



## Annual Report of the West of Scotland Archaeology Service 2013/14

### Summary

This annual report covers the period from 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014.

During the report period the West of Scotland Archaeology Service dealt with 1999 new casework items, 36 more than in the previous year. This 1.8% increase is despite an estimated 4% drop in casework generation as a result of the withdrawal of Inverclyde Council from the Service at the beginning of the report period. This is the fourth consecutive year in which casework demands have grown. Monitoring of the weekly lists of planning applications received from the ten Councils and from the Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park Authority constituted 561 of the new work items. The weekly lists are monitored to ensure that applications raising potential archaeological issues are identified for follow-up work where they have not been fully dealt with at pre-application stage. From the weekly lists, and through direct referrals from the planning officers within the member authorities, 926 new planning applications were identified as potentially raising archaeological issues, and a further 512 other items of new casework were also dealt with or initiated.

### New Casework 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014

Council Area	Total New Casework Items	Weekly lists	Planning Applications	Other
Argyll & Bute	628	54	316	258
East Ayrshire	128	47	62	19
East Renfrewshire	78	50	21	7
Glasgow	132	51	51	30
North Ayrshire	136	52	55	29
Renfrewshire	88	50	24	14
South Ayrshire	183	49	103	31
South Lanarkshire	233	53	134	46
West Dunbartonshire	78	52	17	9
West Lothian	170	51	79	40
National Park Authority	143	52	64	27
General/Multi-Council	2			2
<b>Total</b>	<b>1999</b>	<b>561</b>	<b>926</b>	<b>512</b>

The number of new planning applications identified as potentially raising archaeological issues was 926, an increase of 11.2% on the previous year, accelerating beyond the level shown by the trend over recent years, and equivalent to the levels of development seen prior to the recent economic depression. The proportion of these potential cases which proved to raise archaeological issues (40%) was similar to the average of more recent years, meaning that the overall numbers requiring archaeological intervention (369) increased once again.

## Summary Table of Planning Applications 2009-2014

	Nos. Identified for Comment					Nos. Raising Archaeological Issues				
	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	09/10	10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14
Argyll & Bute	301	327	316	244	316	97	82	81	80	115
East Ayrshire	82	60	65	51	62	32	28	32	25	24
East Renfrewshire	29	15	29	32	21	12	6	14	8	6
Glasgow	51	35	40	39	51	13	14	10	10	16
Inverclyde	8	8	18	15	-	4	2	4	9	-
North Ayrshire	53	46	44	45	55	19	23	24	22	30
Renfrewshire	50	23	30	28	24	20	12	17	9	11
South Ayrshire	69	54	56	94	103	35	20	31	36	36
South Lanarkshire	114	102	136	134	134	50	56	63	65	58
West Dunbartonshire	34	31	6	14	17	11	7	3	8	7
West Lothian	76	98	96	83	79	29	42	34	33	36
National Park	14	19	55	54	64	4	6	24	27	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>881</b>	<b>818</b>	<b>891</b>	<b>833</b>	<b>926</b>	<b>326</b>	<b>296</b>	<b>337</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>369</b>

In addition to casework items generated from weekly lists and planning applications, a further 512 items of other new work were initiated in the report period, close to the number dealt with in the last year as a result of what was itself a record 62% increase (see table below, figures for previous year in brackets).

Pre-application planning enquiries	153	(215)
Development Plan consultations	6	(5)
Permitted development enquiries	26	(30)
SRDP audits and other agri-environment matters	158	(120)
Other Archaeological Consultations	18	(15)
Historic Environment Record information management matters	128	(119)
General or SMR enquiries	19	(19)
Policy liaison matters	4	(1)
Other (includes items sent in error)	-	(1)
<b>Total</b>	<b>512</b>	<b>(525)</b>

This is almost at the level of last year, which had been the third successive year that this category of work had increased in numbers, and it appears that the difference in the current report period is largely a result of a variation in the numbers of new pre-application enquiries. Despite this, pre-application enquiries continue to be a major and important area of casework, as they help the development management staff in member councils to facilitate the processing of planning applications which follow on from these enquiries. Such pre-application engagement with the Service allows potential issues to be raised at an earlier stage, meaning that the developer can identify possible time delays and costs well in advance, and can address them before submitting an application. This minimises the archaeological issues still to be addressed at the application stage, and can sometimes remove the requirement for the attachment of archaeological conditions to planning consent.

