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Date: 2nd Feb 2021

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Association of Local Government
Archaeological Officers: Scotland
c/o East Lothian Council
Archaeology Service
John Muir House
Haddington
EH41 3HA

RE: Position Statement for NPF4

Dear Sir/Madam

The Association of Local Government Archaeology Officers (ALGAO) represents the Local Government Archaeology Officers and teams across the UK. ALGAO:Scotland represents 28 of the 32 local authorities, with representatives being the senior Archaeologists for the respective areas. Our geographical spread runs from Shetland Isles to the Scottish Borders.

With regards to the recently published Position Statement on NPF4 ALGAO:Scotland broadly supports the aims and thrust of the Position Statement, in particular the embedding of the historic environment throughout the document. We would however welcome a tightening up of the language used to clearly differentiate between 'culture' and the Historic Environment.

We note that the plan for resilient communities only makes reference to the Blue Green environment and no mention is made of the Historic Environment as playing a key part in our Nations and communities overall wellbeing.

Furthermore, we welcome the acknowledgement that the historic environment is an integral part of Scotland's sense of place. We also welcome the statements recognising that undesignated assets are an important part of the historic environment, and are often key to how communities and individuals see and understand their place.

We would however, note that historic assets and landmarks are not limited to just buildings, and as such we would welcome a wider definition of this in NPF4. To this end the policy titled **Protect and enhance our historic buildings and places** would be more usefully titled **Protect and enhance our historic environment**. We would advise that archaeological remains (both designated and undesignated) are specifically mentioned in this section. This would give a stronger and clearer message that we value all and not just one element of our nations rich heritage.

Overall we are therefore supportive of the position statement for NPF4. and we will welcome the opportunity to comment on future drafts. Please note that we also support the detailed response submitted by the Built Environment Forum Scotland on behalf of the sector

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrew Robertson', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Andrew Robertson
ALGAO:Scotland Chair
c/o East Lothian Council Archaeology Service
John Muir House
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