

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL ADVICE TO APPLICANTS AND CONSULTANTS**

The National Planning Policy Framework, which was published in March 2012, sets out government policies for dealing with archaeology in the planning process.

**NPPF** brings in new terminology and focuses on managing change intelligently, based on good quality and appropriate information. To this end would-be developers are expected to consult the Historic Environment Record and other information sources prior to submitting a planning application to identify the location and significance of heritage assets within the proposal area. Heritage assets may be designated or non-designated (the vast majority of archaeological remains) and can be of architectural, archaeological, historical or artistic interest.

GMAAS maintains the Historic Environment Record (HER) for Greater Manchester. The HER is the primary database for information on the historic environment, including archaeological interests, in the region. The Greater Manchester HER comprises:

- Over 18,000 entries and c 54,000 Historic Landscape Characterisation records linked to MS Access software and MapInfo GIS
- Around 2,000 'grey literature' (unpublished) archaeology reports including desk based assessments, evaluations, excavations, watching briefs, and historic building surveys
- c 60,000 digital images in a photographic archive
- Paper archive from archaeological sites and projects around Greater Manchester, including the Greater Manchester Textile Mills Survey, GM Historic Parks and Gardens Survey, Relict Industrial Landscape Survey, etc.
- A library with local history and archaeology publications
- GMAAS staff's expertise on Greater Manchester's archaeology.

GMAAS staff also provide specialist information and advice to the ten Local Planning Authorities of Greater Manchester on the historic environment where there is an archaeological interest. This includes advising on planning applications.

As a developer you may be required by the Local Planning Authority to provide evidence as part of your planning application about the impact of the development proposals upon the archaeological interest. For a charge to cover GMAAS staff time you can obtain information from the HER and/ or advice from GMAAS staff on your proposals for development. In particular, GMAAS can assist in helping answer the following questions:

### **1) Do the development proposals impact upon a known or potential archaeological interest?**

GMAAS staff can undertake an appraisal of the relevant information held on the HER. If no known or potential archaeological interests would be impacted upon then a formal letter to this effect can be supplied which can then be submitted as evidence in support of the application.

#### Types of development where pre-application archaeological consultation is recommended

- A proposal within 50 metres of a known archaeological site.
- Any proposal within a known archaeologically sensitive area.
- Any proposal which would affect a Scheduled Monument.
- Listed Building, Conservation Area or locally listed building applications where structural change or demolition is likely to impact on the archaeological (rather than architectural) significance of heritage assets.
- Demolition or change of use (where the change of use involves building or engineering operations) to farm buildings, public houses, redundant places of worship, graveyards, or industrial sites/buildings.
- Major developments as defined by the Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995, including proposals submitted for pre-application advice.

- Any major landscaping works, including community forest and public realm projects that involve significant engineering operations and require planning permission.
- Infrastructure and statutory undertaker schemes that require planning permission.

If you are in any doubt then please email or telephone GMAAS.

## **2) What is the archaeological interest likely to be affected?**

If the development proposals impact upon a known or potential archaeological interest GMAAS can advise about the nature of that archaeological interest.

## **3) What may be required by the Local Planning Authority?**

If the development proposals impact upon a known or potential archaeological interest GMAAS can advise about what information may be required by the Local Planning Authority.

## **4) What is the best way to proceed in meeting any such requirements?**

If the development proposals impact upon a known or potential archaeological interest GMAAS can advise about the best way to proceed in providing the information that may be required by the Local Planning Authority. In relation to heritage assets of archaeological interest, the applicant may be required to commission archaeological desk based assessments, evaluations and historic building assessments, as appropriate, to inform the planning decision process (as set out in NPPF section 12).

### **GMAAS CHARGEABLE SERVICES**

- i) HER appraisals and planning advice given directly to developers or their agents either before submission of an application or following submission but prior to determination:
  - a) Pre-submission appraisal and, where no archaeological interest identified, a formal letter .
  - b) Pre-submission appraisal and letter identifying nature of archaeological interest and the programme of archaeological work that may be required.
  - c) Post-submission but prior to determination appraisal - where no archaeological interest identified, a formal letter.
  - d) Post-submission but prior to determination appraisal and advice to developers on the nature of the archaeological interest and the programme of archaeological work that may be required.
  - e) Staff time for provision of Historic Environment Record information and advice to developer's consultants undertaking archaeological investigations, depending on scale of development site or length of time required to put the information together.
- ii) GMAAS staff will be available to attend free-of-charge a meeting with applicants/ agents. Thereafter, GMAAS staff attendance at subsequent meetings will be charged at an hourly rate plus travel expenses).
- iii) GMAAS staff will charge an hourly rate for the preparation of a written brief setting out the detailed requirements for work required as part of a pre-submission or post-submission but prior to determination programme of archaeological work.

These services can be ordered through the [University's online shop](#).

Contact: [gmaas@salford.ac.uk](mailto:gmaas@salford.ac.uk) or Tel: 0161 295 5522

Website: [www.salford.ac.uk/environment-life-sciences/research/applied-archaeology/greater-manchester-archaeological-advisory-service](http://www.salford.ac.uk/environment-life-sciences/research/applied-archaeology/greater-manchester-archaeological-advisory-service)