

**Appendix 2: List of Recommendations from *A review of the Portable Antiquities Scheme*<sup>1</sup>, 2008**

**Recommendation 1: PAS aims should better reflect its role in museums**

There is generally a better fit between PAS and museums than with planning-based archaeology services although there are huge benefits in the two working together. PAS aims do need to reflect what PAS has achieved for museums as well as for archaeology.

**Recommendation 2: PAS already delivers Renaissance objectives**

Renaissance funding is ring-fenced and separate from MLA's core funding. Although not originally part of Renaissance, PAS is already delivering against Renaissance objectives for inclusion, outreach and ICT, and is also strong in other core areas of its work. Funding PAS under Renaissance would not diminish the achievements of that programme but PAS objectives would need to reflect a stronger museum focus.

**Recommendation 3: PAS aims should reflect its nature as a partnership**

PAS began as a scheme lead by archaeologists to record items but has now become a partnership between museums, the community (including finders and volunteers) and archaeologists. The four aims of the scheme should better reflect this partnership and PAS should do more to balance the views and interests of finders in its work.

**Recommendation 4: PAS needs to develop more recording capacity amongst the community**

FLOs are struggling to meet the demand for recording without reducing the quality of records. Many finders have a lot of knowledge but lack formal training. FLOs and Finds Advisers should focus outreach on involving finders and other volunteers in the work of the scheme, including recording, education and promotion. The scheme should consider a training programme to help volunteers become 'certified' recorders.

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<sup>1</sup> Transcribed from Clark 2008: 6-7

**Recommendation 5: the PAS needs measures of success based on outcomes**

PAS should develop more sophisticated measures around the broad outcomes it is trying to achieve. This will require working with the community to discuss and explain the changes.

**Recommendation 6: separate the policy and management roles of the advisory group**

The policy function of the advisory group should be separated from its management role; historic environment agencies should convene a separate group to deal with metal detecting policy. PAAG<sup>i</sup> membership should reflect PAS management needs, with more regional and museum representation, and a greater voice for finders. PAS regional groups should be set up to bring together local clubs, museums, universities and local societies to generate local initiatives.

**Recommendation 7: do more to build skills in community engagement**

Skills in community engagement are just as relevant for FLOs as finds expertise. This needs to be taken into account when recruiting and consideration should be given to more formal training and guidance in this field for FLOs.

**Recommendation 8: PAS needs a sustainability strategy for its data**

PAS needs to ensure the long-term security of the data and deal with the potential risk of loss of IT skills, and may need to engage in discussions with an organisation such as English Heritage and the Archaeological Data Service to do this.

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<sup>i</sup> Portable Antiquities Advisory Group