In addition to these items of new casework, work was also carried out during the report period on a further 410 casework items which had been initiated in previous years. These casework items largely involve advising on the appropriate scale of fieldwork and reporting required to satisfy conditions on consents which have been granted in earlier years, and monitoring such work when it is carried out by commercial archaeological organisations. This category of work for the Service has increased by more than 40% compared to the last reporting period, which itself had seen a growth of 20% on the previous year, and it is hard to

escape the conclusion that this repeating trend reflects a genuine economic turn-around, with greater commercial activity on what have been referred to as “stalled” sites which had previously been granted conditional planning consent.

Work to digitise older paper-based casework file documents and incorporate these records into the Service’s computerised Consultations database continued with the assistance of a part-time volunteer. This backlog data entry work re-started last year after it had halted in 2010 on the departure of the Service’s part-time administrative assistant. During the reporting period, the file backlog for the second half of the 1999 calendar year, and approximately one-third of the files for the year 2000 was scanned and cross-referenced within the Consultations database, and corrected and enhanced entries were made on a further 48 backlog planning application casework files which had previously been entered only as basic “skeleton records” attached to a simple map grid reference.

In the report period 437 new site records were added to the Historic Environment Record database. Amendments or additions were made to 1348 existing site records, and 172 archaeological events records were added. A total of 152 archive records (index to reports received by the Service in paper and digital formats) were created. There were 127 recorded archaeological events (excavations, field surveys, building recording surveys, watching briefs, desk based assessments, etc.) during the report period.

During the reporting period, the Service assisted one PhD candidate with data for their thesis, and assisted or liaised with thirteen local amateur archaeological or historical groups or individuals throughout the WoSAS area in their researches or local heritage projects.

## **1 Running the Service**

- 1.1 The Service's Steering Group met twice during the year to consider various matters in connection with the running of the Service. The Service's Joint Committee met on 3 October 2013.
- 1.2 A surplus balance in the Service's reserve account of £122,640 was achieved at year end (see Appendix 2). The accumulated surplus was close to what had been projected, with minor variations in external income and projected expenditure on largely cancelling each other out in overall terms.
- 1.3 The overall level of external income to the Service over the report period was broadly as predicted. Officer time spent representing the Service and ALGAO:Scotland (Association of Local Government Archaeology Officers) at an "Ask an Expert" event organized for the public in Glasgow by the SCAPE Trust resulted in a payment of £460 to the Service from ALGAO:Scotland. There was an increase in income from grant-aid administered by Historic Scotland for advice provided to the Scottish Rural Development Programme (SRDP) in its last year of operation. The Service received £7,964 in 2013-14 for the provision of archaeological advice to agricultural and forestry agents. Income from fees and charges made for the provision of mediated archaeological information and advice to commercial organizations was slightly below expected levels, but remained within the range of variability recorded over recent years. The Service's hourly fee charge for the provision of information and advice remained at £70 plus VAT over the report period.
- 1.4 The substantial increase in the number of planning applications which were flagged up from our monitoring of the planning authorities' weekly lists and through direct referrals from our planning officer colleagues goes beyond a simple recovery from the last year's slight fall, and is thought to be significant. With the exception of the massive fall resulting from the economic crisis in 2008, annual variations have been relatively minor in the past and have tended to average out over a prolonged period. An increase of more than 11% in these figures represents more than double the average variability, and is likely to reflect a genuine underlying increase in forthcoming economic activity. The number of applications which were assessed as raising archaeological issues in the current reporting period also increased in real terms on last year's figure. This may indicate a willingness on the part of developers to progress with proposals which require greater investment, where in recent years these sites may have been less likely to be brought forward for development.
- 1.5 The Service continued to adapt its operating procedures to make more efficient use of the Councils' e-planning systems through a new archaeological impact mitigation system. This revised paperless working method is used to check new applications for potential archaeological issues and to quickly identify and provide early warning of potentially problematic casework to planners. The revised working method included measures taken to identify other available information sources with the potential to improve the quality of advice provided to our members. By taking account of online resources available from third parties, we have been able to provide more comprehensive and accurate advice to our members on a more cost-effective and time-efficient basis, while avoiding unnecessary duplication of digital resources and minimising our digital storage requirements. This has resulted in an improvement in performance levels for meeting response deadlines which match the clients' time requirements and the Service's own performance indicators.

The Archaeology Service of the Councils of Argyll & Bute, East Ayrshire, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City, North Ayrshire, Renfrewshire, South Ayrshire, South Lanarkshire, West Dunbartonshire and West Lothian, and of the Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park Authority.

