

CIfA: Forensic Archaeology Special Interest Group

THREE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN - 2022-2025

Year 1 – 2022/2023

Status of the CIfA FASIG in 2022

There has been a lack of engagement amongst the FASIG Committee and Expert Panel over the past year (2022). The Committee made progress with reviews of competency standards; however, the Expert Panel lacked the opportunity to provide feedback on these recommendations. The Committee organised and hosted a round table discussion at the CIfA 2022 online conference. This received good feedback but was not particularly well attended in comparison to previous FASIG events, especially in regards to less experienced members.

Strategic goal

To improve national and international appreciation and recognition of the discipline, its expertise and impact.

Objectives

- review and amend the forensic archaeology competency matrices (PCIfA; ACIfA; MCIfA) in line with current practice
- improve the digital representation of the FASIG, Expert Panel and discipline
- enhance and expand collaborative partnerships between commercial practitioners, academic/research institutions and law enforcement agencies
- organise and/or facilitate the provision of outreach/CPD activities specific to the FASIG
- undertake a 'group review' (survey/interviews/feedback platforms) to improve engagement and to encourage professional development amongst the FASIG membership

Outputs

- updated forensic archaeology competency matrices (PCIfA; ACIfA; MCIfA) approved by the Expert Panel and Forensic Regulator
- FASIG representation on appropriate social media platforms
- host a FASIG conference session/event
- FASIG group review report

Annual review - December 2023

Year 2 – 2023/2024

Status of the CIfA FASIG in 2023

Strategic goal

To improve professional development opportunities for existing and aspiring forensic archaeological practitioners.

Objectives

- Develop a mentorship scheme for members wishing to engage with forensic archaeological casework - establish some formal agreement with EP to assist with accredited members mentoring non accredited members, and eventually becoming part of the Expert Panel.
 - look into doing a short course for people who want to do mentoring, talk to CIfA about possibilities
 - create clear guidance doc on mentorship and mentorship possibilities
- establish a CPD programme/list of relevant training schemes or opportunities
- advertise and advise academic/commercial/law enforcement institutions of the presence of a new 'Standards and Guidance' document and competency matrices
- coordinate viewpoints in terms of appropriate ethical conduct between Forensic Archaeology Expert Panel and the Heritage Crime SIG

Outputs

- host a FASIG conference session/event
- mentorship scheme
- recommended CPD event list (open access/online)
- distribution of forensic archaeology training guidance (in-person/online/documents)
- develop appropriate interview questions for MCIfA accreditation

Annual review - December 2024

Year 3 – 2024/2025

Status of the CifA FASIG in 2024

(Statement outlining the current state of the SIG and the field of forensic archaeology)

Strategic goal

(Where the SIG want to be by December 2025)

Objectives

(The actions that need to be undertaken to achieve the SIG's goal)

Outputs

(Activities or outputs that will be measures of the SIG's success)

Annual review - December 2025