

Freedom of Information requests

2012

Reference number: 12-001

I would like to make a formal request under the Freedom of Information Act.

I would like to know the nature of the planning for the devolved responsibility of funding for the Portable Antiquities Scheme in Wales.

On 14 November 2011 PAS issued a short statement:

There have been recent concerns expressed as to the future operation of the Portable Antiquities Scheme in Wales. Discussions between the Welsh Government, Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales, the British Museum, and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) have now successfully addressed this issue in such a way that will ensure the continuation of the scheme, including the important post of Finds Liaison Officer, in Wales.

Yet in a recent FOI disclosure from the Welsh Government only 2 documents were released: one from Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales, and the other a memorandum from CyMAL. This suggests that the discussions with the British Museum and DCMS were not directly with WG. I am especially interested in the apparent gap between late November 2010 and late October 2011.

The lack of planning is particularly surprising as the Portable Antiquities Scheme was the subject of a major forum piece in the Papers of the Institute of Archaeology (UCL, London) that appeared in late 2010. The situation in Wales was discussed in the opening essay, and in my response I noted "As anticipated in the forum piece, the (Westminster) government funding will no longer include Wales, although it is hoped that the devolved Welsh Assembly Government (WAG) will fund the scheme; the detail has yet to be released".

I would like the request to cover the period from 1 April 2010 and to include letters, memoranda, emails, and other informal personal notes.

For clarification, I am not interested in the day-to-day activities on PAS as part of this request. However I would like to see copies of any documents (or to be made aware of their existence if they cannot be released) specifically relating to the move to devolved funding for PAS. I would also like the request to include material from (and to) pressure groups or interested parties that seems to have prompted the WG response in November 2011 (and the CyMAL memorandum of late October 2011).

Amgueddfa Cymru
Parc Cathays, Caerdydd CF10 3NP
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Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales
Cathays Park, Cardiff CF10 3NP
Tel (029) 2039 7951 Fax (029) 2057 3321

national
museum
wales
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cymru

30 January 2012

Dear,

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION – *information relating to information the planning for the devolved responsibility of funding for the Portable Antiquities Scheme in Wales*

Thank you for your request for information. As Head of Knowledge and Information Management for Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales (AC-NMW), I will be responsible for responding to your request for information.

I refer to your email of the 30 December 2011, in which you asked for the following information:

I would like to know the nature of the planning for the devolved responsibility of funding for her Portable Antiquities Scheme in Wales for the period from 1 April 2010 including letters, memoranda, emails and other informal personal notes.

I have reviewed the information held by the Museum relating to your request and I have located 20 pieces of information. Appendix A is the *Schedule of Information Held*. The schedule is set out the following information: reference number to the information provided in Appendix B, Date of the information, the individual who created the information and those receiving the information. I have also indicated where the information being held is being released or withheld and any exemptions I have applied.

When reviewing the information you have requested, I considered if any of the information contained personal information as defined within the Freedom of Information Act 2000. The Act states that all Personal Data is exempt from disclosure under Section 40(2). I now refer to 'personal information' as defined within S 1(1) of the Data Protection Act 1998. The Data Protection Act states that personal information is exempt from disclosure if it is deemed to be unfair as defined under Part 1 of Schedule I and Part II of Schedule I.

Items 1 through to 18 are being released; however, I have redacted information relating to individuals who are not Directors of AC-NMW or Senior members of staff within AC-NMW. I have also redacted personal names of those creating or receiving the information that are not members of AC-NMW, I have indicated their initials along with their institution on the *Schedule of Information Held*. I have applied section 40 (2) to this information and therefore, the personal information within these items of information are withheld.

Section 40 (2) FOIA – Personal data exempt from disclosure

The information requested amounts to personal data and is exempt under section 40(2), FOIA, as disclosure, without the consent of the individuals to whom it relates, to a member of the public otherwise than under the FOIA would breach the first data protection principles. This exemption is absolute and is not subject to the public interest test. Therefore, the information requested is exempt under FOIA section 40(2) and will now be reviewed under the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA).

Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA)

Section 1(1) DPA – meaning of “personal data”

Information relating to the Director-General's salary and associated pay increases is personal data within the meaning of the DPA.

Part I of Schedule 1 DPA – first data protection principle

In our view, the disclosure of personal data to a third party would be unfair within the meaning of the first data protection principle. Part II of Schedule 1 to the DPA sets out how the principle of fairness is to be interpreted. It states that, in deciding whether personal data is processed fairly, regard must be had to whether any person from whom it was obtained is deceived or misled as to the purpose or purposes for which they are to be processed. In this case, releasing the names of non-members of AC-NMW staff or junior AC-NMW staff involved in discussions relating to your request would be unfair as they would believe their correspondence was not for publication or available for

wide distribution. In the case, the initials of the individuals and their organisations are being provided.

The information you have requested contains personal information and releasing this information would be deemed unfair on the first data protection principle.

This next section refers to items 19 and 20 noted in *the Schedule of Information Held*.

AC-NMW holds two pieces of information within the scope of your request, however, after reviewing the information, I have determined that items 19 and 20 are exempt from disclosure under Section 36(2)(b)(ii) as their release would Prejudice to effective conduct of public affairs. I have applied the public interest test weighing up the arguments in favour of disclosure and against disclosure, it has been deemed by the Museum's 'qualified person' that disclosure would likely prejudice the effective conduct of public affairs as it would inhibit the free and frank exchange of views for the purposes of deliberation.

