

Changes to be aware of

<p>Document structure</p> <p>The Standard and supporting guidance are now separate documents. See here for an infographic outlining the regulatory framework and the relationships between the different document types that was shared during the consultation earlier this year.</p>	<p>The separation of the Standard from the guidance is to emphasise that although used in conjunction, they serve different purposes and are independent of each other. Feedback has highlighted that the current structure of presenting the Standard and guidance together has the potential to cause confusion and conflation of the information presented. The guidance has also been restructured (see guidance changes below).</p>
<p>Standard (+ definition)</p>	<p>The Standard is still a short paragraph that outlines the required outcome for the work being undertaken. But this is now supported by a definition section to ensure clarity about the archaeological practice being undertaken.</p>
<p>Guidance changes - universal and jurisdiction-specific*</p> <p><i>*Still to come</i></p>	<p>The biggest change you will see is to the guidance. This is being split into two tiers. The first provides universal guidance and the second (which is still in development) will link to relevant jurisdiction-specific guidance. For example, treasure trove in Scotland.</p>
<p>Length</p>	<p>You will notice the universal guidance documents have been reduced in size by at least half. Redundant information has been removed and signposting employed to existing content and resources to avoid the unnecessary repeat of information.</p>
<p>Terminology – watching brief (name change)</p>	<p>The Standard and guidance for archaeological watching brief is now referred to as <i>Archaeological monitoring and recording</i>. This change reflects the consultation comments and feedback received. What is meant by AM&R is outlined in the definition section that supports the Standard and it is also highlighted in a footnote in the guidance that this activity may be referred to as a watching brief elsewhere.</p>
<p>Terminology – project design</p>	<p>You will notice in the new suite of fieldwork Standards and guidance documents that Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) is referred to more generally as <i>project design</i>. This change reflects the fact that WSI is not a universal term for all users. Project design may also mean different things to different people, but it is the closest we could get to a universally understood term and we have included a footnote in the relevant Standards and the guidance explaining what we mean by it. Reference to WSI's will still occur in the relevant jurisdiction-specific guidance sections. But for example, in the guidance for Northern Ireland, <i>Programme of Works</i> would be used. You will of course still use the terminology you're used to using in your own working practices but in these documents the universal term <i>project design</i> is employed.</p>