be fairly early.

### **13 Advice to West Dunbartonshire Council**

#### **Development Plan Advice**

- 13.1 Advice was provided to the Council during the report period in respect of the draft West Dunbartonshire Local Plan.

#### **Development Control Advice**

- 13.2 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 work was done in respect of 22 planning applications submitted in previous years.
- 13.3 The 52 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 | 2  |
| Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation       | 6  |
| Archaeological watching brief condition required                        | 4  |
| Refer to Historic Scotland (scheduled monument)                         | 1  |
| No issue or no action possible or necessary                             | 36 |
| Not received (requested too late, non material amendments etc)          | 3  |

Altogether 13 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 13.4 Archaeological evaluation in advance of a housing development at Roman Court, Duntocher failed to find any trace of the Antonine Wall in this area. The area proposed for housing was adjacent to the Duntocher Burn and it was hoped to find evidence of how the Roman engineers had handled the burn crossing whilst maintaining the barrier.



### **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 22 other items of casework.
- 13.6 There continued to be enquiries about potential developments on the site of the terminal Antonine Wall fort at Old Kilpatrick, partially under a disused bus station being marketed by its owners. Only a small part of the area of the fort is a Scheduled Ancient Monument but it is known that archaeological remains survive below the concrete sub-base of the bus station. All prospective developers were advised that development plan policies afford protection to the Antonine Wall, that it is shortly to be nominated as a World Heritage Site, that the costs of excavation are likely to be so high that they could outweigh the profit from any development, and that if prospective developers wish to persist with an application for planning consent, they should design their proposals to leave the existing concrete sub-base in situ and disturb the site as little as possible. The matter of the site's future was raised by the Service in its comments to the Council in respect of the draft West Dunbartonshire Local Plan.

## **14 Advice to West Lothian Council**

### **Development Plan Advice**

- 14.1 Archaeological comments and suggested amendments to the Heritage Section of the draft West Lothian Local Plan were provided to the Council's Conservation officer .

### **Development Control Advice**

- 14.2 Over the report period 49 weekly lists were monitored and 74 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff.
- 14.3 The 74 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 | 12 |
| Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation       | 4  |
| Archaeological watching brief condition required                        | 3  |
| Other Condition   | 4  |
| No issue or no action possible or necessary                             | 33 |
| Not received  | 18 |

Altogether 23 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 14.4 Service staff provided a continuing professional development training session for West Lothian Council planning staff at the start of the report period, as the Council had newly joined the Archaeology Service.
- 14.5 An archaeological watching brief took place on groundworks associated with the creation of a new play area for a children's nursery at 216 High Street, Linlithgow

within the area of the medieval burgh. The groundworks at the tail of the plot revealed 3 lime-mortared sandstone walls from an earlier phase of town development. It was not possible to establish a date for the walls and there is no indication of a building at this location on 19<sup>th</sup> century and later maps. The presence of the walls indicates that modern development has not removed all earlier remains in this area and that significant archaeological deposits could survive at a greater depth. The walls were preserved in situ.

#### **Other Advice within the Council's Area**

- 14.6 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 44 other items of casework.
- 14.7 The finding of a network of tunnels during the building of a canalside Restaurant near Linlithgow was reported to the Service amidst claims in the local and national press that the farm where they were found was once farmed by monks attached to Linlithgow Palace and that the tunnels may date back to late medieval times. A member of the Service visited the site. It is more likely that the tunnels were for drainage and were built in the early 19th century during a period of extensive improvement of farm land in West Lothian.

### **15 The Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority**

- 15.1 Archaeological advice is provided to the National Park Authority under the terms of a chargeable Service Level Agreement. In the year 2004-05 the National Park Authority paid the Service £14801.33 for archaeological advice.

#### **Development Plan Advice**

- 15.2 The Service continued to provide advice to the National Park Authority throughout the report period in connection with the preparation of the Park Plan, including attendance at cultural heritage special qualities workshops and meetings.

#### **Development Control Advice**

- 15.3 Over the report period 46 weekly lists were monitored and 17 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues by the Archaeology Service or National Park Authority staff. In addition further advice was provided in respect of 2 planning applications submitted in previous years.
- 15.4 The 17 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       | 3 |
| Archaeological watching brief condition required                        | 1 |
| No issue or no action possible or necessary                             | 9 |

Altogether 8 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 15.5 The major archaeological excavation at Midross continued throughout the report period. In addition the Service provided advice to the National Park Authority in connection with the proposed development of the second golf course at Rossdhu House, adjacent to the area of the Midross golf course. It is anticipated that development of this second golf course will also raise archaeological issues.

### **Other Advice within the National Park Authority's Area**

- 15.6 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including National Park Authority staff, in respect of 14 other items of casework. As part of the Service Level Agreement with the Park Authority, advice is provided to the Forestry Commission on Woodland Grant Scheme applications. The Service provided comments on 5 such applications within the report period.

### **16 Advice to the Scottish Water**

- 16.1 There were requests for assistance in connection with Scottish Water proposals over the report period. The previous informal annual retainer arrangement with Scottish Water had ceased at the end of the previous report period, and all new work was therefore charged at the Service's normal hourly charge rate. This raised income of £2,300. In the event the loss of the Scottish Water retainer raised no financial issues for the Service as it was offset during the report period by increased income from the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority, from West Lothian Council (new Service member), and from the large increase in requests for chargeable agri-environment audits.