Under the Freedom of Information Act, S36 is considered an Absolute Exemption, however, in this case we will consider it to be considered a qualified exemption and it is the opinion of the Museum's 'qualified person' that the disclosure of the information would likely inhibit the free and frank provision of views for the purposes of deliberation (S 36(2)(b)(ii)). Therefore we are obliged to conduct a public interest test to consider whether the balance of the public interest lies in favour of maintaining the exemption or in favour of release. When applying the public interest test to these two pieces of information, it has been concluded that they are exempt information under Section 36(2)(b)(ii) of the Freedom of Information Act.

Section 36(2)(b) 'would or would be likely to, inhibit –

- (i) The free and frank provision of advice, or
- (ii) The free and frank exchange of views for the purposes of deliberation'

The balance of the public interest assess whether the interest of the public are best served by disclosure or non disclosure of the requested information. The balance to be considered when using the exemption is the public interest in ensuring that there is a space, within which officials and Ministers can discuss policy options and delivery, freely and frankly.

It has been determined following the public interest test that disclosure would be prejudicial for the provision of free and frank advice and the free and frank exchange of views.

The issues we have considered are outlined below:

Arguments in Favour of Disclosure – Section 36(2)(b)(ii):

- The need to support the General Public's interest in openness and accountability.
- The benefit of the Public to know and understand how decisions are being made within the Public Sector and Government.
- The argument in disclosure of the information being requested may support the Public's greater understanding of the decision making process.

Arguments Against Disclosure – Section 36(2)(b)(ii):

- The information discusses current negotiations and policy principles and there is a need to protect the space for officials and Ministers to discuss and consider process and policy issues in an open and frank manner.
- If the information were to be made public, the nature of the discussions is likely to be affected. It is likely to reduce the opportunity for those involved to raise controversial options or allow for free and frank discussions if they believe such comments and options would be made publically available.
- In order to be able to seek extended views and to discuss options, there has to be a space to do so, to allow individuals to freely weigh up the risks and consequences of such decisions. The premature release of information is likely to discourage the free and frank exchange of views and ideas. Therefore, there is a strong public interest to protect this private space.

In conclusion, the requirements of openness must be balanced against the proper and effective functioning of government. Having considered all the relevant arguments, it is the view of Mr. David Anderson, Director General (AC-NMW's qualified person) that the balance of the public interest favours maintaining the exemption and withholding the information under Section 36(2)(b)(ii) of the Freedom of Information Act at this current time. This does not rule out the information being disclosed in the future.

Your request was considered according to the principles set out in the National Assembly's Code of Practice on Public Access to Information (third edition). The Code is published on the Internet at www.information.wales.gov.uk.

If you believe that I have not applied the Code of Practice on Public Access to Information correctly or have not followed the relevant laws, please contact me to request a first-stage review. If, after that, you are still not satisfied you may request a formal review by the Museum. When dealing with any concerns, we will follow the principles of the National Museum of Wales' Code of Practice on Complaints, which is available on the Internet at www.nationalmuseumwales.org/en/45/ or by post to:

Mr. Robin Gwyn
Director of Communications
National Museum Wales
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NP

You also have the right to complain to the Information Commissioner. Normally, however, you should pursue the matter through our internal procedure before you complain to the Information Commissioner. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner's Office
Wycliffe House
Water Lane
Wilmslow
Cheshire
SK9 5AF

Yours sincerely,

Head of Knowledge & Information Management

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Llywydd/President Elisabeth Elias MA DL
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Rhif elusen / Charity registration number: 525774
Rhif TAW / VAT registration number: GB 783 4541 10

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Appendix A – Schedule of Information Held

The following is the schedule of information relating to the planning for the devolved responsibility of funding for the Portable Antiquities Scheme in Wales from the 1st April 2010.

Reference number	Date	Created by	Received by	Released / Exemption
1	31 Oct. 2011	TC (CyMAL)	Mark Richards Cc: LT (CyMAL) LAK (CyMAL)	Partial released Exemption S 40(2)
2	21 Oct. 2011	Mark Richards	Cc: John Williams	Partial released Exemption S 40(2)
3	14 Oct. 2011	RB (British Museum)	Mark Redknap, Edward Besly, Lark Lodwick	Partial released Exemption S 40(2)
4	14 Oct. 2011	Mark Richards	TC (CyMAL)	Partial released Exemption S 40(2)
5	13 Oct. 2011	Mark Richards	David Anderson, John Williams-Davies Cc: Neil Wicks	Partial released Exemption S 40(2)
6	12 Oct. 2011	LT (CyMAL)	AB (British Museum) Cc: David Anderson, LR (Culture, MK(CADW), Mark Richards, LAK (CyMAL)	Partial released Exemption S 40(2)
7	12 Oct. 2011	Mark Richards	John Williams-Davies Cc: Mark Redknap	Partial released Exemption S 40(2)
8	10 March 2011	John Williams-Davies	CC (British Museum) Cc: David Anderson, Edward Besly, Mark Richards, LAK (CyMAL)	Partial released Exemption S 40(2)
9	10 March 2011	CC (British Museum)	John Williams-Davies, Edward Besly, LAK (CyMAL), RB (British Museum)	Partial released Exemption S 40(2))
10	31 Jan. 2011	RB (British Museum)	Mark Lodwick, Edward Besly	Partial released Exemption S 40(2)
11	23 Nov. 2010	CC (British Museum)	Edward Besly Cc: Mark Lodwick, RB (British Museum), ML	Partial released Exemption S 40(2)
12	Nov. 2010	Neil MacGregor	David Anderson	Partial released Exemption S 40(2)

