

RESCUE
The British Archaeological Trust
www.rescue-archaeology.org.uk

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Ms Lisa Nandy
Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport
Department for Culture, Media and Sport
100 Parliament Street
London
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23 July 2024

Dear Ms Nandy

I am writing on behalf of Rescue – The British Archaeological Trust. We are an independent non-political charitable trust dedicated to supporting archaeology and the historic environment in Britain and abroad. We were founded more than 50 years ago. We have been instrumental in fighting for and winning a place for archaeology within the planning system and in raising the profile of archaeology across the UK.

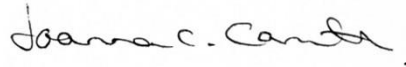
We would like to congratulate your party for its success in the general election, and we would like to congratulate you personally on your appointment as Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport.

As policy on heritage and archaeology comes under your portfolio, we take a keen interest in the work of your department. We look forward to engaging positively and constructively on policies in which archaeology has a role to play. The importance of archaeology for its own sake should not be ignored. But we also want to impress on you the importance of archaeology in creating community and enriching peoples lives. The historic environment connects us with our past and in doing so establishes a local identity, provides a sense of community and encourages people to value that community. It is something in which everyone can get involved and which helps to connect people with each other and with their community. The public reaction to recent events such as the demolition of the Crooked House pub in Staffordshire and the felling of the Sycamore Gap tree demonstrate how important a sense of place, character and history are to the public.

Charity Commission No. 1064836

I would be happy to provide more information on Rescue or to meet with you to discuss archaeology if that would be helpful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Joanna C. Caruth". The signature is written in a cursive style with a small dot at the end.

Jo Caruth
Chair, RESCUE the British Archaeological Trust

RESCUE is a charitable trust which works to promote archaeology and the historic environment. We are wholly independent of all political parties and are entirely dependent on our members for our operating budget: www.rescuearchaeology.org.uk