

Innovations: new ways to deliver social value through archaeology

The theme of the 2021 *Client guide* is ‘Innovations: new ways to deliver social value through archaeology’ and it focuses on how archaeology can deliver public benefit and make a positive difference to individuals, to communities and to society. The delivery of public benefit is closely aligned with the United Nations’ 2030 Global Goals for Sustainable Development and with the wider definition of value set out in the UK Government’s Construction Playbook.

The benefits from archaeology can be direct and tangible: participating in an archaeological excavation can help individuals build confidence, develop new skills or enhance their understanding. They can also be indirect, intangible and harder to measure. Using information about the past to shape development in the future, for example, can create places which have greater meaning and are valued more highly as a result.

Archaeologists work for a wide range of clients from multi-national companies to private individuals and from conservation charities to housing developers. The case studies in this guide illustrate just a few of the ways archaeology can add value and help to deliver the client’s goals, whether they are focused on delivering sustainable development, enhancing well-being, supporting communities or connecting new audiences with the past. Clients looking for further inspiration and examples can visit our public benefit webpages at <https://bit.ly/3yamnal>. and for those seeking more detailed information on the contribution of archaeology to sustainable development, the CIRIA *Archaeology and construction: good practice guidance* will be published later this year.



Hollis Croft: a matter of time



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Public engagement in our everyday work



Excavation for wellbeing