13	Memorandum submitted by the Portable Antiquities Scheme			Released
14	18 Oct. 2011	John Williams-Davies	Response letter to private individuals writing to Amgueddfa Cymru regarding PAS	Partial released Exemption S 40(2)
15	11 October	Private individual	David Anderson	Partial released Exemption S 40(2)
16	Not dated	Private individual	David Anderson	Partial released Exemption S 40(2)
17	Not dated	Private individual	David Anderson	Partial released Exemption S 40(2)
18	12 Oct. 2011	Private individual	David Anderson	Partial released Exemption S 40(2)
19				Partial released Exemption S 40(2)
20				Partial released Exemption S 40(2)

1

Sent: 31 October 2011 15:25

Subject: Portable Antiquities Scheme

Importance: High

Mark,

As you know we have been negotiating a funding package to ensure the continuation of the PAS, and the FLO post, in Wales. We are very grateful for the Museum's offer to increase its contributions to the Scheme from the current £6.5k. The funding has now been agreed by the Minister for 2012-13, with the following contributions being made by the 3 Welsh partners:

	2011-12	(current year) 2012-13	confirmed 2013-14	(indicative) 2014-15	(indicative) Total for 4-year period
CyMAL	5,000	12,628	17,860	20,933	56,421
Cadw	0	12,628	17,860	20,933	51,421
Total Welsh Government Contribution	5,000	25,256	35,720	41,866	107,842
Amgueddfa Cymru	6,500	12,628	17,860	20,933	57,921
Total Wales contribution	11,500	37,885	53,578	62,800	165,763

Future funding and operation of PAS

Years 2013-14 and 2014-15 are indicative and so contributions cannot be confirmed at present. Nevertheless there is clear commitment to the Scheme here in the Welsh Government and it is suggested that these figures are used as a planning framework. Cadw is keen to have discussions with you to discuss how the FLO role can contribute to a more integrated approach to public engagement in this field, particularly from 2013-14 when Cadw will be contributing towards the costs of the FLO post as well as the work of the archaeological trusts. It would be helpful if you could let me know who in the Museum would be best placed to lead on these discussions and I will pass on their details to Gwilym Hughes who will lead for Cadw. We will also need to have a discussion around the mechanism for providing this funding - we would assume the Cadw and CyMAL elements for the FLO post be provided directly to the Museum but I am unsure about the funding provided to the Trusts. I would welcome the Museum's view on this.

31/10/2011

Publicity

We have had a considerable level of interest in the future of the PAS in Wales. We do not feel that a WG press release on the subject would be the best option, however, it would be exceedingly helpful if the Museum were able to include a short statement on its website to reassure the public. We would suggest this be along the lines of:

There have been recent concerns expressed as to the future operation of the Portable Antiquities Scheme in Wales. Discussions between the Welsh Government, Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales, the British Museum, and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) have now successfully addressed this issue in such a way that will ensure the continuation of the scheme, including the important post of Finds Liaison Officer, in Wales."

Bu pryderon yn ddiweddar ynglyn ag gweithrediad y Cynllun Henebion Cludadwy yn y dyfodol yng Nghymru. Mae trafodaethau rhwng Llywodraeth Cymru, Amgueddfa Cymru, yr Amgueddfa Brydeinig, a'r Adran dros Ddiwylliant, y Cyfryngau a Chwaraeon (DCMS) bellach wedi llwyddo i ymdrin â'r mater hwn mewn modd a ydd yn sicrhau parhad y cynllun, gan gynnwys y swydd bwysig o Swyddog Cyswllt Darganfyddiadau, yng Nghymru. "

If it would be possible for this to be announced on your website by, say, tomorrow afternoon or Wednesday, it would help us tremendously in responding to the many correspondents who have written to the Minister and the WG on this matter.

Many thanks again for the Museum's assistance and support for this important scheme and its future operation.

Best wishes

*Cynghorydd Noddi: Amgueddfa Cymru / Sponsorship Adviser: Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales
CyMAL : Amgueddfeydd Archifau a Llyfrgelloedd Cymru / CyMAL : Museums Archives and Libraries Wales
Llywodraeth Cymru / Welsh Government*

Rhodfa Padarn, Llanbadarn Fawr, Aberystwyth, Ceredigion, SY23 3UR

Ffôn / Tel: 0300 062 2115 Ffacs / Fax: 0300 062 2052

tom.cosson@wales.gsi.gov.uk

Hapus i gyfathrebu'n Saesneg neu yn y Gymraeg / Happy to communicate in English or Welsh

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Wrth adael Mewnwyd Ddiogel y Llywodraeth nid oedd unrhyw feirws yn gysylltiedig â'r neges hon. Mae'n ddigon posibl y bydd unrhyw ohebiaeth drwy'r GSi yn cael ei logio, ei monitro a/neu ei chofnodi yn awtomatig am resymau cyfreithiol.

From: Mark Richards
Sent: 21 October 2011 10:57
Cc: John Williams-Davies
Subject: PAS element for briefing document

Karen here is the bit on the Portable antiquities scheme ...

Cymal's advice is that they are content with this proposal from the British Museum, which will result in a funding breakdown as shown in the table below:

Period	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Total for
British Museum contribution	(£) 57,770	31,385	15,693	6,470	111,318
Wales contribution	(£) 5,000	31,385	47,078	56,300	139,763
Total cost (£) 62,770					
% Split BM-Wales 6,470	N/A	50% - 50%	25% - 75%	0% - 100% minus	

Mark Richards
 Dirprwy Gyfarwyddwr Cyffredinol & Cyfarwyddwr Gweithredu
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From: Roger Bland [mailto:RBLAND@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk]
Sent: 14 October 2011 11:50
To: Mark Redman; Edward Besly
Cc: Mark Lodwick
Subject: FW: Portable Antiquities Scheme - Wales

Dear Mark, Edward, Mark

I'm not sure how far you've been involved in the discussions about PAS funding within your Museum, but from our end it seems that agreement has been reached (see the emails below): I hope that is your understanding too!

