



Archaeology Training Forum

Terms of Reference

The Archaeology Training Forum is a delegate body comprised of representatives of UK-wide and national organisations which have an interest in the issues of training and career development in archaeology. ATF's terms of reference are

1. To promote current training provision by member bodies and others
2. To work with employers, policy makers and funding bodies in the sector to identify a framework of priorities for training and professional development for people working and volunteering in the historic environment
3. To work with training providers and educators towards the alignment of existing and proposed training sessions and units, sponsored or run by bodies represented, to provide training that is relevant and accessible to all
4. To promote engagement with minority groups to broaden equality of access to careers in the sector
5. To work towards agreement on the validation of training units and their integration within a widely accepted professional career structure
6. To undertake liaison across the sector with other bodies and organisations with an interest in the provision of training in historic environment skills
7. To act as the UK's representative on aspects of training and career development in archaeology, working with other national and international bodies.

Our Vision

ATF's aim is

To ensure a sustainable future for a discipline that is open to all; with archaeologists able to access high quality, appropriate education, training and career development opportunities leading to qualifications and recognition that demonstrate their expert skills, competence and knowledge.

In order to achieve its aim, ATF will

- promote opportunities for training, continuing professional development and career progression
- promote the value of training to employers and employees via an annual training award and through dissemination of relevant research
- work closely with Creative & Cultural Skills, the Sector Skills Council, and other comparable bodies, to tap into UK-wide skills-based initiatives for the benefit of the discipline
- support the NVQ in Archaeological Practice by promoting its take up and value
- promote the use and development of the National Occupational Standards in Archaeological Practice
- support learners at work and workers in learning through the Training Online Resource Centre (TORC) and other resources
- Promote Apprenticeships and alternative entry routes into the profession
- support training and high standards throughout the voluntary sector
- publicise the work of the Forum and promote its achievements
- Review progress annually against the aims of the Forum and publicise via the website

Forward plan 2013 – 2015

ATF has prioritised four areas over the course of the next two years

1. To focus on career-entry provision and the development of alternative routes into archaeology
 2. To develop further its relationship with the higher education sector
 3. To increase ATF's visibility through an enhanced web presence, print media and the TORC website
 4. To promote the NVQ L3 and the (re)development of the L4 qualification
1. ATF will seek to develop provision for a career-entry pathway which combines academic knowledge and understanding delivered via e-learning modules, along with practical training delivered by work placement models. It will develop a project proposal to be submitted to English Heritage/others for funding consideration.

Lead partner: Institute for Archaeologists

2. Establish a working party with FAME and SCFA to explore how better integration of academic and vocational training can be achieved

Lead partners: FAME and SCFA

ATF will promote the development of a register of fieldwork and/or work placement opportunities offered by FAME members and others, and will

explore with SCUFA the potential to develop a network of departmental fieldwork coordinators.

Lead partners: FAME and SCUFA

3. ATF will explore funding mechanisms for a revitalised ATF web-page in order to publicise its work. It will aim to promote its achievements via sector publications such as *British Archaeology* and *The Archaeologist*. It will discuss the future of the TORC website with CBA and seek to ensure its sustainability and development.

Lead partner: ATF

4. ATF will promote vocational qualifications in archaeology and, in particular, investigate the potential for the reinstigation of the Level 4 NVQ in Archaeological Practice.

Lead partner: Institute for Archaeologists