

## AGENDA ITEM 8

### BUCKINGHAMSHIRE ARCHAEOLOGICAL MANAGEMENT PLAN 2005 -7

To: Buckinghamshire Historic Environment Forum

Date: 30<sup>th</sup> March 2005

Authors: Report by the Senior Archaeological Officer

#### A. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1 To report progress with updating the Buckinghamshire Archaeological Management plan to cover the period 2005-7.

#### B. PROPOSED ACTION

##### 2 The Forum is invited to:

**CONSIDER** the format and general approach of the draft plan and proposals for consultation

#### C. RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

- 3 The resource implications of the Plan are assessed within it. Essentially they are based on the maintenance of a core service of three full-time permanent posts with additional projects and programs funded principally from external sources.

#### D. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 4 The Forum has previously supported the preparation of a draft 3-year plan for the archaeology service to update the existing five-year plan, which ran to March 2005. This has been reflected in the County Council's Medium Term Plan, which identified the following priorities for the Archaeology Team:

- ❖ Continue providing archaeological advice in support of the County and District Council's planning and development control functions
- ❖ Produce a Business Plan for Archaeology (2004/5) and prepare for the new statutory duty to maintain an Historic Environment Record (2007/8)
- ❖ Build on the "Unlocking Buckinghamshire's Past" project and joint working with the County Museum for the benefit of customers and to strengthen cross-links within the Community Services Portfolio (2005/6)
- ❖ Continue joint working with English Heritage and the Chiltern Conservation Board on heritage landscape characterisation across the county and integrate this with work on landscape character mapping and wildlife sites survey, to produce a strategic planning resource for the County

- 5 A working draft plan is attached to this report for information and comment (appendix 1). It is proposed to undertake a consultation based on this plan in order to gauge the priority to be given to various aspects of the service's work, noting of course that certain areas of work are "core" activities whereas others are discretionary. In identifying its priorities the service must have regard to relevant County Council policies and strategies as set out in the Council Plan, Community Plan etc. The main opportunity to influence the Plan lies in the priority to be given to the various options within the discretionary category. A proposed consultation document is provided as appendix 2. The Forum is invited to comment on the format and general approach of the draft plan and proposals for wider consultation.

E. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Historic Environment Forum paper September 2004.

**CONTACT OFFICER: ALEXANDER (SANDY) KIDD 01296-382927**