This is a great relief for me and I am delighted we have reached a resolution.

The BM has agreed to contribute £31,385 in 2012-13, £15,592 in 2013-14 and £6,470 in 2014-15 (we have found an additional £34K on top of the funding we had received from DCMS last October). I presume you would like us to send you a contract for 2012-15 with those figures?

I also wondered where this left the grants for the Trusts? I think Linda Tomos said that Cadw would pick up these costs, but do you know if that has been confirmed and at what level?

Best wishes

Roger

From: Mark Richards
Sent: 14 October 2011 08:37
Subject: PAS

Tom, we are happy to proceed with a 3 way split of the balance subject to our existing contribution of £6.5k being considered as part of our additional funding.

I wish you well with your discussions with CADW.

Best wishes

Mark
Mark Richards
Deputy Director General
Amgueddfa Cymru National Museum Wales

16/01/2012

From: Mark Richards
Sent: 13 October 2011 14:49
To: David Anderson; John Williams-Davies
Cc: Neil Wicks
Subject: Portable Antiquities scheme

Dear All,

I've had a phone call from Tom in relation to PAS. Now that they believe that they have an agreement with the British Museum, they are seeking agreement on how they close the gap that is created. They are suggesting a 3 way split between us, CyMAL and CADW. In my mind this is reasonable but I have suggested that they take into account our existing contribution of £6.5k so that this isn't just taken as granted. In this case it would look as follows:

Year	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Funding gap	£37k	£54k	£63k
CADW	£12.5K	£18k	£21k
CyMAL	£12.5k	£18k	£21k
Us	£12.5k	£18k	£21k

So extra funding needed by us: £6k £11.5k £15.5k

Would this be acceptable? CyMAL are keen to wrap CADW into these discussions but wanted to know that we were willing to look at the 3 way split as a principle?

They are also keen that a message is placed on relevant web-sites including ours saying that the funding for the scheme is secured, I've advised that we would only be happy to do this once we had agreed our exposure, so CyMAL need to confirm that they and CADW are happy with the proposed split providing we are.

Best wishes

Mark

Mark Richards

Dirprwy Gyfarwyddwr Cyffredinol & Cyfarwyddwr Gweithredu

Deputy Director General & Director of Operations

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6

Sent: 17 October 2011 10:20

Subject: Portable Antiquities Scheme - Wales

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for your proposal regarding future funding for the Portable Antiquities Scheme funding in Wales from 2012-15. We are grateful for the commitment of the British Museum to continue supporting this important and successful programme.

We are content with your proposal as outlined, which will result in a funding breakdown as shown in the table below:

	2011-12 (current year)	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	Total for Spending Period
British Museum contribution (£)	57,770	31,385	15,693	6,470	111,318
Wales contribution (£)	5,000	31,385	47,078	56,300	139,763
Total cost (£)	62,770				
% Split BM-Wales	N/A	50% - 50%	25% -		
	75%				
	0% - 100% minus 6,470				

My colleagues in CyMAL, Cadw and Amgueddfa Cymru - National Museum Wales look forward to working with the British Museum to ensure the continued success of the Portable Antiquities Scheme.

Yours sincerely,

Cyfarwyddwr CyMAL / Director CyMAL
Llywodraeth Cymru / Welsh Government
Rheolfa Fardern
Llanbaidarn Fawr
Aberystwyth
Ceredigion
SY23 3UR

7

Portable Antiquities Scheme - Wales

John Williams-Davies

From: Mark Richards

Sent: 12 October 2011 12:18

To: John Williams-Davies

Cc: Mark Redknap

Subject: FW: Portable Antiquities Scheme - Wales

John, this appears to bring the funding for the PAS to a positive conclusion, it follows a personal intervention by David with the Deputy Director General of the British Museum.

I've copied in Mark so that he can assure Mark Lodwick that the matter is resolved to our satisfaction.

Best wishes

Mark

From: John Williams-Davies
Sent: 10 March 2011 09:17
To:
Cc: David Anderson; Edward Besly; Mark Richards; '
Subject: PAS Funding

I can confirm that Amgueddfa Cymru is prepared to accept the offer of flat funding for PAS for 2011-12. We look forward to the receipt of the contract in order to provide security for Mark's post for the coming year. I would stress, however, that future funding for the years beyond that remains subject to the outcome of continuing discussions between CyMAL, DCMS and the BM.

PAS was established as an England and Wales scheme and has only recently become subsumed into Renaissance funding. It is our fervent hope that this anomaly can be resolved so that the future funding of the scheme can be maintained.

Best wishes

John Williams-Davies
Director: Collections & Research

John Williams-Davies

Sent: 10 March 2011 09:34
To: John Williams-Davies
Cc: David Anderson; Edward Besly; Mark Richards;

Subject: RE: PAS Funding

Dear John,

Many thanks for your reply. I will issue the contract for 2011-12 ASAP.

Kind regards

Claire
Resources Manager
Portable Antiquities Scheme

Department of Portable Antiquities & Treasure
The British Museum
Great Russell Street
London
WC1B 3DG

020 7323 8618
www.finds.org.uk

From: Roger Bland [mailto:RBLAND@thebritishmuseum.ac.uk]
Sent: 31 January 2011 21:38
To: Mark Lodwick; Edward Besly
Subject: PAS: meeting with CyMAL

Dear Mark and Edward

At her request, Michael and I met Linda Tomos of CyMAL at the DCMS today to talk about funding for PAS. The good news was that she said very definitely that PAS in Wales would continue to be supported and that she was happy with the way the BM has been running the Scheme, although she was concerned about the way we have had to withdraw all but £6K of funding that we can offer from April 2012.