## **2 Historic Environment Record Maintenance and Development**

- 2.1 During the report period 437 new site records were added to the Historic Environment Record database, 1348 existing site records were amended, 172 archaeological events records were added, and 152 archive records were created (index to reports received by the Service in paper and digital formats). This was a further substantial increase in Historic Environment Record enhancement work. In addition to these core activities undertaken by the Historic Environment Record Officer, for a second year the Service has benefitted from additional work carried out on an unpaid basis by a archaeological volunteer. During the reporting period the Service benefitted from 23 man-days assistance for Historic Environment Record updating and data-entry tasks.
- 2.2 The Service's web site (<http://www.wosas.net>) was updated over the report period with a further 14 news items from throughout the WoSAS area, and with monthly updates of Historic Environment Record data. During the same period, there were just under 570,000 "hits" on the Service website ([www.wosas.net](http://www.wosas.net)).
- 2.3 Continuing liaison between the Service as a member of the Association of Local Authority Archaeological Officers (ALGAO:Scotland) and the national heritage agencies has allowed the Historic Environment Record (HER) to contribute on a cost-neutral basis to the development of the shared data sources which have been outlined as a main aim of the Scottish Historic Environment Data Strategy (SHED Strategy).
- 2.4 Contact with the spatial information programme team of the Scottish Government's Improvement Service will ensure that the Historic Environment Record meets with the nationally-established protocols required to comply with the European Union's Inspire Directive concerning data access. As a benefit of this contact, the Service will be able to freely access more up-to-date versions of digital data for which licenses had previously to be purchased from Service resources.
- 2.5 During the report period, the Service assisted one PhD candidate with data for her thesis, and assisted five amateur archaeology groups with Historic Environment Record data for survey project purposes, in return for a commitment from the enquirers to provide a copy of any resultant information to the Historic Environment Record. The Service also provided data and assistance to eight other individuals and community groups who had need of historic environment advice, but who had no archaeological expertise.

### 3 Advice to Argyll and Bute Council

#### Development Plan Advice

- 3.1 There were no requests for assistance from the Council during the report period in respect of development plan advice.

#### Development Management Advice

- 3.2 Over the report period 54 weekly lists of planning applications from the Council were monitored by the Service and 316 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff. This number of potentially significant applications means that the scale of casework has returned to the level of previous years after last year's moderate fall. Argyll and Bute Council remained the largest Council user of the development management advice service over the report period.
- 3.3 The 316 new planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in Scottish Planning Policy and Planning Advice Note 2/2011:

Refusal of planning application recommended	4
Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required	9
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	58
Archaeological watching brief condition required	40
Avoidance/protection within or to side of development	1
Other condition e.g. archaeological mitigation strategy required	2
Refer to Historic Scotland (scheduled monument or listed building)	1
No issue, no action possible or necessary, including no issue after further work	201

Altogether 115 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 3.4 Refusal of the submitted planning application was recommended in respect of four proposals. Three of these were for the erection of dwelling houses in rural areas, where the proposals were located close to a Scheduled Ancient Monument. In each case the detailed location or the scale of the development was assessed as being likely to significantly affect the landscape setting of the nationally important monument in a way that could not be adequately mitigated. In accordance with national and local government policy, refusal of the submitted applications was recommended. The fourth proposal where refusal was recommended was for a medium-sized windfarm at Glenbarr, Kintyre, where the proposed turbines were judged to be likely to introduce an unacceptable adverse impact on the landscape setting of a number of important archaeological sites in the glen.
- 3.5 Continuing analysis of the finds made during the archaeological evaluation of a site for housing at Dunbeg near Oban which was reported on in last year's report has been carried out by Argyll Archaeology Ltd. It was initially reported that the remains found seemed likely to be of Bronze Age date (in this case, around 1,000 BC). However, radiocarbon dating of samples taken from the site has revealed that although some features were from the Bronze Age, different parts of the site were also occupied in the period around 100 BC to 100 AD (the Iron Age), and in the late 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> centuries AD, the so-called "Dark Ages" or early medieval period. The site

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lies only a few hundred metres from the later medieval Dunstaffnage Castle, which may have its origins as a defended high-status site in the early medieval period. Low social status settlement remains from the early medieval period are not often found, so the discoveries at Dunbeg will add considerably to our understanding of how the different groups in early Scottish society lived and interacted.

**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 258 other items of casework, including 50 pre-application enquiries, 93 SRDP consultations, and 11 enquiries from statutory undertakers.

## 4 Advice to East Ayrshire Council

### Development Plan Advice

- 4.1 There were no requests for assistance from the Council during the report period in respect of development plan advice.

