

Powys Local Development Plan

Supplementary Planning Guidance

Archaeology

SUMMARY

The Archaeology SPG should be used by those who are involved in development proposals that may affect Scheduled Monuments or other archaeological remains

This SPG is aimed at applicants, agents, members of the public, elected Members, and Council Officers who are involved in development proposals that may affect Scheduled Monuments or other archaeological remains. It provides guidance on how archaeology should be considered when designing developments and when making planning decisions.

Scheduled Monuments and other archaeological remains are important historic assets that contribute to the economic, environment and social well-being of Powys

Archaeology includes evidence of our pre-historic past buried below the ground or in the surviving fabric of historic buildings and other structures. The Powys Local Development Plan, through policy SP7, identifies Scheduled Monuments and other archaeological remains, along with their settings, as strategic assets that should be safeguarded from unacceptable development. **Section 5** of the SPG provides an explanation of local planning policy relating to archaeology.

Archaeological remains are protected through national legislation, policies and guidance aimed at ensuring that historic assets are protected, conserved and enhanced

Scheduled Monuments are nationally important sites that are contained on a list compiled and maintained by Cadw. There are 716 Scheduled Monuments within the Powys Local Development Plan area. Scheduled Monuments are statutorily protected, meaning that certain works to these monuments require consent from the Welsh Government. Archaeological remains, whether they are scheduled or not, are also protected through the planning system as they are a material planning consideration when decisions are made on planning applications. **Section 4** of the SPG summarises the relevant legislation, policy and guidance relating to planning and archaeology.

The Historic Environment Record contains details of all known archaeological sites and features

Information on archaeological sites and features of national and local importance can be found on the Historic Environment Record, compiled and maintained by the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, on behalf of Welsh Ministers, and accessed via

the Archwilio website. The Local Planning Authority is required by statutory guidance to use the information contained on the Historic Environment Record to inform planning policy and planning decisions.

Development sites may also have the potential for unknown archaeological remains

In addition to recorded archaeological sites and features, there may still be potential for unrecorded archaeology within a development site. The Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust will advise on whether a particular site has the potential for unknown buried archaeology and on how this should be investigated. Archaeology may also be discovered during the course of undertaking a development, and where the archaeology is found to be of national significance, Cadw may decide to protect the archaeology by scheduling it as a Scheduled Monument, meaning that consent is required before work can continue.

Further information about archaeology is available from a range of different sources

This SPG provides an overview of the type of information available on archaeology, from national web-based information and maps to more local level information. For details of these resources, see **Section 4** of the SPG.

This SPG sets out the key stages to follow for all developments proposed on and near Scheduled Monuments or other archaeological remains and for sites with archaeological potential

Applicants should follow the key stages set out in **Section 6** before a planning application is submitted in order to ensure that the archaeological interest or potential of a site is considered at an early stage and is taken into account in the planning and design of the development.

Applicants should obtain pre-planning application advice from the Council and the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, including Cadw where Scheduled Monuments are involved

It is important to obtain pre-planning application advice from the Council, and also to seek advice from either Cadw (for development that may affect Scheduled Monuments) and, in other cases, the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust, at an early stage in order to avoid potential delays and costs at a later stage. See **Appendix 5** for contact details.

Planning applications that may affect archaeological remains will need to be accompanied by detailed supporting information

The Local Planning Authority needs sufficient information in order to assess the potential impact of a development proposal on recorded and unrecorded archaeological remains. In cases where a development is likely to impact on archaeological remains, applicants may need to submit evidence with their planning application of how the archaeological interest or potential of the site has been assessed and evaluated, along with the details of a mitigation scheme. See **Section 6** of the SPG for further guidance on the type of evidence that may be needed.

Archaeological assessments and evaluations must be carried out by experienced professional archaeologists and to the relevant standards and guidance of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists

Any detailed archaeological work will need to be carried out by an experienced professional archaeologist following the standards and guidance of the Chartered Institute of Archaeologists relating to the type of work involved. Cadw or the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust will advise on the need for this work and will agree the brief, scope and specification for the works. See **section 6** of the SPG for advice on engaging archaeological contractors and consultants and for links to the relevant standards and guidance.

Archaeological work may be needed before a decision can be issued on a planning application, or in some cases, may be needed after planning permission has been granted in order to meet a planning condition

Section 7 of the SPG explains how planning applications involving archaeological remains or potential, and applications to discharge planning conditions relating to archaeology, are processed and considered. See **Appendix 3** of the SPG for an explanation of the roles of the Local Planning Authority, Cadw and the Clwyd-Powys Archaeological Trust in the planning process. See **Appendix 4** of the SPG for a set of standard planning conditions relating to archaeology that are commonly applied to planning permissions.

This SPG does not contain detailed guidance on the Scheduled Monuments and archaeological remains associated with Offa's Dyke

The SPG refers to previous and ongoing work relating to Offa's Dyke, including the recent Conservation Management Plan published in 2019. Cadw/Historic England are planning joint guidance specifically on Offa's Dyke, which will also involve the relevant local planning authorities. Given that separate joint guidance is planned, specific guidance on Offa's Dyke is not needed in this SPG.