She added that Cadw would take on responsibility for the grants for the Trusts.

The DCMS officials with whom the BM negotiated there transfer of funding from MLA were also part of the discussion and some of her comments were directed to them as they concerned other issues relating to the handling of museum-related issues.

She asked for an explanation as to why the funding we were able to offer for PAS in Wales was different from what we were offering to England and I have sent a note back to the DCMS officials noting that the main point is that all the funding for PAS from 2011 to 2015 comes from the Renaissance allocation, and this is an English programme.

But I think the most positive thing was her very clear statement that PAS in Wales will continue to be supported - including the grants for the Trusts. I hope this can be officially announced soon.

Best wishes

Roger

Dr Roger Bland
Head of Portable Antiquities and Treasure
British Museum
London WC1B 3DG

Tel.: 020 7323 8611

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16/01/2012

Sent: 23 November 2010 10:54
To: Edward Besly
Cc: Mark Lodwick;
Subject: PAS Funding 2011-15
Importance: High

Dear Edward,

The Minister has today been able to confirm the future governance and funding for PAS. Following the announcement in July that MLA would be closed in 2012, the British Museum has agreed to take on responsibility for the Scheme and the DCMS has offered funding taken from the Renaissance pot. The funding will be reduced by 15% in real terms over four years, in line with reductions in the overall budget for Renaissance and the national museums. (The DCMS's overall budget was cut by 25%, and both Renaissance and the national museums have been protected more than any of the DCMS's other sponsored bodies.)

The reduction that the British Museum has received has highlighted the anomaly that funding for an English project – Renaissance – should support the Scheme in Wales. In order to safeguard the integrity of the Scheme in England we need to rebalance the proportions of funding that come from England and from Wales. So from April 2012, the central PAS contribution to Wales will have to be reduced to £6.5K and it will be necessary for either CyMAL or the National Museum Wales or perhaps another source to make up the balance.

In line with the funding for the national museums we can offer firm funding for the Scheme for the next two years, 2011-13. The figures for 2013-15 are provisional and will be confirmed before April 2013.

Unfortunately, the reductions in the overall funding for the scheme mean that there is no scope for flexibility to increase the grant allocations above the figures set out here.

Please find below a breakdown of the funding we are able to offer you for the next four years:

Wales	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Salary	44,125.00	6,470.00	6,470.00	6,470.00
Travel	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	45,125.00	6,470.00	6,470.00	6,470.00
Welsh Trusts	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Salary	12,345.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Travel	300.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	12,645.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

We will no longer require partners to formally account for a local contribution and we hope that this will alleviate some of the pressure that may result from the removal of the other costs budget.

I would be grateful if you could confirm your acceptance of these figures, and once you have done so we will be able to issue a contract: this will provide firm figures for the years 2011-12 and 2012-13 and indicative figures for 2013-14 and 2014-15 in line with the DCMS's grant to the British Museum. We are keen to provide certainty for all PAS staff as soon as possible and would aim to issue all the contracts before Christmas.

We would also be happy to arrange a meeting for managers regarding the future of the Scheme if you would find this helpful.

I would also like to say thanks again for your support and patience during this difficult time - it has been greatly appreciated.

Kind regards

Resources Manager
Portable Antiquities Scheme

Department of Portable Antiquities & Treasure
The British Museum
Great Russell Street
London
WC1B 3DG

Mr David Anderson
Director General
National Museum Wales
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF1 3NP

November 2010

Portable Antiquities Scheme

I wanted to write to you about the Portable Antiquities Scheme in Wales. The PAS, as you know, has been tremendously successful in reaching out to a group of people, mainly metal detector users, who find many thousands of objects which can transform our knowledge of the archaeological landscape of England and Wales, but who in the past often had difficult relations with professional archaeologists. In Wales the portable antiquities activities are run by a Finds Co-ordinator based at your museum, with support from four Welsh Regional Archaeological Trusts. The PAS currently provides £51K p.a. for the Finds Co-ordinator plus £13K p.a. for the Welsh Trusts - a total of £64K, £5K of this being a contribution from CyMAL. On top of this your museum currently contributes £6.5K pa towards the cost of the Scheme in Wales.

The PAS has hitherto been funded by the MLA from the Renaissance pot, although it has been administered through the BM which this year is contributing £140K to the overall costs of the Scheme. As part of the current Spending Review settlement we were approached by DCMS to take on the project and we have now reached agreement with them. The PAS grant is reduced in line with the reduction in our own grant in aid - i.e. by 15% over the next four years.

Since 95% of all the funding for PAS goes on staff costs, this 15% reduction has meant making some tough decisions. It has in particular highlighted the anomaly that funding for an English project - Renaissance - should fund the Scheme in Wales. In order to safeguard the integrity of the Scheme in England we need to rebalance the proportions of funding that come from England and from Wales. So from April 2012, the central PAS contribution to Wales will have to be reduced to £6.5K. Therefore if the Scheme is to continue in Wales it will be necessary for either CyMAL or the National Museum Wales or perhaps another (charitable?) source to make up the balance. The total cost per year is £70.5K - so the National Museum Wales and CyMAL would, between you, need to contribute a total of £64K. The central PAS will pledge to put in £6.5K in each year of the spending review period.