### **17 Agri-Environment Audits**

- 17.1 Archaeological audits were supplied on an hourly charging basis to agricultural advisers for 343 agri-environment scheme applications (184 the previous year, representing an increase in workload of 86.4%). This raised income of £14,525 for the Service. In addition the sum of £4,827.80 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, although in practice there was little or no staff time available for farm visits.
- 17.2 The provision of audits represents a considerable burden on the Service's staff resources, particularly in the period December to end of March. Although sufficient income is brought in from charging for the work to cover the costs of employing a temporary staff member, that staff member becomes unavailable for other Service work during the busiest months. This same work overload also happens in several other Council archaeology services in Scotland. In an effort to try to overcome the work overload caused by the provision of archaeological advice to agri-environment schemes, the Council archaeologists, via their professional Association (ARIA), opened negotiations with Historic Scotland and the Scottish Executive Environment and Rural Affairs Department (SEERAD) during the report period in an effort to find another solution by provision of digital archaeological information in GIS format for

online consultation by farmers and agricultural advisers. The provision of such GIS information by the Scottish Sites and Monuments Record would require substantial financial investment from the Scottish Executive. Discussions were still in progress at the end of the report period with the Service being contracted by Historic Scotland at the beginning of 2005-06 to prepare a report on the current readiness of the Scottish Sites and Monuments Records to provide the necessary digital information to the Executive. If funding for the digital project can be achieved, delivery of the GIS information is expected to take 2 years. The advantage of going down this route is that it should free up staff resources to provide better management advice to farmers, rather than the time being spent producing manual data for avoidance purposes. Income from the provision of management advice to agricultural advisers and farmers would still be expected to flow in future, but possibly at a lower level as less time would be spent on data collation.

## **18 Outreach**

- 18.1 After a gap of a couple of years, the Service restarted its conference series in November 2004. The conference which was held at the Western Infirmary Lecture Theatre was well attended. Papers were given on a variety of topics, including the ongoing excavations at Midross, Loch Lomond; a synthesis of the findings from several recent excavations in historic Ayr; the excavation of a palisaded site on the line of the Glasgow Southern Orbital Road, East Renfrewshire which proved to be the first firmly dated Dark Age settlement site to be found in the west of Scotland; the excavations of part of medieval Dreghorn in North Ayrshire; and the excavations at the Old Pighoose Pottery site in the Gallowgate, Glasgow. The Service is grateful to the staff of the commercial archaeological contractors who were prepared to give their time to speak at the conference. Most of the papers given were the result of developer funded archaeology arising from the attachment of conditions to planning consents.

## Appendix 1

### Annual Performance Statistics 2004-2005 (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** **61.5%** **(50%)**

#### 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	83.5%	(64.6%)
East Ayrshire	80.3%	(58.7%)
East Renfrewshire	62.5%	(69.0%)
Glasgow City	57.1%	(46.9%)
Inverclyde	50.0%	(22.2%)
North Ayrshire	64.3%	(50.0%)
North Lanarkshire	65.5%	(53.7%)
Renfrewshire	80.4%	(61.0%)
South Ayrshire	61.5%	(48.9%)
South Lanarkshire	75.0%	(55.4%)
West Dunbartonshire	76.0%	(79.2%)
West Lothian	76.8%	-----
Loch Lomond & Trossachs	70.6%	(100%)
<b>Overall Planning Application Performance</b>	<b>76.3%</b>	<b>(60%)</b>

#### 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	99.7%	(54.6%)
Pre-Application Enquiries	74.1%	(55.8%)
Permitted Dev/Statutory Undertakings	73.0%	(64.2%)
Forest Design Plan	100.0%	(60.0%)
Woodland Grant Scheme	80.0%	(100%)
Other Archaeological Consultations	75.8%	(61.3%)
General/SMR Enquiries	64.3%	(92.6%)
Other	40.0%	(50.0%)
Policy Liaison	100%	-----
SMR Information Management	5.7%	(92.3%)
SMR Systems Support & Development	100%	(100%)
<b>Overall Other Work Performance</b>	<b>73.97%</b>	<b>(72.7%)</b>

(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 2005**

**Balance B/fwd 01/04/04** 115,152.56

**INCOME**

**Core Funding**

Glasgow City Council (net)	7,725.00	
Argyll & Bute Council	22,467.00	
East Ayrshire Council	11,944.00	
East Renfrewshire Council	7,783.00	
Inverclyde Council	8,303.00	
North Ayrshire Council	11,944.00	
North Lanarkshire Council	11,944.00	
Renfrewshire Council	11,944.00	
South Ayrshire Council	11,944.00	
South Lanarkshire Council	16,106.00	
West Dunbartonshire Council	11,372.00	
West Lothian Council (balance, rest paid in 2003-04)	4,944.00	
		138,420.00

**Other Income**

Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority	14,801.33	
HS grant aid (IPF SMR)	1,000.00	
HS agri-environment support	4,827.80	
HS grant aid portal report	2,850.00	
Misc	22,415.00	
		45,894.13

**Interest Received On Balances (to be paid in 2005-06)**

**TOTAL INCOME** 184,314.13

299,466.69

**EXPENDITURE**

**Employee Costs**

Salaries -	Basic	136,571.36	
	Supn.	19,550.09	
	N.I.	10,633.52	
	Allowances	227.92	
			166,982.89

**Supplies & Services**

Equipment Purchase & Maintenance	7,890.27	
Catering	466.90	
		8,357.17

**Transport**

Car Allowances		5,759.21
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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.

<b>Administration Costs</b>		
Rents	8,733.00	
Fixtures & Fittings	643.12	
Printing & Stationary	639.90	
Telephones	291.40	
Postage	487.79	
Subsistence & Travel	3,215.34	
		14,010.55
<b>Payment To Agencies</b>		
Subscriptions		266.50
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURE</b>		195,376.32
<b>Balance c/fwd @ 31/03/05</b>		104,090.37
		<b>299,466.69</b>