

Guidelines for applicants to CoLAT

April 2016

The City of London Archaeological Trust (CoLAT) gives grants for many kinds of archaeological work undertaken in the City of London and its environs. Please read all the following paragraphs carefully. This edition of the guidelines replaces previous editions.

The Trust is concerned with the archaeology of the City of London and any matter relating to the City's development and the prehistory of its area. Applicants must therefore demonstrate a link between their project and the City. There is no specific geographical boundary to define the City's environs.

CoLAT will consider applications to fund the following:

- survey and excavation, including investigation of standing structures
- research and publication
- archaeological equipment for volunteer groups and youth groups
- preparation and curation of archaeological archives, including Internet access
- digitisation of records and older archaeological publications
- exhibition of archaeological finds or remains
- documentary research when it is part of an archaeological project.

The current Trustees (the Trust's management committee) wish to encourage, in addition, the introduction of young people to archaeology; the commissioning of educational schemes for work on archaeology in schools; and work to help guides on historic sites.

The standard CoLAT grants are for one year, from 1 April following the December in which they are granted. **After this one year period, the grant is no longer available.**

CoLAT will not fund the following:

- any kind of archaeological work, research or publication which in the Trust's view should be funded by a developer, secular or religious
- archaeological work which in the Trust's view should be undertaken by a statutory undertaker or local authority
- salaries of university staff
- student grants or subsistence, at either undergraduate or post-graduate level, except CoLAT can reimburse work undertaken by students where the student will be paid a daily or piece rate.

When an application concerns an archaeological activity outside these areas and not considered by CoLAT before, the Trust reserves the right to decide whether it falls within the Trust's permitted areas of activity.

Archaeologists wanting support for writing their post-excavation reports should note that CoLAT generally makes a distinction, as does the LAARC at the Museum of London, between the *site archive* and the *research archive* arising out of a site. CoLAT will not usually fund any work to prepare the site archive for deposition, in LAARC or elsewhere. CoLAT is much more interested in helping prepare the research archive.

Criteria and expectations of the Trust

CoLAT looks for the following qualities in applications:

- projects which will demonstrate new initiatives and/or create interdisciplinary interest
- projects with clearly defined objectives, outcomes and accessible outputs
- projects of a defined scale or duration where CoLAT funds will be a significant contributor
- projects which offer a demonstrable outreach to a wider audience for archaeology
- projects which generate input from other organisations or individuals, working in partnership.

We have the following expectations of work funded by our grants:

- when CoLAT funds are one contribution to a project also funded by other funds, the CoLAT part must be clearly identified and accounted for
- we expect good interpretation, explanation and education to be the prime purposes of our support: eg bringing the history to the public and really demonstrating the value of the archaeological work in discovery, preservation, interpretation and display.

Procedure and financial aspects

Applicants should note the following:

(i) applicants and referees are encouraged to refer in their application and associated reference to the relevance of the proposed work to the *Research framework for London archaeology* (Museum of London, 2002), which is available online as a PDF from <http://www.mola.org.uk/publications/research-framework-london-archaeology-2002> or in book form (eg from Museum of London Archaeology), but they will not be penalised if they do not do so. Other research agenda and strategy documents, such as the Greater London Historic Environment Record Service research strategy (in preparation) may be referred to.

(ii) each applicant must obtain a referee's report on the project, on a Referee's Report Form to be found on the CoLAT website. The referee must be independent both of the project and of the institution with which the applicant may be associated. The referee will be asked to send it directly to the Secretary of CoLAT to maintain confidentiality. It will however be up to the applicant to make sure that this reference arrives by the submission deadline, and any application without a reference will be refused. **This is most important and applicants should take note of this requirement.**

(iii) applicants must take special care to explain the basis for costs for specialists and experts (including staff of institutions such as museums and archaeological practices). We need to know why the specialist has been chosen; what any fee is based on (eg salary cost, contribution to overheads or conversely a discount); and the amount of time (days with hours per day noted) which the specialist will spend on the task. These requirements are also necessary for self-employed specialists. In the case of professional employees (other than university staff – see above), CoLAT will consider full employment costs (salaries plus National Insurance and on-costs); CoLAT will consider making a contribution to organisational overheads but only up to a maximum of 25% of full employment costs.

(iv) CoLAT expects all applications to use the relevant Living Wage for their participants.

(v) CoLAT will normally only fund or contribute to costs of publication (i.e. printing and journal costs) if funds are not otherwise available. Applicants for a contribution to such costs must demonstrate that the research has been finished, and supply a timetable for submission of the piece. If a CoLAT grant is requested for a commercial publication, CoLAT may wish to have a summary of the budget of the whole publication. For such an application, please obtain guidance from the Secretary.

(vi) CoLAT will look favourably on an application which demonstrates that the application to CoLAT is part of a matched-funding package, with CoLAT asked for not more than 50%.

(vii) If a grant is agreed, it shall remain available to the applicant for one year from 1 April in the year following the meeting at which the grant is given. Grant awarding meetings are usually held in December of each year. If you are awarded a grant but cannot proceed in the allocated time, you must let us know and we will consider whether to hold the grant for a future year or withdraw it. Similarly, we are aware that funding a project from several sources often takes time to accumulate, and this will be taken into consideration. The important thing is that CoLAT must be told if there is any possibility that a specific grant will not be taken up within the allocated time. **It is important that any successful applicant realises the grant expires after one year.**

(viii) If the individual or organisation receiving a CoLAT grant is VAT registered, and can therefore reclaim VAT, CoLAT will only grant sums exclusive of VAT. If the applicant is not VAT registered, a CoLAT grant can include the payment of VAT (for instance, when a project needs to buy materials or services), but the CoLAT grant will be for a single total sum specified in the application, and cannot be added to.

(ix) The names of successful applicants, and their grant sums, will be listed in an Annual Report, which will go on the CoLAT website. It is a condition of grant that the applicants, whether individual or from an institution, agree to this.

(x) CoLAT wishes to receive a copy of any publication published with its support (either for the analysis or publication stage). It requires any substantial grant towards either the writing work or the publication costs to be acknowledged by use of the CoLAT logo on or in the publication. As publication is often some time after the claim for the CoLAT grant, please bear this in mind, for instance when ordering offprints or complimentary copies.

(xi) CoLAT also intends to organise occasional public lectures on the archaeology of London and its region, based on work it has supported. Applicants should therefore be prepared for the possibility that they may be asked to give or contribute to a lecture based on the work funded by CoLAT.

Guidance can be obtained from the Secretary: John Schofield, john@jschd.demon.co.uk or 2 Carthew Villas London W6 0BS.