Ed Vaizey, Minister for Culture at the DCMS, is writing to your Minister, Alun Ffred Jones, about this and I understand that his officials have already been in touch with CyMAL.

I do hope that you and CyMAL will be able to help ensure the future of the Scheme in Wales. It is such a vital service and the Finds Co-ordinator in your museum has set a wonderful example of the potential of museum outreach.

Neil MacGregor
Director

Memorandum submitted by the Portable Antiquities Scheme

SUMMARY

- The Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) welcomes the opportunity to contribute to the House of Commons, Culture, Media and Sport Committee Inquiry on *Funding of the Arts and Heritage*. This comes at a crucial time for the Scheme, following the Government's announcement of its intention to close its sponsored body – the Museums Libraries and Archives Council (MLA) – in March 2012, and the fact that the sector as a whole is facing severe spending cuts.
- The PAS is a network of 50 staff, managed by the British Museum and funded via the MLA, who records archaeological objects found by the public for public benefit.
- Currently the PAS costs £1.607M p/a: £1.412M of the funding comes from MLA, £5K from CyMAL, £83K from the British Museum, and £107K from local partners, who employ the Scheme's staff. With the pending abolition of the MLA it is not clear how, and through whom, the PAS will be funded, though the British Museum is an obvious possibility, assuming full/adequate funding is also transferred.
- Like all public bodies in the sector the PAS is vulnerable to funding cuts. Given the Scheme costs a relatively small amount and over 92% of costs are salary costs, any such cuts would have a disproportionate impact; making it unable to operate a national recording service for finders of archaeological objects, but also of great detriment to the archaeological record and museum collections.
 - A 5% cut would be the equivalent of losing at least 3 Finds Liaison Officer posts;
 - A 10% cut would be the equivalent of losing at least 6 Finds Liaison Officer posts;
 - A 15% cut would be the equivalent of losing at least 9 Finds Liaison Officer posts.

INTRODUCTION

- The PAS is the only proactive mechanism for systematically recording archaeological finds made by the public. It funds 40 locally based archaeologists, known as Finds Liaison Officers, 6 period specialists (Finds Advisers) and a central unit of 4 others. Since 1997, when the Scheme was established, it has recorded over 637,000 finds, many of which may have never otherwise been recorded. Important finds recorded through the Scheme included the Staffordshire Hoard (an Anglo-Saxon hoard of over 1,600 gold and silver objects), the Frome Hoard (a Roman pot containing over 52,500 coins) and the Staffordshire Moorlands Pan (a Roman vessel inscribed with the names of forts on Hadrian's Wall).
- The data collated by the PAS is made publically available on its website – www.finds.org.uk – and transferred to Historic Environment Records. This data is a useful source for people wanting to find out about the archaeology of their local area. It is also becoming an increasingly useful dataset for academic research. 187 researchers are currently using PAS data, which is beginning to transform the archaeological map of Britain. For example, PAS data has increased the number of known Roman sites in Warwickshire and Worcestershire by 30%, and more than doubled the known archaeological sites in Lincolnshire.
- The PAS also has an important educational role, enabling everyone with an interest in the past to get involved in archaeology and bring the past to life. Since 2003, over 252,000 people have attended more than 10,280 events organised by the PAS, including talks, finds days and events for children. As part of the Council for British Archaeology's Festival for British Archaeology 2010, the PAS took part in 75 events, which were attended by 8,430 adults and 2,952 children, an examined more than 1,706 finds.

- The PAS is fundamental to the working of the Treasure Act 1996. Its Finds Liaison Officers advise finders of their legal obligations to report Treasure, write coroner's reports on them, and courier finds to the British Museum for expert analysis and valuation. Since 2003, when the PAS was extended to the whole of England and Wales, the number of finds reported Treasure has increased on average by almost 210%.

THE IMPACT OF RECENT, AND FUTURE, SPENDING CUTS

- Following the Chancellor's emergency budget, MLA cut PAS funding by £5K, which the Scheme was able to absorb.
- It is currently unclear what cuts (if any) might be imposed on the PAS, and therefore the table below outlines the possible effects of a 5%, 10% and 15% cut:

	Cost	Impact of cut: based on the cost (salary and on costs) of an average FLO post (£26,800)
5%	£80,350	3 posts
10%	£160,700	6 posts
15%	£241,050	9 posts

- Currently the PAS employs 40 Finds Liaison Officers, of whom 10 are part-time: these are all currently funded through Renaissance.
- A 5% cut would result in some post closures. Depending on what posts were identified for closure, the PAS might be able to maintain a national scheme. With a 10% cut, the Scheme would be forced to ensure that some areas of the country are covered by neighbouring Finds Liaison Officers, or covered on a part-time basis. With a 15% cut it is uncertain how the PAS could maintain a national scheme, meaning that many archaeological finds, including Treasure, would go unreported.
- Without a local Finds Liaison Officer it is unclear how any archaeological discoveries (including Treasure) would be reported: before the PAS was established the reporting of such finds was uncommon, as most local museums neither had the resources or expertise to adequately identify such finds, let alone record them. In the first instance finders might attempt to record their finds with their local museum, assuming the local curator is willing, able or competent to record such finds. This would obviously impact on local museum resources, normally met by the local authority. More likely, many finders would not bother to record their finds and this loss of information would be of great detriment to the archaeological record and public collections.
- Without a national PAS the Treasure Act 1996 would be unworkable. Under the Act finders have a legal obligation to report Treasure to the local coroner in the district the object was found. In practice, finders report Treasure finds to their local Finds Liaison Officer (who informs the coroner of the find), normally when they come to their metal-detecting club. They then write a report on the find and it is delivered to the British Museum. Without a local Finds Liaison Officer, it may fall to the local museum to accept Treasure, write a report on it, and courier it to the national museum for valuation etc.
- If the PAS was no longer able to offer national coverage, it is likely many archaeologists and museum curators would argue for metal-detecting to be regulated and/or restricted.

