



ASSOCIATION
OF CHIEF ARCHIVISTS
IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Archive Sector Review: Stakeholder briefing 4

20 April 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 final cycle of meetings to discuss a proposed merger has now concluded. Many members, groups, regions and organisations have given feedback on the proposal. This has informed the thinking of the project board, governance and membership groups. Specific issues have been raised, and the overall feedback from members has been positive on the concept of a merged body.

The project board has drafted a memorandum of understanding for approval by the executives of ACALG, NCA and SoA. This memorandum will be considered by all three organisations in the course of the next few days, and their views passed to the project board.

The memorandum demonstrates a commitment by ACALG, NCA and SoA to continue a process which may lead to a full merger. The agreement of the memorandum in itself is not an agreement to proceed to a merger. A proposal to merge would need to be voted upon and approved by members.

Assuming that all three executives agree the memorandum of understanding, the project board will then consider in detail the legal, financial, and operational structures required by any new body. Further working groups will be convened, and the communications group will continue to provide updates to members on their deliberations.

The project board will meet again on 29 April after which a further statement will be issued.

Bruce Jackson (ACALG)
Jenny Moran (SoA)
Elizabeth Oxborrow-Cowan (NCA)
Mark Stevens (SoA)

Communications group