

GL/LM

15 July 2024



2 High Street  
Perth  
PH1 5PH  
Tel: 01738 475000

Telephone: 01738 475023  
Mobile: 07881 500501  
Email: [glaing@pkc.gov.uk](mailto:glaing@pkc.gov.uk)

[www.pkc.gov.uk](http://www.pkc.gov.uk)



Dr Simon Gilmour, Director, Society of Antiquaries of Scotland ([director@socantscot.org](mailto:director@socantscot.org))  
Ailsa Macfarlane, Director, Built Environment Forum Scotland ([amacfarlane@bef.s.org.uk](mailto:amacfarlane@bef.s.org.uk))  
Dr Gavin Macgregor, Director, Archaeology Scotland ([g.macgregor@archaeologyscotland.org.uk](mailto:g.macgregor@archaeologyscotland.org.uk))  
Stuart Brooks, Director of Conservation & Policy, National Trust for Scotland (c.c. [dhearns@nts.org.uk](mailto:dhearns@nts.org.uk))

Dear Sir / Madam

### **Urgent Request to Reverse Cuts to Historic Environment Services**

Thank you for your letter of 5 July 2024 and the points you set out. Faced with a very challenging budget position the Council has had to make very difficult budget choices, and this included cutting the financial support for all organisations the Council funds. A decision was taken to reduce the funding made available to Perth & Kinross Heritage Trust (PKHT) to £30,000 from April 2025 following the expiry of the current Service Level Agreement.

In the interim, planning officers will scope out the required archaeological service prior to procuring it, or indeed bringing it in house. PKHT will be at liberty, as will others, to submit a proposal to the Council for assessment.

Therefore, at this point Perth and Kinross Council has not made any decision on how best to provide a robust archaeological advice service to support the planning process, or indeed how much it will cost. As such I can't provide any further comment at this stage.

Yours faithfully

Councillor Grant Laing  
Leader of the Council