

Spotlight on the ClfA Toolkits – diversifying the delivery of guidance

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Providing a different format for guidance

Archaeology is a self-regulated profession. Its practitioners work to professional standards published by ClfA based on a shared understanding of what constitutes good practice, to deliver public benefit. As well as defining these standards, ClfA also provides guidance to help its members to consistently work in accordance with them. Collaboration with sector partners and specialists, ClfA's advocacy initiatives, the work of the Special Interest Groups and annual events such as the ClfA conference and the Innovation festival provide great opportunities for knowledge exchange. They also provide a platform to reflect on current practice, monitor changes and identify modified or new approaches that may trigger a review of the Standards or indeed the need for the development of new guidance. ClfA delivers guidance in a variety of formats, from the guidance clauses provided in the suite of *Standards and guidance* documents, to the publication of professional practice papers, the development of case studies and the delivery of CPD workshops. However, more recently, specialist online Toolkits have fast become an established feature on the ClfA website, proving to be a great new vehicle for the provision of

accessible guidance and resources to support practitioners across the historic environment sector.

Toolkits as a new vehicle to deliver good practice guidance

There are currently five Toolkits, which focus on specialist finds reporting, finds recording, Roman coinage, digital data management and archiving, with more in the pipeline, including a Toolkit on the commissioning of community archaeology, due to launch in 2023! The Toolkits to date have been developed in response to sector-wide recommendations from wider synthesis projects or reviews of archaeological processes and practice. Their online format has been developed to

allow the information and resources to be accessible and easy to update, with funding from Historic

England and the ClfA Finds Group, to date. The content has been written and compiled by sector specialists including Louise Rayner (Archaeology South-East), Duncan Brown (Historic England), Dr Sam Paul (Sam Paul Heritage), Dr Amanda Forster (DigVentures) and, most recently, Dr Peter Guest (see page 27), in collaboration with organisations and groups including the Archaeological Archives Forum (AAF), the Archaeology Data Service (ADS), the Association of Local Government Archaeological Officers (ALGAO) and the ClfA Finds and Archives Groups. Sector-wide consultation and collaboration has been key to their delivery and we're excited to see what comes next. Find them here: <https://www.archaeologists.net/toolkits>

