



Setting recommended minima 2014

IfA Council met on 7 November to, amongst other business, discuss the IfA minima and decide what - if any - increase should be applied to them. Diggers' Forum members on Council argued that given the historic and acknowledged low pay of archaeologists and the ongoing high increases to cost of living there was a pressing need to increase minima this year and over the next few years to reach the aspiration set out in the IfA Recommended Starting Salaries and to ensure that the profession retained skilled archaeologists. There was a balanced and wide-ranging discussion by Council which acknowledged the issues affecting both employees and employers, and the potential imbalances in pay across the grades in archaeology.

This led to a decision to increase IfA minima by above CPI inflation (4.7%) as of April 2014: PIfA will therefore rise from £16,327 to £17,094, AIfA from £19,017 to £19,911 and MIfA minima from £24,583 to £25,738. DF hopes that despite the decision to stop making IfA minima mandatory for Registered Organisations, the minima scheme will continue to provide an essential mechanism to prevent the lowering of archaeological wages and to work towards achieving the IfA's Recommended Starting Salaries. Whilst DF recognises the ongoing external financial restraints placed on many public sector employers, we strongly believe that there should be stringent mechanisms to prevent lowering of archaeological pay and conditions.