

**Call for expressions of interest  
7544 (P153) Evaluation Strategies Stage 1 – understanding current practice  
and encouraging sector engagement (EVALS 1)**

ClfA has received funding from Historic England for a project, undertaken in partnership with FAME, to develop and implement strategic improvements in the practice of archaeological field evaluation in England by

- Working with stakeholders to develop and document a shared understanding of current evaluation practice, constraints and goals in the context of the NPPF
- determining which factors are most important in selecting appropriate and proportionate strategies for archaeological field evaluation in England, with a particular focus on sampling (trial trenching)
- identifying case studies from a representative range of chronologies, geologies and locations in England, with simple comparisons drawn between what was forecast at evaluation and what was found during subsequent archaeological investigation

The main focus of the project will be on sampling (trial trenching) in advance of minerals extraction, house-building and infrastructure development, where the need for validation and greater consensus on effective and proportionate evaluation strategies is particularly urgent.

Recommendations for a second stage of work (EVALS2) to strengthen the evidence base to support ongoing sector confidence in future advice and continual improvement in archaeological evaluation practice will be made. Building on the research available, this second stage (not currently funded) is also envisaged to include additional, in-depth modelling of alternative evaluation strategies where required.

A detailed project design has been prepared for the work by Taryn Nixon Heritage Works on behalf of ClfA and FAME, see *EVALS1 7754PDfinal.pdf*.

Consultants are now being sought to manage and undertake this work. They must be able to demonstrate the appropriate skills, competence and capacity to undertake the project as set out in the project team specification below.

The successful consultant(s) or organisation will be professionally accredited by the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.

The project is funded by Historic England and the value of work is estimated to be in the region of **£21,500 inclusive of VAT**. An immediate start would be ideal (November 2020) with the project aiming to conclude by the end of November 2021.

Expressions of interest are welcome from organisations and individuals who can demonstrate the relevant competence. Please give details of your/the proposed project team's relevant experience, availability and chargeable rates and send to [kate.geary@archaeologists.net](mailto:kate.geary@archaeologists.net) by **30 September 2020**. Proposals will be assessed by the Project Board against the criteria outlined above.

#### EVALS 1 project team specification

The successful project team must be able to evidence competence and capacity in the following areas

Criteria	Evidenced by
High level of understanding of and familiarity with evaluation methodologies	Documented track record of specifying, designing or managing field evaluation, especially trial trenching
GIS and data analysis skills	CVs of relevant staff
Good contacts with historic environment sector and with clients and/or their representative/trade bodies	By track record and examples of previous work and/or representation on relevant fora or committees
Competence in delivering projects of this nature/scale, in particular familiarity with Historic England funding and reporting requirements	Track record of previous work
Communication and engagement skills, with emphasis on facilitating discussions on complex issues, where there is a lack of consensus	Track record and examples, CVs of relevant staff
Capacity to deliver within the project timeframe and budget	
Professional accreditation by ClfA as individuals or as RO(s)	