



The National Archives

## The National Archives and local authority archive services

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# The National Archives

- **Formed 2003-2006**
  - Public Record Office, Historical Manuscripts Commission, HM Stationery Office, and the Office of Public Sector Information.
- **UK Government Archive**
  - Government department - Executive Agency of DCMS (Department for Culture, Media and Sport)
  - Advise ministers on archival and information policy
  - Keep the record of government
- **National Archive for England and Wales**
  - Over 11 million records, 974 – present day
  - Over 600,000 documents consulted each year
  - Over 100 million documents downloaded each year
- **Sector leader for archives in England**
  - Leadership role for the archives sector
  - Strategic engagement role

# Our archive sector leadership role:

- **Closure of Museums Libraries and Archives Council (MLA) in 2011**
  - Libraries and Museums to Arts Council England
  - Archives to The National Archives
  - Engagement Managers for England: North, East, West and London
- **Archive leadership by The National Archives:**
  - Long history of contact with the archive sector
  - Regulatory role for sector
  - TNA has approved Teesside Archives as a place of deposit for public records.
- **Who do we lead?**
  - Over 2,000 archives in England
  - Massive variety: size, subject, parent body, funding
  - Two dozen major local authority, higher education and specialist archives in Yorkshire
- **Gives us a unique perspective**
  - Within archive sector
  - Wider heritage and cultural sectors
  - Close working with ACE, HLF, LGA, ARA, CALGG, CLOA.

# Archive Service Accreditation Standard

## A new standard for the UK archives sector

- Developed by a partnership of UK strategic archives bodies
- Replaces The National Archives' *Standard for Record Repositories* (previous national standard)

## Launched in June 2013

- Developed through a process of co-creation with the wider archives sector
- 45 varied archive services accredited to date
- Places of Deposit expected to apply by the end of 2017

## Accreditation...

- Draws together the full range of standards affecting archive services
- Provides an independent overview of service performance, includes peer review

## Sustainable service development support

- Generates improvement plans, and subject to periodic review
- Future link to eligibility for funding



# Places of Deposit Approval

- Intellectual access (cataloguing, digitisation)
- Physical access (3 days/ 21 hours)
- Controlled searchroom with advice and support for users, adequately staffed
- Storage conditions, PD5454
- Access to conservation services
- Risk management (link to accreditation)

# 20 Year Rule Developments

- Phased transition from 30 years to 20 years
- Training for officers of originating bodies
- Identification of materials for transfer
- Introduction of a measure of financial support (total £6.6 million over ten years), linked to record intake

# Support programmes

- Sector Sustainability Fund
- National Cataloguing grants scheme
- Transforming Archives traineeships
- Fundraising for Archives Programme
- Informal mentoring, formal training

# Key development trends for archive services:

- Digital delivery
  - Digital preservation
  - Digitisation of content
- Audience development and volunteering
  - Commissioning
  - Community archives
- New structures:
  - Income generation
  - Funding bids for service and premises renewal
  - Partnerships
  - New governance models ('spinning out')



