

THE ARCHAEOLOGY FORUM

a grouping of independent bodies concerned with archaeology

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27 July 2009

Dear Mr. Canovan,

Draft PPS4: Planning for Prosperous Economies

The Archaeology Forum (TAF) is a grouping of the key, non-governmental organisations concerned with archaeology in the UK. Its members include the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers UK, the Council for British Archaeology, the Institute of Conservation, the Institute for Archaeologists, the National Trust, the National Trust for Scotland, Rescue, the Society of Antiquaries of London, the Society of Antiquaries of Scotland, the Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers, and the Society of Museum Archaeologists UK.

The Archaeology Forum is pleased to contribute to this consultation on draft Planning Policy Statement 4: Planning for Prosperous Economies

Question 1: Do you support the consolidation and streamlining of national policy on economic development into a single policy statement?

In principle, TAF supports the consolidation and streamlining of national policy on economic development into a single policy statement. We welcome the recognition in the

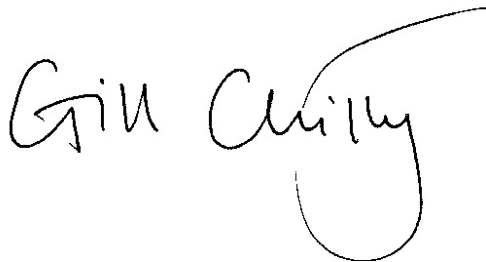
draft Policy Statement of the public benefits of the historic environment and the positive role that it plays in providing a sense of place and a focus for the community and for civic life (penultimate bullet point, paragraph 6, p.15). Indeed, the draft Statement should also recognize the major contribution made by archaeology and the historic environment, generally, to the tourist economy and to heritage-led regeneration.

The Forum wishes to emphasise that care must be taken to ensure efforts to consolidate and streamline national policy and to promote economic development do not do so at the expense of the protection of the historic environment. In particular, it would be helpful

- (1) to provide a fuller definition of 'sustainable economic growth' (paragraph 6 fn, page 14) that expressly recognises the need for sustainable development which respects and enhances the historic environment;
- (2) to clarify in policy EC9.1 that the reference to landscapes and heritage within rural areas includes archaeological remains above and below ground and historic landscape character;
- (3) to include World Heritage Sites, many of which include extensive cultural landscapes, within the ambit of policy EC16.1 (Nationally designated areas) to ensure careful consideration of the potential adverse impacts of major development on inscribed sites and their settings.

Thank you for this opportunity for the Archaeology Forum to contribute its views to this consultation.

Yours sincerely,



Council for British Archaeology
on behalf of The Archaeology Forum

The Archaeology Forum's members are:

The Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers UK
The Council for British Archaeology
The Institute of Conservation
The Institute for Archaeologists
The National Trust
The National Trust for Scotland

Rescue: the British Archaeological Trust
The Society of Antiquaries of London
The Society of Antiquaries of Scotland
The Federation of Archaeological Managers and Employers
The Society of Museum Archaeologists UK