### Development Management Advice

- 4.2 Over the report period 47 weekly lists of planning applications from the Council were monitored by the Service and 62 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff.
- 4.3 The 62 new planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in Scottish Planning Policy and Planning Advice Note 2/2011:

Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required	6
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	8
Archaeological watching brief condition required	8
Other condition e.g. archaeological mitigation strategy required	1
Refer to Historic Scotland (scheduled monument or listed building)	1
No issue, no action possible or necessary, including no issue after further work	38

Altogether 24 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 4.4 Detailed discussions between the Service and archaeological contractors for the developer of a housing site at Stewarton concerned the sustainability of the long-term survival of the eroding remains of two limekilns and their associated limestone quarry. Despite the developer's offer to preserve the kilns within the development, the Service raised concerns regarding the maintenance of the unstable remains and public safety, especially after control over the site passed from the developer. It was felt that possible future remedial safety measures might result in the unrecorded loss of archaeological information. To mitigate this risk, it was agreed that the physical loss of the kiln structures would be offset by a full analytical survey and excavation of the remains. As many such sites have been and continue to be lost without record, this detailed survey and excavation project would markedly increase our understanding of late eighteenth and early nineteenth century agricultural practices in rural Ayrshire.
- 4.5 A desk-based study and a watching brief by GUARD Archaeology Ltd took place in the policies of Dumfries House near Auchinleck. The site in question was one which had been part of a World War II Royal Tank Corps training camp, which in 1943 had been converted to use as a camp for German and Italian Prisoners of War. In 1947 the camp became a repatriation centre for Polish servicemen. Sites like this were once fairly common in the landscape, but have largely been destroyed without record before their importance in military and social history terms was recognized.

### Other Advice within the Council's Area

- 4.6 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 19 other items of casework, including 12 pre-application enquiries, and 1 statutory undertaker enquiry.

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## 5 Advice to East Renfrewshire Council

### Development Plan Advice

- 5.1 There was one request for assistance from the Council during the report period in respect of development plan advice relating to archaeological issues raised by future urban expansion to the south-west of Newton Mearns.

### Development Management Advice

- 5.2 Over the report period 50 weekly lists of planning applications from the Council were monitored by the Service and 21 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff.
- 5.3 The 21 new planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in Scottish Planning Policy and Planning Advice Note 2/2011:

Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required	1
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	1
Archaeological watching brief condition required	2
Standings buildings survey condition	1
Refer to Historic Scotland (scheduled monument or listed building)	1
No issue, no action possible or necessary, including no issue after further work	15

Altogether 6 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 5.4 The Service received a report on the results of a multi-phase programme of amateur and professional survey work, including geophysical survey, in the historic village of Eaglesham. These surveys covered the central parts of common area known as 'The Orry', and the uphill area known as Townhead. Fifty-four previously unrecorded features were identified within a relatively small area. Three areas of the Orry including the larger open areas on the northern side of the Eaglesham Burn and the small open area on the southern side were investigated. Nine principal groups of geophysical anomalies which are archaeological in character have been identified from the results, along with several groups of what appear to be more ephemeral features. The information has been included in the Historic Environment Record, and has shed more light on the complex past history of what now appears to be a simple parkland area

### 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 7 other items of casework, including 3 pre-application enquiries, 2 statutory undertaker enquiries, and 1 SRDP consultation.

## 6 Advice to Glasgow City Council

### Development Plan Advice

- 6.1 Advice was provided to the Council in 5 instances regarding archaeological sites and areas of archaeological potential during consideration of the Local Development Plan.

### Development Management Advice

- 6.2 Over the report period 51 weekly lists of planning applications from the Council were monitored by the Service and 51 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff.
- 6.3 The 51 new planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in Scottish Planning Policy and Planning Advice Note 2/2011:

Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required	3
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	4
Archaeological watching brief condition required	6
Other condition e.g. archaeological mitigation strategy required	1
Standings buildings survey condition	1
Refer to Historic Scotland (scheduled monument or listed building)	1
No issue, no action possible or necessary, including no issue after further work	35

Altogether 16 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 6.4 The Service was consulted on the historic environment implications of a proposed redevelopment of the Scotstoun shipyard. A detailed assessment of the rich industrial archaeological heritage of the shipyard, and of a potentially important early medieval site thought to lie within the application area resulted in an updating of entries in the Historic Environment Record which had been derived from historical sources. This work established that the historically attested early medieval site on the riverside had not been located within the modern shipyard, but some distance upstream. As a result, the archaeological issue relating to the redevelopment proposals could be addressed and “scoped out” at an early stage in processing the application, in accordance with best practice recommended in current planning guidance.

