

Consultation on APABE Supplementary Guidance Note 1 ‘Sampling human remains for ancient DNA analysis’

31st March 2011

The aim of APABE is to support curators, practitioners and stakeholders in interpreting the [guidance documents](#) issued in 2005 by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport and by [English Heritage](#) and the [Church of England](#), and to produce new guidance where necessary. The Advisory Panel has been very successful in promoting a consistent approach to relevant religious, ethical, legal, archaeological and scientific issues. With this in mind, it felt that there is a pressing need for formalised guidelines on the application of ancient DNA analysis to human remains.

This consultation asks for your comments on Supplementary Guidance Note 1 ‘Sampling human remains for ancient DNA analysis’. In particular we would be grateful for your views on:

- whether you consider such a guidance note to be useful;
- whether the explanation of ‘the science’ behind aDNA analysis is sufficiently clear for non-specialists;
- whether the range of possible applications help to clarify the potential of aDNA analysis;
- whether the range of case studies presented in Appendix 1 is helpful.

This consultation closes on **30th June 2011**, submissions are invited by letter or, preferably, email, to Angela Boyle (Secretary): ange.boyle@tiscali.co.uk, 27 Inverkip Drive, Shotts, ML7 4DF. Please indicate clearly whether you are making comments as an individual or as a representative of a group or organisation (we would value either).

Any interested organisation or individual is very welcome to take part in this consultation. We would be grateful if you would pass on this invitation to any other such groups or individuals who you think may wish to comment.

An analysis of the responses received will be placed on the APABE website in due course.

Holger Schutkowski (chair) and Angela Boyle (Secretary)

List of Consultees

Organisations:

- Association for Local Government Archaeological Officers (ALGAO)
- AOC Archaeology
- Archaeology Forum
- Association of Diocesan and Cathedral Advisors
- Association for Environmental Archaeology
- Biological Anthropology Research Centre (BARC), University of Bradford
- Board of Deputies of British Jews
- British Association for Biological Anthropology and Osteoarchaeology (BABAO)
- The British Museum
- Cadw. The official guardian of the built heritage of Wales
- Church of England
- Cotswold Archaeology
- Council for British Archaeology

- English Heritage
- Headland Archaeology
- Hindu Council UK
- Historic Scotland
- Honouring the Ancient Dead (HAD)
- Human Remains Subject Specialist Network
- Institute for Archaeologists
- Manchester Museum
- The Museum of London
- Natural History Museum
- Network of Sikh Organisations UK
- Oxford Archaeology
- Pagans for Archaeology (Yvonne Aburrow)
- The Prehistoric Society
- Rescue: the British Archaeological Trust
- Royal Archaeological Institute
- Salisbury and South Wiltshire Museum
- Society of Antiquaries of London (SAL)
- Society of Museum Archaeologists
- Subject Committee for Archaeology
- Wiltshire Heritage Museum
- Wessex Archaeology
- York Archaeological Trust (YAT)
- York Bone Forum

Individuals:

- Dr Daniel Antoine
- Prof R Bradley
- Prof D Brothwell
- Prof Martin Carver
- Prof Andrew Chamberlain
- Prof Margaret Cox
- Prof Timothy Darvill
- Prof Robert Foley
- Prof Simon Hillson
- Malin Holst
- Prof Martin Jones
- Dr Christopher Knusel
- Andrew Lawson
- Dr Mary Lewis
- Prof Mike Parker-Pearson
- Mike Pitts (Editor of British Archaeology magazine)
- Dr Joshua Pollard
- Prof Mark Pollard
- Guy Purdey
- Prof Julian Richards
- Prof Charlotte Roberts
- Dr Duncan Sayer
- Dr Martin Smith

- Prof Chris Stringer
- Dr Sarah Tarlow
- Prof Julian Thomas
- Nick Thorpe
- Prof G Wainwright
- Mike Wysocki
- Prof Alasdair Whittle
- Dr Sonia Zakrzewski