



ASSOCIATION
OF CHIEF ARCHIVISTS
IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Archive Sector Review: Stakeholder briefing 2

6 February 2009

In 2008 the Society of Archivists (SoA), National Council on Archives (NCA), and the Association of Chief Archivists in Local Government (ACALG) commissioned a review of the representative structure of the archives and records management sector in England and Wales.

Following the review, SoA, NCA and ACALG agreed to discuss a merger of the three separate organisations into a single body.

The second cycle of meetings to discuss the proposed merger has now been completed. The Project Board, and Communications, Governance and Membership groups have met for a second time to start work on the practical detail of drawing together the three bodies into one responsive, inclusive organisation.

Governance

The Group agreed on some broad guiding principles:

- This would be a professional and sectoral body with a wider remit than the current organisations have individually.
- A Management Committee sitting under the Council would be responsible for day to day internal operations.
- There would be a Chief Executive Officer post.
- The governing Council's role will need to be determined but is likely to have a wider remit than the existing council's of the constituent organisations.
- Council members would have a portfolio and an area of designated responsibility.

The Group will now be working on opportunities for regional involvement and work with regional sectoral bodies as well as analysing the purpose and value of the organisations' existing committee and group's structures.

cont



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Membership

The Membership Group has been looking at potential membership categories and established guiding principles:

- Any new body will be a professional organisation under the broad direction of professional members.
- The new body needs to be more inclusive and consider the needs of Users/Affiliates/Associates who should also be involved in its development.

Ways to achieve these aims are under discussion including the position and voting rights of individual, corporate, institutional and affiliate members. It is important to ensure that each category of members feels represented and included.

Project Board

The Project Board has picked up on several issues apart from those outlined above. It has supported the proposal for a Council of 12 and the role of CEO being separated from the Chairman.

Throughout February all the Groups will be meeting to develop the themes outlined in this bulletin. They are on course to meet the target of concluding a memorandum of understanding between the three organisations by the end of April. We will continue to provide you with updates on the process, and will also brief you when the final outcome of discussions is known.

We wish to circulate this briefing as widely as possible, so if you would like to add someone's details to our circulation list, please contact the Society of Archivists (membership@archives.org.uk).

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Communications group