### Other Advice within the Council's Area

- 6.5 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 30 other items of casework, including 7 pre-application enquiries, 1 SRDP consultation, 1 statutory undertaker enquiry, and 2 queries from consultants dealing with remedial safety operations on structures of known archaeological significance.
- 6.6 During the report period the manager of the Service represented the Council on the Antonine Wall Research Group and contributed to a consultation on the future research priorities of archaeologists working on the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site.

## 7 Advice to North Ayrshire Council

### Development Plan Advice

- 7.1 There were no requests for assistance from the Council during the report period in respect of development plan advice.

### Development Management Advice

- 7.2 Over the report period 52 weekly lists of planning applications from the Council were monitored by the Service and 55 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues by the Archaeology Service.
- 7.3 The 55 new planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in Scottish Planning Policy and Planning Advice Note 2/2011:

Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required	7
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	11
Archaeological watching brief condition required	11
Refer to Historic Scotland (scheduled monument or listed building)	1
No issue, no action possible or necessary, including no issue after further work	25

Altogether 30 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 7.4 The Council's project for a new leisure centre near to the site of the medieval market cross in Irvine began its site work, including the advance archaeological excavations which had been negotiated and agreed in the previous reporting period. The targeted and phased excavations at the core of the medieval burgh recovered important evidence of its early development, especially the varied use of backland areas in the medieval period, and how these changed in more recent periods. In particular, evidence of domestic, industrial and foreign trading activities from the 13<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> centuries was recovered, and its further analysis will illustrate the daily lives of the town's early residents in a way that was not previously possible. The Service monitored the excavations closely to allow detailed on-site discussions with the archaeological contractor about the implications of the finds, which in turn allowed the archaeological project design to be implemented efficiently. Close liaison between the Service and the archaeological contractor also allowed the overall development programme to be successfully adapted where necessary in order to facilitate the main development timetable without compromising the recording of surviving sensitive archaeological remains.

### 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 29 other items of casework, including 12 pre-application enquiries 8 SRDP consultations, and 2 from statutory undertakers.

## **8 Advice to Renfrewshire Council**

### **Development Plan Advice**

- 8.1 There were no requests for assistance from the Council during the report period in respect of development plan advice.

### **Development Management Advice**

- 8.2 Over the report period 50 weekly lists of planning applications from the Council were monitored by the Service and 24 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff.
- 8.3 The 24 identified planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in Scottish Planning Policy and Planning Advice Note 2/2011:

Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required	2
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	7
Archaeological watching brief condition required	1
Standings buildings survey condition	1
No issue, no action possible or necessary, including no issue after further work	13

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

- 8.4 The continuing phased redevelopment of the former Royal Ordnance Factory in Bishopton meant that further elements of the major archaeological mitigation scheme involving historic building recording and evaluation by trial trenching at the former were carried out in the reporting period. The complex discussions which had taken place at the start of the project between the Service on behalf of the Council, and the developers' archaeological contractor meant that new detailed applications could be processed more speedily where they complied with the approved Archaeological Mitigation Strategy for the site.
- 8.5 Continuing analysis of the material found during construction at the Ingliston Equestrian Centre included radiocarbon dating of samples from the Roman enclosure ditch. Although the range of possible dates identified includes the Antonine period of the mid- 2<sup>nd</sup> century AD as expected, the most probable date would appear to be at the start of the 3<sup>rd</sup> century. Although the Romans were still in southern Britain at this date, they had withdrawn from the Antonine Wall frontier and abandoned their forts and installations in what is now Scotland. However, after "barbarian" raids on Roman Britain, the Emperor Septimius Severus is recorded as campaigning in Scotland around 208 AD, and he ordered repairs to some installations to allow a brief Roman re-occupation. The late date of the sample from this site indicates for the first time that it may have been used by the Romans operating north of Hadrian's Wall during the Severan period.

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

- 8.6 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 14 other items of casework, including 3 pre-application enquiries, 4 SRDP consultations, and 2 statutory undertaker enquiries.

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## 9 Advice to South Ayrshire Council

### Development Plan Advice

- 9.1 There were no requests for advice from the Council in respect of the development plan over the report period.

