Shifting landscapes

The challenges facing business and independent archives
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The National Archives corporate plan
Four key audiences and a major challenge
Leadership: our tools

- “Swiss army knife”
- Range of tools to use in an integrated way:
  - Government Department, DCMS
  - Formal sector lead since 2011
  - Historic Manuscripts Commission
  - Public Records Act
  - Accreditation
  - Policy
  - Expertise as an archive
  - Relationship of trust with the archives world
How we work

• Developing an integrated approach across team structures
• “GP and specialist” approach allows us to provide broad support and foster and target specialist expertise
• Draw on expertise within Archives Sector Development, across TNA and in wider sector
• Last quarter:
  o Interacted with 400 archives
  o 250 attendees at our training events
  o 100 advisory cases to grant awarding bodies
Changing archive landscape

- Ecosystem of archives: collections exist across dense network of institutions, and private and community owners
- Rapid change caused by interacting factors:
  - Public sector funding reductions and impact on local authority record offices as “backbone”
  - University collecting
  - Pressures on charities and businesses
  - Community heritage
- Partnership working across the sector has increased
- Collections moving custody
- Digital: digitisation, digital catalogues, digital preservation, participation
- Changing audience expectations – accelerated by digital technology, and growth in volunteering
Bata: a complete community
Corporate archives: what are the trends?
The future for business archives?

We don’t know what the future holds, but could it be:

- Increased interactions with public
- Online accessibility
- Partnerships with academia
- Partnerships with local authority services
- Records at risk
- Rising prices in the saleroom
- Global businesses pose global and digital challenges
Isobel Hunter
Head of Archives Sector Development
isobel.hunter@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk
@HunterIsobel