THE IMPACT OF THE ABOLITION OF THE MUSEUMS, LIBRARIES & ARCHIVES COUNCIL

- MLA (formerly the Museums & Galleries Commission) has been involved in the management of PAS since the Scheme was established in 1997. Its role has been one of channelling funding for the Scheme: it headed the bid to the Heritage Lottery Fund that

established a national Scheme; and became the mechanism for funding the project when DCMS recognised PAS should be funded through central Government.

- Following cuts to MLA in the 2008 Comprehensive Spending Review, PAS was also subject to proposed cuts.
- At this time 229 MPs of all parties signed EDM 566, which stated: 'That this House recognises the great contribution of the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) to transforming the archaeological map of Britain by proactively recording archaeological finds made by the public; celebrates the fact that in 10 years the scheme has recorded on its public database more than 300,000 archaeological finds, which would not have otherwise been reported, for the benefit of all; expresses concern at the likely impact of funding cuts proposed for the Museums, Libraries and Archives Council (MLA), following the recent Comprehensive Spending Review, on the PAS; and urges the Government to ensure that the scheme is at least able to maintain its current levels of activity and to consider urgently whether MLA offers the best home for the PAS or whether another body, such as the British Museum, would not be better placed to provide PAS with a long-term sustainable future'.
- Following an independent review of the PAS, it was agreed there were enough synergies between PAS and Renaissance for Renaissance funding to be used to fund the Scheme.
- The abolition of the MLA resurrects the question of where PAS best sits. Given that the PAS is managed by the British Museum, on behalf of MLA, and that the British Museum also administers the Treasure process, it seems sensible that PAS is now fully transferred to the British Museum, but it is essential that adequate funding is transferred at the same time.
- In an article on the political parties' priorities for archaeology published before the election (*British Archaeology*, March-April 2010) both the then Minister, Margaret Hodge, and then Shadow Minister, Ed Vaizey, singled out PAS as one of the most important initiatives in archaeology, and both of them pledged their support for it.

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

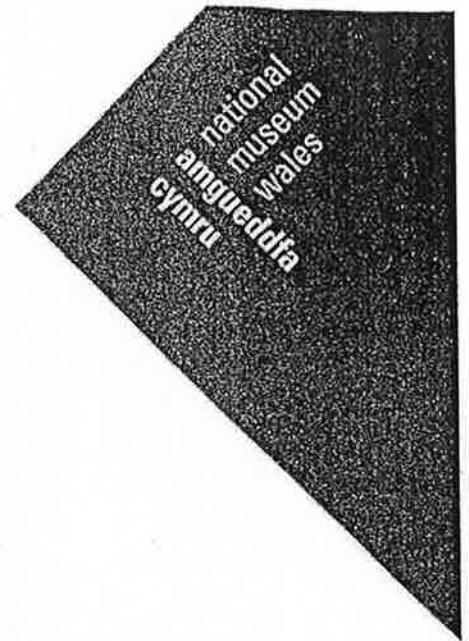
- Funding cuts would have a disproportionate effect on the PAS. The Scheme would no longer be able to provide a national recording service for finders across England and Wales, and many important archaeological discoveries would go unrecorded.
- PAS should be transferred to the British Museum, assuming full/adequate funding is transferred from MLA/Renaissance.

Portable Antiquities Scheme
Department of Portable Antiquities & Treasure
British Museum
London
WC1B 3DG

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18 October 2011

FILE COPY



Portable Antiquities Scheme

Thank you for your recent letter re: the above.

Recent events surrounding the scheme have been most unfortunate, but I am happy to say that the current issues are very close to being resolved and that the future of the scheme would appear to be secure.

The recent discussions have revolved around sources of funding for the Scheme, not the future of the Scheme itself. In our minds there was never a thought that the Scheme would be discontinued nor was there a threat to the Finds Liaison Officer's post. CyMAL have worked tirelessly on our behalf in this matter and have succeeded in brokering a deal which is acceptable to all parties.

Please be assured that Amgueddfa Cymru – National Museum Wales is fully aware of the value of the Scheme and totally committed to its continuation. We are also very appreciative of the support we have received from the Welsh Metal Detecting Clubs over the years and the many fine objects we have been able to acquire as a result of their efforts.

Thank you for your support in this matter and it was gratifying to see how highly you regard Mark Lodwick's work.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which reads 'John Williams-Davies'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'J'.

John Williams-Davies
Director: Collections & Research

11th October 2011

Dear Sir

I should like to draw to your attention the deep concern felt in Wales amongst the members of the Welsh Metal Detecting Clubs on the absence of a renewal of the contract for the Finds Liaison Officer (FLO) for Wales from April 2012. As you will see from the attached photocopy, in England the position of the 40 FLO are secured for the next four years at a cost of, so I am informed, of 3.4 million pounds. Here in Wales we have just one FLO at an annual cost of £60,000 which seems remarkably good value and cheaper per head compared to England.

The FLO is a very large cog in the Portable Antiques Scheme (PAS) and the Treasure Act and links not only archaeology, and metal detectorists, but field walkers, the public and even industry. Metal detectorists have worked with archaeologists on numerous occasions and continue to do so and have made some remarkable finds, i.e. The amazing Staffordshire Anglo Saxon Hoard and every year a number of important finds are made, Hoards of coins and artefacts, historical finds such as the true location of battle sites, previously unknown area of Roman activity and villas etc.

