

LGA Special Interest Group Annual Report to LGA Board

SIG Name:	ALGAO
Lead Member:	
Lead Officer:	<u>Ian Leete</u>

Email:	quinton.carroll@cambridgeshire.gov.uk
Address:	Cambridgeshire County Council, SH1101, Shire Hall, Cambridge, CB3 0AP
Telephone:	01223 728565
Website:	www.algao.org.uk

ALGAO Membership 2020

Bedford Borough Council
 Birmingham City Council
 Boston Borough Council
 Buckinghamshire Council
 Cambridgeshire County Council
 Central Bedfordshire
 Cheshire (Cheshire West and Chester/Cheshire East)
 Chichester District Council
 City of Coventry
 City of London
 City of York Council
 Colchester Borough Council
 Cornwall Council
 Cumbria County Council
 Dartmoor National Park
 Derbyshire County Council
 Devon County Council
 Dorset Council
 Dudley M.B.C.
 Durham County Council
 East Berkshire (Bracknell Forest, Reading, Slough, Windsor and Maidenhead and Wokingham unitary authorities)
 East Sussex County Council
 Essex County Council
 Exeter City Council
 Exmoor National Park
 Gloucester City
 Gloucestershire County Council
 Greater London
 Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service

Hampshire County Council
Herefordshire Council
Hertfordshire County Council
Humber Archaeology Partnership (Kingston upon Hull and East Riding councils)
Isle of Wight Council
Kent County Council
Lake District National Park Authority
Lancashire County Council
Leicester City
Leicestershire County Council
Lincolnshire County Council
Merseyside
Milton Keynes Council
New Forest National Park
Newcastle City Council and Tyne & Wear
Norfolk County Council
North Kesteven District Council
North Lincolnshire Council
North Somerset Council
North York Moors National Park
North Yorkshire County Council
Northamptonshire County Council
Northumberland County Council
Northumberland National Park
Nottingham City Council
Nottinghamshire County Council
Oxford City Council
Oxfordshire County Council
Peak District National Park
Peterborough City Council
Plymouth City Council
Shropshire Council
South Gloucestershire Council
South Kesteven District Council
South West Heritage Trust
South Yorkshire Archaeology Service
Southampton City Council
Southwark Council
Staffordshire County Council
Stoke on Trent City Council
Suffolk County Council
Surrey County Council
Tees Archaeology (Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees)

Warwickshire County Council
West Berkshire Council
West Sussex County Council
West Yorkshire Archaeology Service
Wiltshire Council
Winchester City Council
Wolverhampton City Council
Worcester City Council
Worcestershire County Council
Yorkshire Dales National Park

Aim

ALGAO has four key objectives:

- To provide a strong voice for local authority historic environment services and promote these within local government to strengthen and develop their role within local government in delivering local, regional and national government policy.
- To ensure that local government historic environment services are included within policy (national, regional and local) for culture and education.
- To ensure that policy aims to improve the sustainable management of the historic environment.
- To promote development of high standards in the historic environment profession

Key Activities / Outcomes of work undertaken

Since becoming a SIG, ALGAO has undertaken the following:

+ Delivered a well-received workshop at the 2020 Culture Conference in Portsmouth on an initiative that partners Cambridgeshire County Council with major developers to integrate heritage and culture into development master planning

+ Commissioned and published research into the economic value of public sector archaeology that demonstrated the following:

- Commercial Archaeology makes a £218m direct contribution to the economy
- For every £1 spent on Local Authority Planning Archaeology £15 is returned.
- 5000 (74%) archaeologists are employed because of the developmental management system
- Work of members provides up to an estimated £1.3bn in savings to construction industry through reduced delay costs in 2017-18 alone
- Current provision of Local Authority based archaeological services worth up to £245m in savings to public purse in 2017-18

The full report can be found here <https://www.algao.org.uk/news/new-report-archaeology-development-management>

+ Worked with Historic England on outputs from the Mendoza Review relating to archaeological archives, We undertook research into options through the planning system, identified improvements and delivered training to member authorities

+ Were invited to join the Heritage Alliance, the umbrella body for Heritage, which feeds into the ministerial Heritage Council; HA have recognised that local authority funding for historic environment services is a key factor that needs to be raised

+ Engaged with the creation of apprenticeships for the sector: the level 7 one is now live and a level 4 is in development

+ Contribute into the heritage and archaeology sectors' representations to the Migration Advisory Council that succeeded in getting archaeologists on the Shortage Occupation List

+ We are embedded in the Historic England 'Heritage Information Access Strategy' to streamline public access to heritage data and making local authority Historic Environment Records the primary point of access

+ We have worked to feed into the emerging ELMS system for farm payments, and have supported member authorities with advice and guidance on getting the most of opportunities for the historic environment from the current Environmental Stewardship system

+ With sector partners we are advising Historic England on priorities for legislative and non-legislative changes to heritage protection regulations

+ Joined the Steering Group for the revision of the CIRIA Archaeology in Construction guidance

+ Undertook our annual staffing and casework survey of member authorities; this has been taking place annually for many years and allows us to track staffing levels and demands arising from the planning system; COVID has delayed the publication of this

+ Generally provided advocacy and support for local government across the heritage sector