### Development Management Advice

- 9.2 Over the report period 49 weekly lists of planning applications from the Council were monitored by the Service and 103 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff.
- 9.3 The 103 new planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in Scottish Planning Policy and Planning Advice Note 2/2011:

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	16
Other condition e.g. archaeological mitigation strategy required	2
No issue, no action possible or necessary, including no issue after further work	67

Altogether 36 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 9.4 Refusal was recommended for an application for the erection of a wind turbine at Glenauchie, near Straiton, where the proposed turbine was judged to be likely to introduce an unacceptable adverse impact on the landscape setting of several important archaeological sites nearby.
- 9.5 Development for William Grant & Sons Distillers at the Curragh, near Girvan resulted in a large archaeological excavation by GUARD Archaeology Ltd. The construction of warehouses nearby in the past had shown that this was a particularly rich area for the survival of archaeological remains. The new excavations on the site of a drainage attenuation pond continued this trend, and revealed several phases of prehistoric activity in the area, including a late prehistoric palisaded enclosure with a roundhouse inside it, and other features from the earlier periods, including the Neolithic. The relatively large number of archaeological interventions in this area over the years, and the quality of the remains from all periods which have been identified, means that a very much improved picture has been built up of life in the prehistoric coastal landscape of this part of Ayrshire. There is an increasing academic interest in broader landscape archaeology studies, and the results of this series of developer-funded interventions are likely to complement analyses produced by research projects elsewhere.

### 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 31 other items of casework, which included 23 pre-application enquiries, 4 SRDP consultations, and 3 statutory undertaker enquiries.

The Archaeology Service of the Councils of Argyll & Bute, East Ayrshire, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City, North Ayrshire, Renfrewshire, South Ayrshire, South Lanarkshire, West Dunbartonshire and West Lothian, and of the Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park Authority.

## 10 Advice to South Lanarkshire Council

### Development Plan Advice

- 10.1 There were no requests for advice from the Council in respect of the development plan over the report period.

### Development Management Advice

- 10.2 Over the report period 53 weekly lists of planning applications from the Council were monitored by the Service and 134 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff.
- 10.3 The 134 new planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in Scottish Planning Policy and Planning Advice Note 2/2011:

Refusal of planning application recommended	4
Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required	6
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	19
Archaeological watching brief condition required	26
Refer to Historic Scotland (scheduled monument or listed building)	3
No issue, no action possible or necessary, including no issue after further work	76

Altogether 58 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 10.4 Refusal of the planning application was recommended in respect of four proposals – three of these were related to the erection of small numbers of wind turbines, either as standalone developments, such as at Heads Inn Farm near Carnwath, or as an extension to an operational development, such as the Muirhall Windfarm on Stallashaw Moss. In each case, the proposals were located within the sensitive landscape setting of Scheduled Ancient Monuments, and were assessed as being likely to adversely affect the setting to an unacceptable degree. In accordance with national and local government policy, refusal was recommended. The other proposal was for a housing development on the last remaining open ground which can be clearly associated with the Battle of Bothwell Bridge, a Covenanting period battle the site of which is included in the Battlefields Inventory maintained by Historic Scotland.
- 10.5 The implementation of the latest phase of an archaeological mitigation strategy for a large housing development at Newton Farm, Cambuslang by AOC Archaeology Ltd, revealed evidence of a small rural settlement which had been occupied until the end of the eighteenth century and which this Service had suggested might have originated in the medieval period. While consistent with a medieval date, the evidence from the settlement was very limited, adding further weight to arguments that such sites are very vulnerable to continuing erosion from natural processes and modern farming practices and would be unlikely to survive within modern developments.

### Other Advice in the Council's Area

- 10.6 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 46 other items of casework, including 20 pre-application enquiries, and 3 enquiries from statutory undertakers.

The Archaeology Service of the Councils of Argyll & Bute, East Ayrshire, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City, North Ayrshire, Renfrewshire, South Ayrshire, South Lanarkshire, West Dunbartonshire and West Lothian, and of the Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park Authority.

## 11 Advice to West Dunbartonshire Council

### Development Plan Advice

- 11.1 There was one request for assistance from the Council relating to the Local Development Plan during the report period.

### Development Management Advice

- 11.2 Over the report period 52 weekly lists of planning applications were received from the Council for monitoring by the Service and 17 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff.
- 11.3 The 17 identified planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in Scottish Planning Policy and Planning Advice Note 2/2011:

Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	1
Archaeological watching brief condition required	5
Refer to Historic Scotland (scheduled monument or listed building)	1
No issue, no action possible or necessary, including no issue after further work	10

Altogether 7 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 11.4 While no major fieldwork projects occurred in the Council area over the reporting period, post-excavation analysis by the archaeological contractors continued on the evidence recovered from excavations undertaken in the previous reporting period.