The metal detecting fraternity is a veritable army at no cost to the establishment and when we find something of value or importance we do want it investigated properly. This has happened on several occasions with Cardiff Scan Club.

The present Portable Antiques Scheme was a long time in the making, it is respected by detectorists who are happy to work within its framework. The FLO also helps deciding what may be treasure and ensuring it is recorded within the two week period as set down in law.

Our Welsh heritage is equally as important as it is in England and the loss of the FLO just to save money would hinder the contact between the public, detectorists and the authorities. We well understand the present financial crisis but the Westminster government believes it is important enough to keep in England and so must we in Wales.

The delay in decision making is also very unfair on your excellent FLO Mark Lodwick whose present contract finishes in March 2012. If you are the department/authority which will be funding the FLO in future surely its time you announced your decision, after all you've had nine months to think about it.

We would appreciate a reply to this letter, any comments and your decision if known.

Yours Faithfully

For the attention of Mr David Anderson
Director General of the National Museum of Wales
Cathays Park Cardiff
CF10 3NP

Dear Mr Anderson

RETENTION OF FINDS LIAISON OFFICER FOR WALES

I am dismayed and shocked by the news that the Finds Liaison Officer for Wales will not be funded centrally. I very much hope that the Welsh National Assembly will fund this very important role.

I as many Detectors have supported the Portable Antiques Scheme and Treasure Act as our Welsh heritage is paramount. By not funding the Finds Liaison Officer this will only encourage people not to support the above and as many of the items in the Museum are funded by us, these will decrease by this news.

I have had the pleasure of meeting Mark Lodwick (Finds Liaison Officer) and have found him to be pleasant and professional and has gone out of his way to be helpful.

Only England has seen the importance of keeping the Finds Liaison Officer's. Why not in Wales?

We in Wales, are rightly proud of our heritage and by not funding this vital role, Wales will lose out.

I fully understand the importance of budgeting and in these times of financial problems, we need to be looking at savings but, I believe, the Finds Liaison Officer is vital to Wales and would encourage you to think favourably about your decision.

Yours Sincerely

National Museum of Wales
Cathays Park
Cardiff
CF10 3NP

Dear Sir/Madam

The members of The _____ are deeply concerned as to the funding of the finds liaison officers for Wales from April 2012.

The _____ was set up in Wales in April 2005. Our aim was to record all metal detecting finds of 300 years or more not just items that came under the Treasure Act. We all believe this approach gives us a much better understanding of our passed and it is a condition of membership which is laid out in our constitution.

The amount of finds that we were recording was soon recognised by the Portable Antiquities Scheme and in June of 2007 started a new procedure for the reporting and recording of finds in Wales. A finds liaison officer was appointed to help with the work and it was an immediate success that was supported by the House of Lords in England.

To assist in the work that we were doing I applied to the National Lottery (Awards for All Wales) for a grant to buy important equipment that we needed to do this work, our referee was a Mr Bernard Dennis MBE who was a member of a History group in Dodleston, Cheshire. Items found in the village by our members were also reported to him for their personal interest and in April 2008 our society were awarded £2,681. This grant award should give you some

idea of our dedication and work in Wales to promote responsible Metal-Detecting.

We cannot allow the work that so many responsible metal detectorists do to cease because of such a small amount of money. We owe it to the generations to come to be able to record and preserve our diverse heritage.

12th. October 2011.

Dear Mr David Anderson

Re. Funding for the Welsh Finds Liaison Officer.

Please could I bring the following to your attention regarding the concern in Wales amongst the Welsh Metal Detecting Clubs on what appears to be the absence of a contract renewal for the Finds Liaison Officer for Wales from April 2012. There are 40 Finds Liaison Officers in England and their contracts have been confirmed for the next 4 years at a cost we are told of 3.4 million Pounds. In Wales there is just the one at a cost of £60,000 which is remarkably good value and a lot cheaper per head than England.

The Finds Liaison Officer is in my opinion Very important in the Portable Antiquities Scheme (PAS) and in the processing of the Treasure Act. He/She not only links archaeology and Metal Detectorists, but the public, industry and field walkers. We have worked with archaeologists on numerous occasions and still do so.

Responsible Metal Detectorists carry out their Hobby at no cost at all to the establishment, and finds of value or importance need to be checked out properly, The first port of call being the Finds Liaison Officer. This happens on quite a regular basis. For instance, in the last 5 weeks I alone have found, whilst metal detecting 15 items that will require recording under the PAS.

The PAS as we know it, was a long time coming and is much respected by the Metal Detecting Fraternity and we are more than happy to work with in it's framework. The Finds Liaison Officers advice and knowledge when it comes to items of potential treasure being reported within the prescribed time scale and the procedures that follow is invaluable.

Our heritage is just as important as that of England and to lose the Finds Liaison Officer through lack of funds would be more than detrimental to the recording of Welsh History. If the English Government feel it important enough to fund their Finds Liaison Officers under the current financial constraints, then why should it be any different for the Welsh Assembly.

The current Finds Liaison Officer for Wales, Mr Mark Lodwick, is an excellent Ambassador for the PAS, his knowledge and expertise is second to none. I understand that his current contract expires in March 2012. If you are one of the the Departments/Authorities that has any say in the Funding of the Finds Liaison Officer for the future then surely its time that a decision was announced, 9 months is a long time to just think about it.

I would appreciate a reply to this letter with any comments and a decision if known.

Yours Faithfully