

THE NATIONAL ARCHIVES

SECTOR LEADERSHIP CONSULTATION

DEADLINE FOR TENDER SUBMISSIONS – 5PM (UK TIME), 5 AUGUST 2021

CLARIFICATION QUESTIONS AND RESPONSES

The National Archives has received a number of clarification questions relating to the above opportunity. Those questions, and their associated responses, can be found below.

Q1: Who do you see as the primary audience for the report? How do you see the report being used (i.e. is it for internal discussions within TNA or will it be shared more widely with government or other stakeholders? In this context, do you have any thoughts on the preferred style/content of the report?

A1: The report will be used to inform internal discussions, and will be presented to our Management Board and Executive Team as part of a broader discussion around the future of sector leadership. Elements of it may be shared with our Government and Ministerial channels and we will adapt it as necessary. A flexible style of presentation will therefore be useful.

Q2: Do you have any further information or guidance on the 'archives organisations, with which we may not currently work or hold a relationship' detailed in section 2.3 of the brief? Does this refer to organisations that may hold archive materials or to networking/stakeholder groups representing parts of the archive sector, or both?

A2: This refers to organisations that may hold archival material, and may or may not consider archiving their primary purpose. In particular, this could refer to types of community archives with whom TNA has not traditionally had a strong relationship or particular subsectors such as charities or businesses.

Q3: Do you have any further information on the end users (including non-users) of archive services referenced in section 2.3 of the brief, (e.g. is this both organisations and the general public)?

A3: This refers to the general public. We are keen to understand what the general public as users of archives (and those who are not) might consider to be beneficial to the sector as a whole. We are aware that individual archives will have data and relationships with their users, and that this piece of research considers this information where possible.

Q4: What are the governance plans for the research, (e.g. will there be a steering group to help guide the planning stages and analysis of emerging findings?)

A4: A team within The National Archives, led by Emma Markiewicz (Head of Archive Sector Development) will be responsible for putting together an options appraisal based on the evidence within this report and other considerations. They will report to The National Archives' Management Board and ultimately to the ministerial team responsible for TNA at DCMS.