### Other Advice within the Council's Area

- 11.5 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 9 other items of casework, including 1 pre-application enquiry, 2 SRDP consultations, and 4 enquiries from statutory undertakers.
- 11.6 During the report period the manager of the Service represented the Council on the Antonine Wall Research Group and contributed to a consultation on the future research priorities of archaeologists working on the Antonine Wall World Heritage Site.
- 11.7 A new community-based archaeology group, the North Clyde Archaeological Society, with a geographical area of interest including the whole of West Dunbartonshire and the Helensburgh area of Argyll and Bute was formed during the reporting period. At their invitation, the Service Manager gave an illustrated lecture on the work of the Service and how to use the online HER. The new society was also advised on how their members could usefully contribute to increasing our knowledge of their history through field survey and research. The Service offered appropriate support in kind for such activities.

## 12 Advice to West Lothian Council

### Development Plan Advice

- 12.1 There was one request for assistance from the Council relating to the Local Development Plan during the report period.

### Development Management Advice

- 12.2 Over the report period 51 weekly lists of planning applications were received from the Council for monitoring by the Service and 79 new planning applications were identified as raising potential archaeological issues, either by the Archaeology Service or by Council staff.
- 12.3 The 79 new planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in Scottish Planning Policy and Planning Advice Note 2/2011:

Refusal of planning application recommended	1
Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required	11
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	10
Archaeological watching brief condition required	10
Standings buildings survey condition	2
Other condition e.g. archaeological mitigation strategy required	1
Refer to Historic Scotland (scheduled monument or listed building)	1
No issue, no action possible or necessary, including no issue after further work	43

Altogether 36 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 12.4 Implementing the provisions of the approved scheme of archaeological mitigation in advance of the phased construction of a major housing development at Winchburgh resulted in a major excavation by CFA Archaeology Ltd. The site in question was a double-ditched enclosure which had been identified from aerial photographs after planning consent in principle had been granted. Excavation revealed that the two ditches had been dug to create an oval defended enclosure at the end of a low ridge extending into what at the time had been boggy ground. The ditches were less deeply-cut on the side furthest from the entrance, where the ridge would have given dry access, but the ditches survived to a width of several metres and a depth of nearly two metres near the entrance. The ditch-fills contained the remains of massive, stone-built ramparts, which had once lined their inner edges. Frustratingly, despite detailed and complete excavation of the interior, no features which could confirm the date and function of the monument were identified. Further post-excavation analysis will take place, but the form of the monument suggests that is likely to be a defended settlement or farmstead of Iron Age date.

### Other Advice within the Council's Area

- 12.5 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including Council staff, in respect of 40 other items of casework, including 13 pre-application enquiries, 12 SRDP consultations, and 2 enquiries from statutory undertakers.



### 13 The Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park Authority

- 13.1 Archaeological advice is provided to the National Park Authority under the terms of a chargeable Service Level Agreement covering the whole of the National Park area. In the year 2013-14 the National Park Authority paid £16,667 to the Service for archaeological advice.

#### Development Plan Advice

- 13.2 There were two requests for advice and assistance from the Park Authority in respect of the local development plan over the report period.

#### Development Management Advice

- 13.3 Over the report period 52 weekly lists of planning applications were received from the Council for monitoring by the Service and 64 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 9 planning applications submitted in previous years.
- 13.4 The 64 identified planning applications received the following responses from the Service in terms of the advice contained in Scottish Planning Policy and Planning Advice Note 2/2011:

Archaeological assessment or evaluation prior to determination required	6
Negative suspensive condition requiring archaeological excavation	12
Archaeological watching brief condition required	6
Standings buildings survey condition	1
Avoidance/protection within or to side of development	4
Other condition e.g. archaeological mitigation strategy required	1
No issue, no action possible or necessary, including no issue after further work	34

Altogether 30 of the identified planning applications required some form of response to mitigate the effects of the proposals on archaeological remains.

- 13.5 A desk-based assessment and walkover survey in advance of a proposed hydro-electricity scheme on the Burn of Mar identified a previously unrecorded prehistoric burial monument. The site consists of the remains of a grass-covered chambered cairn measuring about 25 metres by 22 metres, and up to 1 metre high. Although the monument has been heavily robbed of its stone in the past, presumably to build nearby drystone walls, it is surprising that it had not previously been recorded as it lies only a few metres from the West Highland Way. The case serves to demonstrate that significant above-ground monuments still remain to be discovered across the country.

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

- 13.6 During the report period advice was provided to a variety of clients, including National Park Authority staff, in respect of 27 other items of casework including 11 pre-application enquiries, 10 SRDP consultations, and 1 enquiry from a statutory undertaker.

The Archaeology Service of the Councils of Argyll & Bute, East Ayrshire, East Renfrewshire, Glasgow City, North Ayrshire, Renfrewshire, South Ayrshire, South Lanarkshire, West Dunbartonshire and West Lothian, and of the Loch Lomond & the Trossachs National Park Authority.

## **14 Information and Advice to Developers/Agents and to Statutory Undertakers**

- 14.1 There were 153 requests for information and advice from developers or their agents, including 48 requests for Sites and Monuments Record digital extracts. There were 26 requests for assistance in connection with Scottish Water, Scottish Water Solutions, Scottish Power, Scottish and Southern Electricity, and Transerve proposals. The requests for assistance from developers and their agents raised income of £3,360, close to the average for the previous five years.

## **15 Agri-Environment Advice**

- 15.1 The Service received a grant from Historic Scotland of £7,964 in support of the provision of advice to the fund-holders of the Scottish Rural Development Programme (SRDP). The grant was distributed proportionally across Scotland in accordance with the total number of SRDP applications for which archaeological advice was sought and provided. The Service was consulted for advice on 158 eligible applications to the SRDP, a 32% increase in uptake over and above the 70% increase in applications in the previous year. There was a proportionately larger increase in the grant support made available from Historic Scotland in this reporting period, as the number of valid applications from other Council areas had not increased to the same extent. As this was the final year of the current SRDP agri-environment grant scheme, the increased uptake may represent a final flurry of applications within the Service area before the change of scheme. Consultations with central government agencies regarding the inclusion of historic environment assets within the new European agri-environment grant scheme continued during the report period. The inclusion of a formal requirement for archaeological advice to be part of the replacement scheme has not yet been secured, and a heightened threat to known historic environment assets from subsidised agricultural practices may be an unfortunate result.

## Appendix 1

### Annual Performance Statistics 2013-14 (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.

<b>Performance</b>	<b>97.84%</b>	<b>(90.40%)</b>
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#### 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	83.86%	(80.40%)
East Ayrshire	83.87%	(74.51%)
East Renfrewshire	85.71%	(96.88%)
Glasgow City	84.31%	(79.49%)
North Ayrshire	80.00%	(78.26%)
Renfrewshire	87.50%	(71.43%)
South Ayrshire	86.27%	(75.79%)
South Lanarkshire	78.36%	(75.56%)
West Dunbartonshire	87.50%	(86.67%)
West Lothian	81.01%	(83.91%)
Loch Lomond & the Trossachs	81.25%	(75.47%)

<b>Overall Planning Application Performance</b>	<b>82.90%</b>	<b>(79.07%)</b>
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#### Other Work Areas

The performance standard for this area of work is 80% to be actioned within 21 calendar days of receipt.

SRDP/Forestry Advice	84.28%	(84.17%)
Pre-Application Enquiries	80.39%	(82.79%)
Permitted Dev/Statutory Undertakings	88.46%	(72.41%)
Other Archaeological Consultations	72.22%	(81.25%)
General/SMR Enquiries	88.24%	(82.35%)

<b>Overall Other Work Performance</b>	<b>82.58%</b>	<b>(80.59%)</b>
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## Appendix 2

### WEST OF SCOTLAND ARCHAEOLOGY SERVICE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR TO 31 MARCH 2014

2012/13 £		2013/14 £
	<b><u>Income</u></b>	
140,703	Contribution from participating authorities	132,467
25,585	Fees & Charges	28,451
1,390	Interest on balances	887
<b><u>167, 678</u></b>	<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>161, 805</u></b>
	<b><u>Expenditure</u></b>	
	<b><u>Employee Costs</u></b>	
136,333	Salaries, NI & Superannuation & Employee Related Costs	140,469
	<b><u>Administration Costs</u></b>	
130	Fees & Subscriptions	0
4,281	Travel & Subsistence	4,627
10,700	Rents	10,700
91	Printing & Stationery	192
2,988	Equipment Purchase & maintenance	2,900
458	Catering	142
0	Postage	0
0	Purchase of services (miscellaneous)	85
1,771	Audit Fee	1,890
<b><u>20,419</u></b>		<b><u>20,536</u></b>
<b><u>156,752</u></b>	<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b><u>161,005</u></b>
10,926	Surplus/(Deficit) for Year	800
110,914	Surplus Brought Forward	121,840
<b><u>121,840</u></b>	<b>Accumulated Surplus</b>	<b><u>122,640</u></b>

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